

COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL

(ATTENDANCE is REQUIRED)

Kimbrell Arena, McMurry University.

3:45 pm, Friday, May 8, 2009.

Dress: Cap and Gown and approved Honor Cords

- (No sashes, adornments, corsages, jewelry, carried flowers, etc. will be allowed on the cap and gown.)
- **Men** should wear dark or black dress slacks, dark or black dress shoes and dark or black dress socks, white dress shirts with collars, and conservative ties.
- **Ladies** should wear conservative dresses or slacks and black shoes. (Tip for the ladies: bobby pins for the caps help greatly, and shoes that don't slip are recommended.) [**** Note concerning shoes: See Baccalaureate section below**]
- Military personnel may wear their dress uniforms.

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

(ATTENDANCE is REQUIRED)

Aldersgate United Methodist Church.

Friday, May 8, 2009).

Dress: Cap and Gown as previously described

Graduates have a tradition of processing across campus from the commencement site to the Classroom Wing at Aldersgate. We will leave Kimbrell Arena at 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 8, 2009, followed by a processional into the sanctuary. [**** Please wear shoes that work well with cap/gown attire and that you will be able to walk in for this distance**].

Baccalaureate is an important part of the McMurry experience, and attendees should conduct themselves with proper decorum. Your parents and guests are encouraged to attend! The service begins at 5:30 and is approximately one hour in length.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

(ATTENDANCE is REQUIRED)

Kimbrell Arena, McMurry.

Saturday, May 9, 2009.

9:00 am - Line-up in Mabee Room for the processional.

10:00 am - Commencement

Dress: Cap and Gown as previously described

(No facilities will be available to store purses or other valuables)

GRADUATE RECEPTION

You and your guests are invited to a reception in your honor, immediately following the Commencement ceremonies, in the Phillips' Family Student Activities Center. This is an excellent opportunity for you to fellowship with classmates, introduce parents and friends to faculty members, take photographs, and enjoy your first moments as a college graduate.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Cap & Gown and Announcements

Each candidate for graduation is responsible for obtaining the approved academic regalia from the McMurry University Bookstore in the Garrison Campus Center (325-793-4832). Announcements can be ordered through Balfour at www.balfourcollege.com or by calling 1.877.225.3687.

Cords for National Honor Societies

Students who are members of nationally recognized honor societies will be allowed to wear honor cords as part of their academic regalia. **Candidates should contact their society's sponsor to obtain the appropriate cord.**

Cords for McMurry Honor Graduates

Cords will be provided for students graduating Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, or Cum Laude, and should be picked up at the Registrar's office when all surveys and enclosed forms are returned.

Graduation with Academic Honors

Graduation with academic honors is based on an overall GPA and consists only of McMurry University work. All courses completed at McMurry, including those in which a grade of "D," "F," or "WF" is earned, will be calculated in one's overall GPA, which is not rounded up. The standards for graduation with honors are as follows: Cum laude: 3.50 to 3.69; Magna Cum Laude: 3.70 to 3.84; Summa Cum Laude: 3.85 to 4.0.

A student must have completed at least 57 semester hours in residence at McMurry University to be eligible for graduation with honors. Honors will be noted on your diploma and transcript, based on the final GPA calculation after all final grades are received and computed. Honors printed in the commencement program are based on the available grade point calculation at the end of the previous semester and are subject to change.

Pictures

A **professional photographer** has been contracted to take your picture as you cross the stage. Please inform your guests that pictures without flash may be taken from their seats only. We ask that guests do not enter the aisles to take pictures due to space and safety limitations.

Ceremony Decorum

The McMurry University Commencement ceremony is the formal recognition by the University of your achievement as a student. Please remember that any unwarranted personal celebrations in the public arena of the ceremony itself are inappropriate and may be unappreciated by your fellow classmates. Please ask your guests to celebrate your "walk across the stage" following the ceremony in such a way that will not detract from the dignity of the day.

Transcripts

Every effort will be made to post your degree to your transcript as soon as possible. Your financial affairs must be in order before official transcripts will be released from McMurry University.

Diplomas

You should expect to receive your diploma in late June (May graduates) or late September (August graduates) if there are no “Holds” on any of your records with the university.

Graduation *in Absentia*

All candidates are required to be present for Commencement. If it is impossible for you to participate, you must write to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for permission to graduate *in absentia*. No diploma will be released to any candidate who does not attend the Rehearsal, Baccalaureate Service, or Commencement, unless prior written permission is received from the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Requests to graduate in absentia should be directed to:

Dr. Beverly A. Lenoir , Vice President for Academic Affairs
Box 157 McM Station
Abilene, TX 79697
blenoir@mcm.edu

Alumni Services

After your degree has been verified and posted by the Office of the Registrar, you are considered an alumnus of the University and are eligible to participate in any and all Alumni activities. The Alumni Relations Office assists the University and its students in a variety of ways and we encourage you to be a full participant. To better serve you, we need to know where you are and what you are doing. Please inform us of any address changes, professional activities including job changes, family status, and honors or awards you may receive. Additionally, if you are interested in participating in alumni activities, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 325.793.4609.

Guest Lodging

December is an active time of year for visitors to the city of Abilene. Please have your guests secure lodging at one of the local hotels or motels as early as possible to ensure their accommodations for the weekend.



For questions or further information, please contact either:
Ms. Carolyn Calvert, University Registrar, or
Ms. Janet Chandler, Assistant Registrar, at
325.793.3888.