

GRADUATION READINESS MEETING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (NOVEMBER 11, 2025)

1. Is there a dress code under the gown? Do women have to wear a dress?

Graduates are encouraged to follow a suggested dress code to maintain a professional appearance. Yes, there is a suggested dress code. Graduates are expected to wear business attire under their academic regalia. Women are not required to wear dresses—pantsuits or other professional attire are acceptable. This includes:

- Dresses, skirts, or dress pants
- Dress shirts, blouses, or tops
- Dress shoes (*avoid sneakers or casual footwear*)
- Neutral colors are encouraged

2. When do we officially know our graduation application has been approved?

A representative from your College/School should notify you after final grades are posted if you are no longer eligible to graduate.

3. How do I know if I have honor cords to pick up?

Please contact your College/School to see if you are eligible to receive an honor cord. The honor cord distribution schedule is posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage ([Information for Graduating Students \(Fall 2025\) | North Carolina Central University](#)).

4. Is graduation on December 10th?

All Fall 2025 Commencement ceremonies will be held on Friday, December 12, 2025, in the McDougald-McLendon Arena. The Graduate, Professional, and Doctoral ceremony will begin at 9:00 a.m., followed by the Undergraduate ceremony at 2:00 p.m.

5. Is there a way to get more than 4 tickets?

Undergraduate students will receive up to four (4) guest tickets. Graduate, Professional, and Doctoral students will receive up to eight (8) tickets. Due to venue capacity, extra tickets will not be available. You may ask classmates if they have extra tickets they are not going to use, but official distribution is limited.

6. Where and when can I get tickets for the graduation ceremony?

Tickets and the Permit-to-March will be available for download starting midnight on December 11, 2025. The Permit-to-March must be printed and taken to the graduation ceremony. Detailed instructions and the download link will be emailed to graduates on December 8, 2025.

7. Was there a decorum email sent out to graduates?

Yes, an email was sent out. For your convenience, [CLICK HERE](#) to access the link to the Decorum Acknowledgement. Acknowledge acceptance of the **mandatory** NCCU Commencement Decorum Video is **due by December 8, 2025**.

8. How do we get unofficial/official transcripts?

You can only request official transcripts through **Parchment** via the NCCU website: [NCCU Transcript Request](#). If you need an unofficial transcript, you can print one through your [myEOL](#) account.

9. What color should we wear under our gown?

Neutral tones (black, white, beige, gray, maroon, or other muted colors) are recommended for attire under your gown to maintain a professional and uniform appearance.

10. I haven't received info about cap and gown—who do I contact?

An email was sent out to all students who submitted a graduation application for Fall 2025 and to the Summer 2025 graduates. Multiple reminder emails were also sent. Caps and gowns are ordered through Herff Jones and the deadline to order was November 10, 2025. If you missed the deadline to order your cap and gown, please contact Ms. Jacqueline McDowell in the NCCU Bookstore at 919-530-7824.

11. Do babies or children need a ticket?

Yes, every guest over a year old must have a ticket to enter the venue. Babies under a year old must remain on an adult's lap the entire ceremony.

12. Is there an elevator for guests who can't use stairs?

There is no elevator in the McDougald-McLendon Arena. Guests who can manage a few steps will find reserved seating on the upper level for easier access. For those unable to navigate stairs, wheelchair-accessible seating is available on the lower level. Please note that these seats are limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Only one (1) companion may accompany each guest requiring assistance. If any guest requires special accommodation other than accessible seating, please email sas@nccu.edu in advance. Students participating in Commencement who require any type of accommodation should contact Student Accessibility Services at sas@nccu.edu or [919-530-6325](tel:919-530-6325), no later than **November 28, 2025**, to ensure appropriate arrangements can be made.

13. Do distance education students need a clearance letter for community engagement?

Distance education students are not required to submit a community engagement clearance letter.

14. Who do we contact if we can't attend rehearsal?

If you cannot attend rehearsal, inform a faculty marshall when you arrive at the ceremony. Distance learners are not required to attend rehearsal and there is no virtual rehearsal.

15. Will students be announced with honors (e.g., Magna Cum Laude)?

Students within each honor group will be acknowledged as a group.

16. Will students have designated parking on graduation day?

[Fall Commencement Parking Information \(2025\) | North Carolina Central University](#)

17. Will there be a shuttle for elderly guests?

The NCCU Transit Circulator Shuttle will begin its campus route at 7:30 a.m., running every 15–20 minutes between the parking lots and the McDougald-McLendon Arena.

18. How long is the graduation ceremony for graduate/professional students?

The Graduate/Professional/Doctoral ceremony typically lasts 2 to 2.5 hours, depending on the number of graduates.