



## 2019 Graduation Ceremonies Frequently Asked Questions

### **Where are the 2019 FBISD graduation ceremonies being held?**

FBISD will host the 2019 graduation ceremonies at the Smart Financial Centre in Sugar Land.

### **How do I get to the Smart Financial Centre?**

The Smart Financial Centre is located at 18111 Lexington Blvd. in Sugar Land.

#### **Driving Directions**

From Richmond/Rosenberg: take I-69 (US 59) North towards Sugar Land. Exit University Blvd and continue on the feeder road. Turn right onto Taborwood.

From Houston: Take I-69 (US 59) South towards Sugar Land. Exit University Blvd. Make the U-turn. Continue on the feeder road and turn right onto Taborwood.

### **When are the graduation ceremonies?**

#### **Thursday, May 23**

4:00 p.m.	Dulles High School
7:30 p.m.	Clements High School

#### **Friday, May 24**

9:30 a.m.	Hightower High School
1:00 p.m.	Kempner High School
4:30 p.m.	Travis High School
8:00 p.m.	Elkins High School

#### **Saturday, May 25**

8:00 a.m.	Marshall High School
10:30 a.m.	Willowridge High School
1:00 p.m.	Austin High School
4:30 p.m.	Bush High School
8:00 p.m.	Ridge Point High School



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### **Do guests need tickets?**

Yes, tickets ensure there is seating capacity for each family and are required for all guests over the age of two (2). Graduating seniors do not require a ticket.

### **How do I request to receive additional tickets?**

Depending on the size of the class, campuses will determine how many tickets each student gets. Students or their parents/guardians have an opportunity to request additional tickets in March by filling out an online form located on the home page of their campus website.

Students and/or parents only need to fill out the online form if they want to request additional tickets.

Campuses will redistribute excess tickets to students who requested additional tickets. Each campus will do its best to accommodate requests, but tickets are limited. Families will be notified of how many additional tickets they are allocated.

Please note the online ticket request form is not first-come, first-serve. Your student's campus will communicate the deadline to request tickets.

### **Do guests need to purchase parking in advance?**

No. It is not necessary to purchase parking prior to the ceremony. Onsite, paid parking will be available the day of the event for \$10.

However, it is strongly recommended that guests purchase parking tickets online prior to the event to expedite entering and parking in the lot. See below.



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### **Can guests purchase parking in advance?**

In order to expedite parking the day of the event, families can pre-purchase parking online. The cost to park at the event is \$10 and there is no service fee added to your transaction. You can print your parking ticket at home, or display it on your mobile phone. Questions regarding parking may be directed to Smart Financial. Beginning May 1, visit [www.fortbendisd.com/graduation](http://www.fortbendisd.com/graduation) to access the link for your campus.

### **How long does the ceremony typically last?**

Each ceremony typically lasts approximately one hour and 30 minutes.

### **Where do graduates need to gather?**

Students will report to their campus and ride an air-conditioned bus to the Smart Financial Centre for the commencement. This allows the campus to stage students in order and ensures prompt arrival.



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### **How do students get home from the ceremony?**

Students may leave directly from the Smart Financial Centre with their family or ride a bus back to their campus following the ceremony. Guests may meet their graduate outside of the centre in the plaza. Alpha signs will be posted in the plaza to help guests and graduates finding each other easily. Graduates can meet their families by the first letter of their last name.



### **Is there reserved seating at the Smart Financial Centre?**

There is no reserved seating and saving seats is not allowed. All seating is open, except for those who need special accommodations for wheelchairs, etc.

### **What items are prohibited at the Smart Financial Centre?**

Balloons, air horns/noisemakers, banners/flags and confetti are not allowed. Other prohibited items include, but are not limited to, weapons, outside food or beverage, tripods, monopods or selfie sticks and laptops/electronic tablets.



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### **Can I take pictures of my child? Can I purchase a photo of my student?**

Parents may bring cameras and video cameras, but no tripods are allowed.

Marc Nathan Photographers, Inc. will capture your senior's 2019 Commencement Ceremony. Every graduate will be photographed as they receive their diploma and as they return to their seat.

An email will be sent to your senior 7-10 days following the ceremony with a link to order prints. There is no obligation to order.

### **Will my child's ceremony be available online?**

Each ceremony will be streamed live via [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). Visit [www.fortbendisd.com/graduation](http://www.fortbendisd.com/graduation) to access the link on the day of your child's graduation. Ceremonies will also be available to view on Fort Bend ISD's Youtube channel a couple of days following the ceremony.

### **When do students get their diplomas?**

At the commencement ceremony, students will receive a diploma cover, but their actual diplomas will arrive later to the school. Each high school campus will send out information to parents and students regarding when the diplomas will be available for pick up at the campus. Typically, this occurs later in June or July.

Information regarding handicap parking and seating may be found at [www.fortbendisd.com/graduation](http://www.fortbendisd.com/graduation). Additional questions should be directed to your high school directly.