

# IMPORTANT NOTES FOR GRADUATES

## THINGS TO KNOW AND DO AS YOU PREPARE FOR GRADUATION:

### **Academic Regalia**

The navy cap, gown, and tassel required for all graduation ceremony participants are available for order through March 15 from [Herff Jones](#) for delivery to campus and pick up at GradFest (see below). Orders for home delivery may be placed through April 12; shipping charges will apply for orders shipped home.

Undergraduates will also wear white satin stoles embroidered with “Class of 2026” and the College seal. Stoles must be purchased separately from the Pioneers Team Store. Masters candidates will be presented with hoods in the color of the discipline, provided by the academic department.

A *small quantity* of regalia will be available for use on a first-come, first-served basis for those who miss the deadline or were otherwise unable to purchase. Cost-savvy students who are able to borrow regalia from previous graduates may contact the Records Office to order a tassel.

Diploma frames and announcements are also available for purchase on the Herff Jones website, linked above.

### **The Long Blue Line Brunch:**

The Office of Alumni Engagement and the Marietta College Alumni Association Council will be hosting The Long Blue Line Brunch honoring the Class of 2026 on Saturday, May 9. The buffet brunch will be held on from 10:30 a.m. – noon on Fenton Court. Graduating seniors will receive complimentary tickets, courtesy of the Marietta College Alumni Association Council. Additional tickets for family or friends may be purchased for \$25 per person.

All attendees — including graduating seniors — must register by April 30 by visiting: <https://www.marietta.edu/2026-long-blue-line-brunch>

### **GradFest**

All enrolled May 2026 graduates...as well as enrolled August and December 2026 graduates who will be participating in the Spring 2026 Commencement... should plan to participate in GradFest in late April. Location, date, and time will be announced by early March via email.

At GradFest, you will verify your diploma name and mailing address, learn how the Career Development at the Milone Center for Academic and Career Success can continue to support you after graduation, and confirm that we have the most current academic program information for your degree, i.e., all expected major(s), minor(s), and/or certificate(s). You will also be asked to verify pronunciation of your name, which can also be done by visiting <https://vocaroo.com/> to record your name (please speak slowly and clearly) and email the recording to [records@marietta.edu](mailto:records@marietta.edu) .

You will also pick up your regalia at GradFest, which can be steamed while you are there or during the week of finals by making an appointment at [marietta.joinhandshake.com/login](https://marietta.joinhandshake.com/login).

### **Jewett Speech Competition**

The contest to choose the Jewett speakers for the Class of 2026 will be held Wednesday, April 1, at 6:00 p.m. in Mills 107. A panel of faculty from various academic disciplines, students appointed by SGA, and administrators will select the winning speakers. Not only do the students who are chosen have the honor of speaking as part of Commencement, they will also receive an award of \$100 for first place and \$50 for second place.

A brief informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 4, at 4:00p.m. in Mills 107.

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## THINGS TO KNOW AND DO AFTER YOU GRADUATE

### **Degree Conferral**

Keep in mind that participating in Commencement is NOT the same as graduating. *Graduation requires completion of all degree requirements.*

Spring grades will be processed on Wednesday, May 13, with degree completion confirmed over the remainder of the week. If there is a change in graduation status, students will be notified no later than Wednesday, May 20.

*As a reminder, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that any necessary approvals (e.g., approved ensembles, cognates, substitutions, etc.) have been submitted to the Records Office. It is best if this is completed prior to the end of the term.*

Any deficiencies, such as incomplete grades, final transfer credits, or missing approvals like those referenced above must be resolved no later than May 13 to have the degree conferred for Spring 2026. Students completing requirements after this deadline will have the degree conferred on the first of the month following completion. Exceptions may be considered in cases where the work was completed but documentation was pending and is received within 21 days of Commencement. This policy ensures compliance with federal reporting regulations.

### **Diplomas**

After grades are processed and degrees conferred, diplomas will be ordered and mailed to the address provided on the graduation application within approximately two weeks of the order. Students are responsible for ensuring their correct mailing address has been provided and for satisfying any outstanding balances.

Also, look for an email in your MC email from Paradigm the week of June 8 with a link to access your official Certified Electronic Diploma that can be shared on social media and with prospective employers. Be sure to register with Paradigm with a personal email account to facilitate access after your MC email has expired.

### **The Long Blue Line**

You are joining a group of Trail Blazers 25,000 strong. Stay connected with each other and with us by updating your contact information via email to [alumni@marietta.edu](mailto:alumni@marietta.edu) or calling 740-376-4709. We love hearing about jobs, new homes, marriages, etc., and CELEBRATING with you! Keeping your information updated also makes sure you aware of campus happenings, Homecoming, regional events, and more.

### **Email and Self-Service Access**

Graduates will have access to their MC email for approximately six months after graduation. Graduates will need to transition to their personal email before that time. Please contact Information Technology at [mcithelp@marietta.edu](mailto:mcithelp@marietta.edu) with any questions.

### **Forwarding Mail**

Following graduation, any first-class mail will be forwarded to your home address. Campus and third-class mail will be discarded. To ensure continued delivery of mail after graduation, please complete a change of address form online at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com). Contact the mailroom at 740-376-4617 with questions.