

## **COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION BULLETIN #2 – 18 MAY 2026**

*Sent on Behalf of the San Diego College of Continuing Education Office of Student Affairs*

### **PLEASE READ THIS MESSAGE IN ITS ENTIRETY**

*This is the second Information Bulletin regarding the upcoming Commencement Ceremony for the San Diego College of Continuing Education and the San Diego Unified School District High School Diploma Program.*

Covered in this bulletin, you will find the following – new or updated information is listed first, followed by repeated information from the first bulletin, sent last week:

#### **UPDATES**

- GradFest - Cap and Gown Pick-Up
- Accommodations Request Deadline: Tuesday, May 19, 5PM
- Virtual Walkthrough of Venue for Graduates and Guests

#### **REMINDERS**

- Ceremony Location Information: Town and Country Resort
- Guests and Seating at the Venue

#### **GRADFEST - CAP and GOWN PICK-UP**

This year, cap and gown distribution will take place at GradFest, hosted by the North City Campus on **Tuesday, May 19 and Wednesday May 20, from 10:00AM until 6:30PM both days (with limited services available between 12:30PM and 1:30PM).**

At this time, we expect to be able to accommodate *most* students seeking to obtain a cap and gown free-of-charge. **HOWEVER, please note the following:** we are unable to guarantee specific sizes and special requests due to limitations on available inventory. **If you anticipate requiring a specialty cap and gown, or wish to obtain a particular size that we do not have available,** contact the Bookstore at City College at (619) 388-3549 or [citybook@sdccd.edu](mailto:citybook@sdccd.edu). You can also purchase graduate regalia via [Amazon](#) for around \$25 (plus shipping and handling).

**All graduates MUST be attired in academic apparel, consisting of a black, bachelor-cut gown and accompanying cap.** We will provide you with a gold tassel for your cap, as well as colored cords to identify your college/school (whether SDCCE or SDUSD), and the general program area of your certificate or diploma. ANY standard bachelor cut gown in black is acceptable for wear at the ceremony. NO OTHER COLORS are permitted – if you attend the ceremony in a gown in a color other than black, you will be given whatever gown is available the day of the ceremony to wear.

**No reservations necessary** – caps and gowns are distributed ***first-come, first-served, as available***. You must have a student ID to pick up a cap and gown – limit one per person/ID number. Students who are unable to pick up in person may send a written request with a third party picking up on their behalf, which must include graduate name and CSID number for each set. Screenshots, images on a phone, or text messages will **not** be honored for release of a cap and gown to another person – a written request

must be turned in at the time of pick-up. We are unable to provide caps and gowns to anyone in advance of the GradFest distributions.

***We recommend picking up your regalia early, in order to let it hang and release the folds (since they are folded and packaged). Be careful with the use of an iron, as the material is not designed for high heat applications.***

In addition to cap and gown distribution, you can meet with the following folks as scheduled below:

- **Career Counseling (Tina Gov)**  
Tuesday 1:00PM – 3:00PM
- **Communications and Creative Services (Michael Escalona)**  
Tuesday 10:00AM – 11:30AM & Wednesday 12:30PM – 3:30PM
- **Transition to College (Armando Carignan Palacios)**  
Tuesday 2:30PM – 6:30PM & Wednesday 10:00AM – 2:00PM

We will also be able to help you submit a Commencement Participation Form (if you haven't already done so) and to ask questions about the Ceremony.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS REQUEST DEADLINE – TUESDAY, MAY 19, 5PM**

Students and guests who require assistance or accommodations for disabilities **must** notify the DSPS Office by **Tuesday, May 19 at 5PM. Call (619) 388-4812 to speak with the DSPS Office.**

If you noted a potential need for accommodations on the Commencement Participation Form, ***you must still notify the DSPS Office directly, as indicated on the form.*** We will send the DSPS Office the list of individuals from the form, but this is NOT A GUARANTEE of the accommodations request being received. **You are responsible to submit the request to DSPS as directed.**

### **VIRTUAL WALK-THROUGH FOR GRADUATES and GUESTS**

The Communications and Creative Services Office for the College is in the process of creating our Virtual Walkthrough for Graduates and Guests, which will be posted to the SDCCE Website as soon as it is available. A special notice will go out to participants when this item is available.

### **CEREMONY LOCATION INFORMATION: Town and Country Resort**

This year, we are pleased to partner with the **Town and Country Resort** to host the Commencement Ceremony! The Town and Country is located on Hotel Circle in the Fashion Valley region, close to freeways and multiple transportation options for you and your guests.

#### **LOCATION**

The Town and Country is located at 500 Hotel Circle N., San Diego 92108, off the 8 Freeway at Hotel Circle. The Commencement Ceremony will be held in the spacious Town and Country Ballroom, along Fashion Valley Road – the venue is indoor and climate-controlled, so no need to worry too much about the day's weather forecast! Additionally, students and guests will find restaurants around the property, as well as steps away at Fashion Valley, for celebrations before and after the Ceremony!

### **SPECIAL ROOM RATES FOR GRADUATES AND GUESTS**

The Town and Country Resort is graciously offering a discounted room rate to graduates and their guests who may be attending from out-of-town or who want to turn the celebration into a staycation – visit <https://tinyurl.com/SDCCEGradDiscount> or use code COURTESY at booking to obtain this special discounted rate!

### **PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION**

Students and the guests may park at the Town and Country Resort **free-of-charge** – the venue features 800 parking spaces for guests. Please note: parking may be limited due to resort obligations to their overnight guests, so plan to come early if you require parking on-site. Graduates and guests will receive a parking validation on check-in at the Ceremony, in the Town and Country Ballroom Foyer.

Graduates and guests are also encouraged to use public transportation – the MTS Green Line Trolley serves the Fashion Valley Station, along with MTS Bus Routes 1, 6, 20, 25, 41, 120, and 198. The Station is located immediately adjacent to the Resort, via footbridge through the Riverfront Park.

### **GUESTS and SEATING at the VENUE**

The Town and Country Ballroom can accommodate well over 2000 attendees, so we anticipate having plenty of room for graduates and their guests. **NO TICKETS ARE REQUIRED – invite your family and friends to join the celebration!**

Graduates will be seated in reserved seating at the front of the venue, as will VIPs from the College and SDUSD. Guests with disabilities and specific accommodations needs, including line-of-sight for the hearing impaired to see captions and sign language interpreters, will also be reserved towards the front of the venue. All other seating will be open, and available first-come, first-served. We ask that guests please be courteous to one another and follow directions as may be given by ushers and College personnel.

**Guests with balloons or other large displays will be asked to sit in the rear of the venue or remain along the perimeter of the venue,** to avoid blocking the view of the Ceremony for other guests.

**Absolutely NO CONFETTI CANNONS, SILLY STRING, NOISEMAKERS, BEACH BALLS or other disruptive items are to be brought to the venue.**

**Guests are *not* permitted to sit with graduates in the reserved seating area; this includes minor children.** Please be sure to have a responsible adult, age 18 or older, remain with your children in the appropriate guest seating area.

**PLEASE WATCH FOR FURTHER INFORMATION BULLETINS regarding Commencement, which will be sent on May 26 and June 1.** If you a specific question NOT covered in this bulletin, please contact us at [SDCCStudentAffairs@sdccd.edu](mailto:SDCCStudentAffairs@sdccd.edu) or call (619) 388-1870 (you can leave a message on our voicemail if we are not available to take your call immediately, and we will endeavor to get back to you within 24 hours!)

# PARKING and TRANSPORTATION

## RESORT ADDRESS:

500 Hotel Circle North - San Diego, CA 92108

SDCCE will provide complimentary on-site parking to graduates and guests on-site at the Resort, which offers 800 parking spaces across three main lots. Arrive early to secure parking! *Parking validations will be issued at the Commencement Registration Desk in the Town and Country Ballroom Foyer.* Public Transit and Rideshare options are also available.

### OPTION A: Main Parking Structure

Access the Main Parking Structure by entering the Resort from the main entrance off Hotel Circle North – the structure is ahead, to the left of the main lobby entrance.

### OPTION B: Surface and Underground Lots

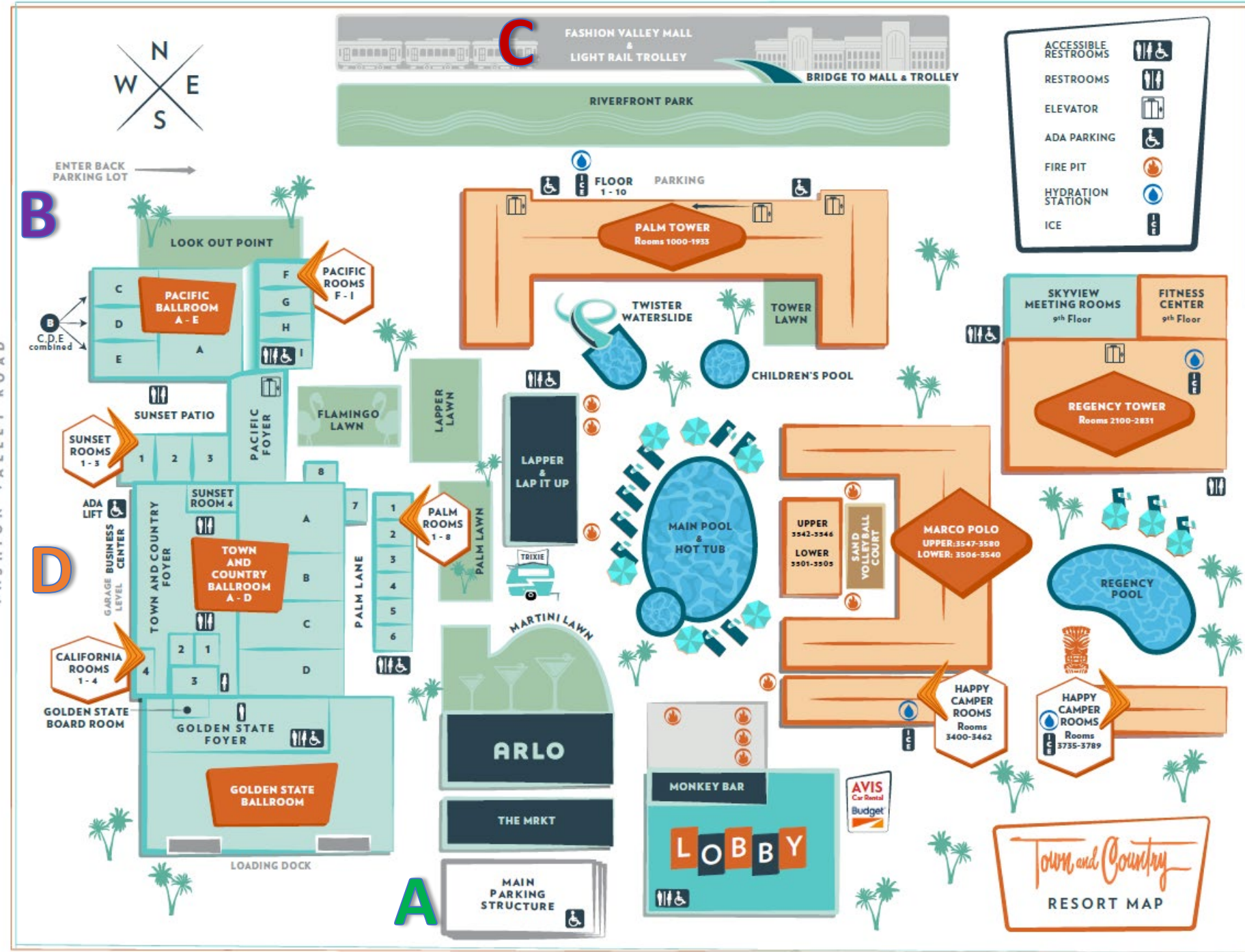
Access the surface and underground parking lots by travelling north on Fashion Valley Road, past the Town and Country Ballroom/Convention Center on the right – turn right at the driveway **before** the T+C Riverfront Park and Fashion Valley MTS Station. Enter to the right through the gate – you may park to the left above-ground, or turn right to access underground parking.

### OPTION C: Public Transit

The MTS Fashion Valley Transit Center is just steps away from the Resort – the Transit Center is served by Routes 1, 6, 20, 25, 41, 120, 928 and the Green Line Trolley

### OPTION D: Rideshare

A convenient drop-off location is available immediately at the doorstep of the Town and Country Ballroom and Convention Center, where our Ceremony will be held; students and guests may be dropped off at this location, accessed via Fashion Valley Road, throughout the day.



**T & C FOYER**

Red Carpet Entry & Photo Candid  
2:30PM – 4:45PM  
Registration & Sales  
3:00PM – 5:00PM  
Pre-show Entertainment  
4:00PM – 4:45PM

**CALIFORNIA 1 & 2**

Student Procession  
Staging Area  
4:00PM

**PROCESSION LINE  
BEGINS MOVING AT  
4:55PM**



**FLAMINGO LAWN**

VIP Reception  
3:30PM – 4:45PM

**PALM ROOM**

Trustees' Lounge  
3:00PM – 4:30PM  
Stage Party Staging  
4:45PM

**PALM LANE**

Stage Party  
Cabinet  
Faculty Procession  
4:45PM

**PROCESSION LINE  
BEGINS MOVING AT  
4:50PM**

**TOWN & COUNTRY BALLROOM**

Staging: 12 Noon – 2:30PM  
House Open: 3:00PM  
Ceremony: 5:00PM