



2018 Commencement Ceremony

LOS ANGELES SOUTHWEST COLLEGE COUGAR FIELD • TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018 • 4PM

Dear Student:

Congratulations! You are invited to participate in the 2018 Commencement Ceremony on **Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 4pm** at Cougar Field. Read this letter **carefully** as it contains important information about what to do before and during the Commencement Ceremony. Additional information about the ceremony is available at LASC's website at www.lasc.edu/news/Commencement/LASC-Commencement-2018.html. This year's commencement theme is "**Celebrating New Pathways to Success.**"

Conferring of Degrees

Los Angeles Southwest College (LASC) awards the Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Science (A.S.), and Associate of Science for Transfer (A.S.-T.) or AA-T degrees in selected curricula to indicate the satisfactory completion of 60 or more units of course credits. The Counseling Office and the Office of Admissions & Records evaluate all petitions for graduation to determine eligibility for the A.A., A.S., AA-T or A.S-T. Degrees. Students who applied for the summer and fall degrees have been evaluated and awarded, thus they are classified as "graduates". Students who applied for the spring 2018 degree are evaluated once the spring 2018 final grades have been submitted, thus they are classified as "candidates" for graduation.

Graduates and candidates for graduation will receive a diploma cover at the Commencement Ceremony to symbolize the conferring of a degree. After final grades are reviewed and applied to transcripts, the Office of Admissions & Records will send an email to students indicating that diplomas may be picked up in the Admissions & Records Office, Student Services Building,(SSB) Room 102. Your degree will also be posted on your official Los Angeles Southwest College transcript.

Class Rings

If you plan to purchase a class ring, stop by the LASC College Store, SSB 132, for information. For specific details, you may call at 323-241-5091. A representative will be available to assist you in late May.

Photography

LASC is arranging for professional photographers to be present on campus before and during commencement to take individual and/or group pictures of graduates. These professional pictures may be purchased from the company.

Academic Attire

Graduates will wear black gowns, with the exception of nursing students, who will wear white gowns. The College Store will have a list containing names of graduates and candidates for graduation as well as what color robe they should purchase.

- Associate of Arts/ Science Degree/Transfer Degree
- Nursing Degree

Black gown
White gown

Caps and gowns will be available for purchase in the College Store for \$29 plus tax and are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Popular sizes sell out quickly. Class of 2018 Sashes are available for purchase for \$23.99. LASC Graduate Hybrid Sashes are available for purchase for \$29.99. Stop by the College Store if you want to see the difference in the two sashes. Announcements are sold in packages of 10 for \$6.95 plus tax. The announcements are not personalized. To avoid disappointment and a last minute rush, make your purchases early. The College Store will not accept personal checks. Only cash or credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover Card) may be used for purchases.

IMPORTANT! Do not decorate or alter your gown. If you deface your gown, you will not be allowed to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

Commencement Honors

Academic Honors are determined through the Fall 2017 cumulative grade point average. Summer 2017 and Fall 2017 graduates are eligible for Academic Honors. (Academic Honors for Spring 2018 graduates will be represented on student transcripts, as well as on degrees once final grades are posted.) The College is governed by the National Honors Society to issue Academic Honors at the Commencement Ceremony in the following manner:

- 3.30 – 3.59 Cum Laude
- 3.60 – 3.79 Magna Cum Laude
- 3.80 – 4.00 Summa Cum Laude

Honor Society Students

Members of Phi Theta Kappa Academic Honor Society (Beta Pi Omega Chapter) may purchase gold cords and tassels at www.recognitions.ptk.org/index.php/graduation.html/ to wear during the Commencement Ceremony. To inquire about membership to this prestigious academic honor society, contact Professor Jeffrey Bohn at bohnjl@lasc.edu.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Summer 2017 and Fall 2017 graduates with the highest grade point average in their graduating class are categorized as follows (final grades through the Fall 2017 term are used to determine the grade point average):

- **Valedictorian** – Graduate with the highest grade point average for the Summer 2017 & Fall 2017 graduates.
- **Salutatorian** – Graduate with the second-highest grade point average for the Summer 2017 & Fall 2017 graduates.

Guests at Commencement

LASC graduates are encouraged to invite family members and friends to attend the Commencement Ceremony. Remember, the ceremony will be on the Cougar Field football stadium. Prime seating is limited and parking lots will fill up quickly, so we encourage guests to arrive early. Please note there will only be one area designated for cart pickups and drop-offs.

PARKING

There is no charge for parking on the day of Commencement. Arrive early, allow enough time for parking and travel to your seats. All available parking lots will be open for graduate and guest parking on Commencement day. There will be no reserved parking with the exception of vehicles with a disabled placard. Do not park in the spaces marked for disabled guests if you do not have a disabled placard.

Commencement Rehearsal

All graduation participants **MUST** attend a Commencement rehearsal to become familiar with procedures and etiquette for the ceremony.

The Commencement rehearsal dates are as follows:

- **Thursday, May 31, 2018** **5:00 p.m.** **Foyer of the Student Services Building**
- **Monday, June 4, 2018** **10:15 a.m.** **Foyer of the Student Services Building**

IMPORTANT! All graduates and candidates for graduation **must attend one** of the rehearsal sessions to be eligible for participation in the Commencement Ceremony.

Robing of Graduates

All graduates and candidates for graduation must report to the south side of the Student Services Building at 2p.m. on graduation day. Check-in will begin promptly at 2:50p.m. **Report to the Student Services Building in Academic Attire (Cap and Gown) for check in.**

Graduation gowns should be neatly pressed. Remove your gown from the package a few days before the ceremony and make sure it is ironed or pressed. Again, **do not deface your gown**. If you decorate or alter your gown, you **will not** be allowed to participate in the Commencement Ceremony. **You may only decorate your cap.**

Arrange to have your possessions taken care of prior to the Processional Assembly. No personal belongings, purses, coats, etc. may be left in the Student Services Building. Female students are advised not to wear high heels during the ceremony due to the uneven nature of the track and field. Flats and wedges are the only acceptable shoes allowed on the field.

Commencement Processional

The student Processional Assembly will begin on the south side of the Student Services Building near the College Store entrance. College staff will be on hand to help arrange students and answer any questions. The graduating class will be led to the graduation site wearing caps and gowns and carrying only their name cards. Before the procession there will be a short final briefing on Commencement protocol (e.g. where to stand, what to do, etc.). Plan to stay for the entire ceremony. **Early exiting will not be permitted.**

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Office of Student Services at (323) 241-5298.

On behalf of Los Angeles Southwest College, congratulations on your achievement!

Sincerely,

Dr. Howard Irvin, Jr.
Vice President of Student Services
Los Angeles Southwest College

*For information on joining the alumni network, please follow this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H7VPG7X>