

GRADUATION INSTRUCTIONS

History of the High School Cap and Gown

The custom of wearing caps and gown as a symbol of learning has been handed down to us through generations. Learned men of medieval times wore caps and gowns as a symbol of high scholastic achievement. Men of letters have adhered to this custom through the ensuing years. Today, the wearing of a cap and gown by a graduate is a symbol of attainment. It is a concept used in most every secondary school in the United States. It is dignified, simple, economical, and not subject to the whims of fashion designers.

Wearing of the High School Cap and Gown

A commencement exercise is a great event in the life of a graduate. It is indeed an impressive ceremony. Caps and gowns worn properly lend dignity to the occasion.

The cap is a skullcap attached to a cloth-covered square called a mortarboard. The cap should be worn so the mortarboard is level. The long point is in the back; the front point well down on the forehead, approximately one inch above the eyebrows. Tassels shall be worn on the LEFT side. The front of the cap is indicated on the inside of the crown. No modification of the cap is acceptable, including decorations. Caps must be worn during the ceremony. The tassel should be on the right or the mortarboard at the beginning of the ceremony. You will shake with your left hand underhanded and take the right hand over-handed to accept your diploma.

Gowns shall be worn closed. Honor students should wear gold tassels and cords.

Dress

Graduates may **not** wear jeans of any color, shorts or tennis shoes. Girls should wear a lightweight dress of any color or dark dress pants. Boys should wear a light colored shirt, dress pants, **and must wear a tie**. Boys may wear boots, but not work boots. Light colors include light blue, light pink, light green, light yellow, light grey, beige, and white. Dark colors include navy, dark blue, dark green, black, grey, and brown. Khakis are acceptable. Girls will need Bobbie pins for their caps and safety pins for their collars. Be sure you press your gown before wearing it. (Use cool, low temp. iron. PLEASE TAKE GOWN OUT OF PACKAGE AND IRON BEFORE COMING TO GRADUATION.)

SENIORS: BE AT TTU NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM FOR LINE UP FOR GRADUATION.

USHERS: BE AT TTU PROMPTLY AT 5:00 PM TO GIVE OUT PROGRAMS FOR GRADUATION.

***DISTRACTIONS DURING THE CEREMONY ARE NOT ALLOWED. DO NOT BRING AIR HORNS WHICH CAN CAUSE HEALTH ISSUES FOR SOME STUDENTS. THIS IS A FORMAL CEREMONY TO BE RESPECTED FOR ALL FAMILIES.**