

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR GRADUATION

Summer Ceremony (all Colleges) • July 29, 2023 • 10:00 AM • Carter Gymnasium

RECEPTION FOR GRADUATES AND GUESTS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY in the Ballroom

Eligibility If you have questions about your eligibility to graduate, **REVIEW YOUR DEGREE WORKS PLAN OF STUDY AND CONSULT WITH YOUR ADVISOR.**

Ceremony

- Report to the Sandridge Student Center Ballroom at 9:00 a.m. for line-up and instructions.
- Tickets are not required for the ceremony, and there is no limit to the number of guests invited; however, seating is limited.
- Masks are optional.
- Graduation supplies may be ordered online (various packages are offered): colleges.herffjones.com/college/athensstate, **by June 26**, or through the bookstore (no deadline).

Dress:

- Commencement is a formal academic event. Dress should be, at a minimum, **business casual (collared shirt, slacks, dresses/skirts and comfortable walking shoes)**. **Prepare to walk from Sandridge Student Center to the Gymnasium, which includes many stairs.**
- The University recognizes the significance of academic achievement as well as the value of service in University recognized clubs and organizations. Students are encouraged to demonstrate these achievements through the wearing of official honor cords and stoles **that represent those accomplishments.**
- Caps may be tastefully decorated; there must not be decorative items hanging from the mortar board.

Honors

To be eligible for a degree with honors, a student must have completed at least 45 undergraduate semester hours at the University.

- Degrees with honor are based on performance in all undergraduate academic work completed at Athens State University, with the exception of any coursework excluded by course forgiveness or academic bankruptcy.
- The following honors may be awarded to undergraduate students:
 - Institutional GPA of 3.9 - 4.0 *Summa Cum Laude* (gold medallion)
 - Institutional GPA of 3.70 - 3.89 *Magna Cum Laude* (silver medallion)
 - Institutional GPA of 3.50 - 3.69 *Cum Laude* (bronze medallion)
- Since all grades for the final semester may not be available in time for commencement ceremonies and printing of commencement programs, degree with honor designations for a commencement ceremony are unofficial.
- Final academic honor designations are determined after grades for the final semester have been posted. Final, official honor designations will be reflected on the Athens State transcript and on the Athens State diploma.
- Honors medallions are available in the University Bookstore for purchase, and online: <https://www.bkstr.com/athensstatestore/shop/graduation>. The cost is \$20 (tax not included). Your GPA will be verified upon ordering.
- **PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR (STUDENT RECORDS) WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING GPA OR HONORS: registrar@athens.edu or 256-233-8131.**

Diplomas and Transcripts

- Diplomas will be mailed to **all** graduates by August 25, 2023. None will be given at the ceremony.
- Transcripts
 - should be used to provide employers with proof of graduation.
 - graduation information should be posted on the transcripts by the Records Office a day or two after grades are due (July 26, 2023).
 - If you need a transcript, please complete the Transfer Request Form located in the following link: <http://www.athens.edu/student-records/transcript-requests/>, or contact the **Office of the Registrar (Student Records)**:

256-233-8131
registrar@athens.edu

Questions:

For questions about the ceremony, contact the **Office of Academic Affairs**:

256-233-8103
molly.myhan@athens.edu

Graduates who need special accommodations for the ceremony should contact the Office of Academic Affairs before July 14, 2023. If one of your guests needs special accommodations, you should also contact the Office of Academic Affairs.

Exit Counseling:

*To graduates who had a student loan while attending Athens State University, the Financial Aid Office would like to remind you that the Federal Government requires you to complete **exit counseling** at Studentloans.gov.*

University Bookstore:

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

**On the campus of Athens State University
Sandridge Student Center**

Phone: 256-233-8249

Email: bookstore@athens.edu

Regular Business Hours

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| MON – THUR | 10 AM – 4 PM |
| FRI – SUN | CLOSED |

Hours for Graduation

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Friday before Graduation | 10 AM – 4 PM |
| Graduation Day | 7 AM – 1 PM |

Photographs:

The Grad Team is the official graduation photographer for your school. They will take professional pictures of each and every graduation as they receive their diplomas and exit the state at the graduation ceremony.

<https://thegradteam.com/>

Ceremony Live stream/Video

For those who aren't able to attend, we will be streaming the live event. Links will be made available through the [Athens State University website](#) and social media accounts. In the event that the gymnasium reaches capacity, there will be a venue for watching the livestream in Classroom Building, room 204.

Ceremony Video

A link to the edited ceremony video will be provided on [Athens State University website](#) and social media accounts.

Maps

<https://www.athens.edu/about/campus/maps-and-directions/google-map/>

<https://www.athens.edu/about/campus/maps-and-directions/campus-map/>