



---

## Fall Commencement Information for Prospective Graduates

---

### Commencement Ceremony

Brownson Arena – Maverick Center

Begins at 9:30 am

Students arrive at 8:30 am

The commencement ceremony will also be streamed live online beginning 9:30 am MST at <https://portal.stretchinternet.com/cmumavericks>

---

### Ceremony Timeline & Details

#### When and Where to Assemble

8:30 am – Graduates must meet one hour prior to the ceremony dressed in their regalia in the Hamilton Recreation Center Gym. Pick-up name cards, diploma cover envelope, program, and gold honors cords (if applicable). Name cards will be in alphabetical order by last name so please find your card at the corresponding table.

#### Line Up / Seating Order / Processional

9:00 am – Colorado Mesa University faculty/staff will assist graduates in lining up into the three following categories. There is no seating order within the categories so you may sit by whomever you wish.

1. Doctorate, Master's, and Graduate Certificate students, Singers performing in the ceremony / Student speaker(s), Baccalaureate students graduating with a 4.00 cumulative GPA, Students with special needs or accommodations
2. Baccalaureate students
3. Associate / Certificate students

9:20 am – Graduates form two single file rows to proceed into Brownson Arena.

9:30 am – Faculty will lead the processional, followed by the students. The Commencement Marshals will direct you into the seating rows **with instructions to leave no open chairs so enough seating will be available for all graduates**. When you get to your chair, remain standing until directed to sit.

#### Awarding of Degrees

Follow instructions from the Commencement Marshal standing at the right of your row as to when to proceed to the stage and for the proper path to the stage. Please leave your diploma cover envelope and program at your seat. You will return to your seat. When queued, enter the stage area and hand your name card to the reader making sure to whisper your name to them if it is difficult to pronounce.

As your name is read, proceed to the center of the stage to accept your diploma cover from the President and shake his hand.

Exit the stage on the opposite side and return back to your seat with the assistance of the ushers.

---

### Special Needs

Any graduate participating in the ceremony who will need special accommodations, please contact Erin Rooks at [erooks@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:erooks@coloradomesa.edu) or 970-248-1853 prior to November 15<sup>th</sup>. Those with special needs typically sit at the front of the graduates. If you are in a wheel chair, using crutches, need an interpreter, etc., please let us know so we can plan appropriately.

---

## Parking

Parking will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis in all Colorado Mesa University parking lots free of charge. Although parking is available on surrounding streets and businesses, please utilize the free parking on campus as a note of appreciation for you and as a courtesy to our neighbors. Local businesses will be open on commencement day and parking in their lots is reserved for normal business traffic.

---

## Cap and Gown Pick-Up

Students still needing to pick-up cap and gown may do so in the Maverick Store sales area at the entrance of Brownson Arena. Graduates keep their regalia and tassels. Tassels are worn on the right side throughout the ceremony and then lead to move them to the left after the conferring of degrees. *Note to Doctorate and Master's Graduates: Hoods will be furnished by CMU and presented to you during the ceremony.*

For questions related to cap, gowns, or announcements, etc. please contact the Colorado Mesa University [Maverick Store](#) at 970-248-1422 or <https://www.themaverickstore.com/>.

## Stole of Gratitude

You may purchase a Stole of Gratitude through the CMU Maverick Store to thank anyone who has helped you while you earned your degree or certificate. The Stole, which displays the CMU logo, is typically worn by the graduate during the commencement ceremony. After the ceremony, the graduate presents it to someone they would like to thank in a special way. You may purchase a Stole of Gratitude at the time you pick up your cap and gown or at the CMU Commencement Ceremony in the Maverick Store sales area.

For more information, contact the CMU Maverick Store at 970-248-1422.

---

## Honors Cords

To be eligible for Honors Cords you must meet the following criteria:

1. Currently have a Colorado Mesa University GPA of 3.50 or higher
2. Earning a baccalaureate or associate degree
3. Finishing your requirements by the end of the Fall semester

## Honors Cords Pick-Up

Students who have not picked-up their honors cord may do so before the ceremony when they receive their name card.

---

## Professional Photographs

A representative from Grad Images will take two pictures of each graduate: one as you receive your diploma cover from the President, and one at the bottom of the ramp as you exit the stage. Grad Images will provide graduates with color proofs, which graduates can expedite the receipt of by pre-registering at <http://www.gradimages.com/Preregistration> and clicking on the Pre-Event Email Registration. Graduates can enter their email and the email addresses of friends and loved ones who would like to view/order the photos. All orders are done through Grad Images either online or at 1-800-424-3686.

---

## Receipt of Diploma

Diplomas will be mailed to each graduate within twelve weeks after the graduation date which corresponds with the semester in which all degree requirements are completed. After the Registrar's Office reviews final requirements and grades, degrees will be awarded in the computer system. This process takes eight to ten weeks. To see if your degree was awarded during that time, check your unofficial transcript through MAVzone. Once awarded, you can use your official transcript as proof of your degree.

---

## Registrar's Office

The Registrar's Office Staff will be available the morning of the commencement ceremony in the staging area to answer any last minute questions. For further questions the Registrar's Office will be open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be contacted at 970-248-1555 or on the first floor of Lowell Heiny Hall.

**Registrar's Office**  
970.248.1555  
[registrar@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:registrar@coloradomesa.edu)

Find the most up-to-date commencement information at  
[coloradomesa.edu/commencement](http://coloradomesa.edu/commencement)