

COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION BULLETIN #3 – 26 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 **third** 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

- Cap and Gown Availability
- Accommodations
- Program - Name Listing

REMINDERS

- Ceremony Location Information: Town and Country Resort, including Restaurant Guide
- Virtual Walkthrough of Venue for Graduates and Guests
- Guests and Seating at the Venue

CAP and GOWN AVAILABILITY

Cap and gown distributions this year took place during the GradFest events at the North City Campus on Tuesday, May 19 and Wednesday, May 20. **At this time, you have the following options available to you if you require a cap and gown for Commencement:**

- Purchase a cap and gown via the San Diego City College Bookstore**
The City College Bookstore has caps and gowns available for purchase – approximately \$50 for the full set. To inquire, contact citybook@sdccd.edu or call (619) 388-3549
- Purchase a cap and gown through an online retailer**
A selection of appropriate caps and gowns are available through [Amazon](#) – these retail for approximately \$18 plus tax and shipping. However, be advised that with **one week until Commencement**, you run the risk of delivery delays. Remember – only **black caps and gowns** are permitted.
- Obtain a cap and gown the day of Commencement**
We will have a **limited selection** of caps and gowns available the day of Commencement; please note: caps and gowns come in a folded package, so it will be creased. Not all sizes and options will be available due to supply. If we do not have your size available, you may be given the closest available size.

At this time, we still 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.

All graduates MUST be attired in academic apparel, consisting of a black, bachelor-cut gown and accompanying cap in order to walk in Commencement. 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.

Unfortunately, we do **not** have access to caps and gowns at this time – if you did not attend GradFest to pick up a cap and gown, your options are listed above.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Attached to this Bulletin is the seating layout for the Town and Country Ballroom, where Commencement will be held. On the diagram, ADA-accessible seating will be available in the areas indicated in blue – we have reserved 150 seats for guests requiring ADA accommodations.

Students requiring accommodations should have contacted the DSPS Office at (619) 388-4812 by Tuesday, May 19 – if you did not arrange for accommodations or assistance by that deadline, ***please contact DSPS without delay!***

You are responsible to submit the request to DSPS as directed. Students who made note on the Commencement Participation Forms of a possible need for accommodations, ***and whose forms were received prior to the deadline,*** were also forwarded to the DSPS Office for review – confirm that your request was received by contacting DSPS directly.

On the day of Commencement, if you or your guests require assistance in getting to your seats, or if you have limited mobility and would like to be seated in the front row(s) of the graduate seating area, please let us know at the check-in desk.

For guests with wheelchairs, please note that the parking structure accessed from the front of the Resort (Letter “A” on the parking and transportation map) or the surface lot at the rear of the property (Letter “C”) can easily access the Town and Country Ballroom. Parking in the underground parking structure (also accessed at Letter “C”, by turning *right* once through the gate) have a *staircase* and a limited-access ADA lift available to transport guests to the ballroom foyer.

ADA-accessible restrooms are available at multiple locations across the Resort – the nearest to the ceremony location are in the Golden State Foyer, immediately to the south, or in the Pacific Foyer to the north – consult the Resort Map for more information.

PROGRAM - NAME LISTING

At Commencement, students who participate in the Ceremony will complete a name card on check-in at the event, which will be handed to the name reader at the stage – as a result, everyone who walks in Commencement *will* have their name read on stage.

However, we also recognize that you may look for your name in the official program, which is published online and will be accessible through QR codes provided at the Ceremony. Names for this list are generated in one of three ways:

- A report, generated by the College, showing all program certificate completions and diplomas issued as of May 8, 2026
- Self-reporting through the Commencement Participation Form; or
- Reporting by a counselor of a student who is anticipated to be complete with their program by the end of the Spring Semester

The deadline for submission of names for the program was this past Thursday, May 21. We will still send names to the Public Information Office – which prepares the program – that are received through Friday, May 29, but we cannot guarantee that your name will appear in the published program if your name was not otherwise submitted prior to the deadline.

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 (which, as of today's bulletin, is looking to be in the upper 70s)!

If you are looking to make arrangements to celebrate your achievement before or after the Ceremony, below is a list of restaurants both at the Town and Country and nearby – click the name of the restaurant to be linked to more information:

Dining at the Town and Country Resort

- [Arlo San Diego](#) – locally-sourced specialties and contemporary flair
- [Lapper Sports Bar and Kitchen](#) – casual fare in a relaxed setting
- [Monkeybar](#) – not your average lobby bar, with small plates and snacks
- [The MRKT](#) – quick service with pizzas and sandwiches to go

Dining Nearby at Fashion Valley (click for a Fashion Valley Dining Guide)

- Blanco Tacos + Tequila – modern Mexican fare (619) 810-2931
- California Pizza Kitchen – a California classic, pizza, pastas, and more (619) 298-4078
- The Cheesecake Factory – Lots of options, and dessert, too (619) 683-2800
- Craft House Fashion Valley – New American/Mexican fusion (619) 314-4574
- Neiman Marcus Cafe – contemporary upscale (lunch only) (619) 542-4450
- Nordstrom Cafe – Casual fare in a marketplace setting (619) 295-4441
- NoRTH Italia – handcrafted Italian classics (619) 343-2301
- P.F. Chang's China Bistro – family-friendly, creative Chinese (619) 260-8484
- Silverlake Ramen – authentic ramen house with vegan options (619) 343-2625
- Tommy Bahama Marlin Bar – causal American in a unique setting (619) 541-6296

- True Food Kitchen – fresh and sustainable dining (619) 810-2929

Dining Nearby along Hotel Circle and Mission Valley

- [The Amigo Spot and Cantina](#) – a San Diego classic at the King’s Inn
- [Benihana](#) – American-style Japanese with flair and a show
- [King’s Fish House](#) – choice seafood with a wide variety of selections daily
- [Lazy Dog Restaurant and Bar](#) – American classics in a fun atmosphere
- [Puesto Mission Valley](#) – contemporary Mexican favorites
- [The Remy Cocktails and Meat](#) – a fresh take on old-school steakhouse style

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.

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.

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 as soon as updates are available for the Walkthrough details, and a final Bulletin on June 1. If you have a specific question NOT covered in this bulletin, please contact us at 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!)