General Information

This guide has been specially prepared for the families of students who will be participating in Commencement Exercises – both for the Corps of Cadets and the College of Graduate and Professional Studies (CGPS) – and for the graduates. This information answers most of the commonly asked questions and gives a detailed schedule of all Commencement Week events.

Suggested arrival times and appropriate dress are provided for each event, but realize that these are only suggestions. Weather and traffic/parking may necessitate adjustments. Inclement weather plans are also listed for each event.

If, after reading this information, you still have specific questions, please contact:

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Admission Tickets: Admission Tickets are required only for Commencement Exercises for the Corps of Cadets on Saturday, May 8. Ten (10) tickets will be distributed to each cadet. December graduates and fifth-year seniors off campus need to contact Cadet Activities in early April for tickets. Although not requiring a ticket, there is limited seating at the Baccalaureate Service in Summerall Chapel.

Dress: The importance of the week’s ceremonies will dictate the dress for specific events. The weather should be considered when packing. Although not required, a coat & tie for gentlemen would be appropriate for the Baccalaureate Service and Commencement Exercises. Casual attire is appropriate for most other events.

Food/Beverages and Shopping: The Snack Bar, located to the left of Mark Clark Hall, offers a wide variety of quick foods, breakfast items and hot meals. The Gift Shop, located at the front entrance of Mark Clark Hall and in the Holliday Alumni Center, provides numerous shopping opportunities for Citadel families and friends. Extended hours of each facility for Commencement Week will be posted.

We ask that no food or beverages be brought into McAlister Field House for the Corps of Cadets or CGPS Commencement Exercises nor to the Baccalaureate Service or Commissioning Ceremonies in Summerall Chapel.

Handicapped Guests: Handicapped Seating at Commencement Exercises for the Corps of Cadets and the College of Graduate and Professional Studies will be in a special area on the main floor of the Field House. For questions regarding handicapped seating, contact Cadet Activities or CGPS at the numbers above. On-campus handicapped parking will be available for all events.

Parking: As with most major events on campus, parking will be at a premium for Commencement Week. A campus map showing on- and off-campus parking areas is included in this guide. Public Safety officers and cadet traffic details will direct you to the closest available spaces. Campus shuttle vans will operate from near Johnson Hagood Stadium to the campus for CGPS Commencement Exercises Sunday afternoon and for the Cadet Commencement Exercises Saturday morning. No parking is allowed in Hampton Park. For information concerning handicapped parking, contact Public Safety at 843.953.5114.

Photography: The Citadel has contracted with a professional photographer to take color pictures of each individual receiving a diploma. Graduates will be contacted by the firm concerning the purchase of photos. The Citadel Alumni Association (843.953.7696) will offer video highlights of the week’s cadet activities. Information on purchase of these videotapes will be sent to cadet families. Families are asked not to come forward to take family snapshots or video during Commencement Exercises or Commissioning Ceremonies.

Restrooms/Water: A campus map is included in this guide which shows the location of restrooms.

Please bring this Commencement Guide with you to use as a reference during your visit to campus.
Schedule of Commencement Week Activities

SUNDAY, MAY 2

2:00 p.m.  College of Graduate and Professional Studies Commencement Exercises
Place: McAlister Field House  Inclement Weather: As Scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 1 hour
Suggested Dress: Coat and tie
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to be seated 15 minutes prior to the processional.
Suggested Parking: Once on-campus parking areas fill, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles. Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to McAlister Field House or take the campus shuttle van from Johnson Hagood Stadium. No parking is allowed in Hampton Park.
Graduates and Participants: Graduates will gather in Deas Hall no later than 1:15 p.m. for robing and lineup.
Special Information: A professional photographer will take photos of each graduate during the diploma presentation. Families are asked not to come forward to take family snapshots or video.
What to Expect: The ceremony will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. with the processional of the graduating class, the faculty and the platform party. After the invocation, national anthem and introductions of the special guests, Maj. Gen. Grinalds will deliver remarks. The College will then present awards prior to the commencement address by Mr. William Bayard Hewitt, president of the consulting firm Sirius Ventures, Inc. The presentation of candidates and conferring of degrees will precede the actual presentation of diplomas.

3:00 p.m.  Reception for CGPS Graduates and Their Guests Hosted by Maj. Gen. and Mrs. John S. Grinalds
Place: Deas Hall  Inclement Weather: As Scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 1 hour
Special Information: CGPS graduates and their families are invited to a special reception hosted by the President and First Lady in Deas Hall which is located on the north side of McAlister Field House.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

1:30 p.m.  Star of the West Finals
Place: Summerall Field  Inclement Weather: Deas Hall  Approx. Running Time: 45 minutes
Suggested Dress: Casual
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to be seated in the bleachers 15 minutes prior to the competition.
Suggested Parking: Once on-campus parking areas fill, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles. Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to Summerall Field.
Special Information: This event is the culmination of many hours of practice in rifle drill. The winner will be named the “Best Drilled Cadet” and will have his or her name inscribed on the Star of the West Monument located near the flagpole on Summerall Field. That cadet will also wear the Star of the West Medal. The ship, Star of the West, was fired upon by Citadel cadets in 1861.

3:45 p.m.  Review and Presentation of Awards
Place: Summerall Field  Inclement Weather: Review cancelled; awards presented in Mark Clark Hall
Approx. Running Time: 1 hour
Suggested Dress: Casual
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to be seated in the bleachers 15 minutes prior to the Review.
Suggested Parking: Once on-campus parking areas fill, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles. Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to Summerall Field.
Special Information: The afternoon Review will feature the presentation of several prestigious awards.

7:30 p.m.  Baccalaureate Service
Place: Summerall Chapel  Inclement Weather: As Scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 1.5 hours
Suggested Dress: Coat and tie
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to be seated in the Chapel 20 minutes prior to the processional. Please note that the Chapel will fill quickly.
Suggested Parking: Once on-campus parking areas fill, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles. Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to Summerall Chapel.
Special Information: The speaker will be the Rev. Anthony Kowbeidu, Vicar of St. Andrews Mission. Please, no flash photography or artificial lighting inside the Chapel.
FRIDAY, MAY 7

2:15 p.m.  2005 Summerall Guards Performance in Honor of the Class of 2004  
Place: Summerall Field  
Inclement Weather: Cancelled  
Approx. Running Time: 30 minutes  
Suggested Dress: Casual  
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to be seated 15 minutes prior to the performance.  
Suggested Parking: Once on-campus parking areas fill, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles. Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to Summerall Field.  
Special Information: The 2005 Summerall Guards will perform the traditional “Citadel Series” in honor of the Senior Class.

3:00 p.m.  Graduation Parade  
Place: Summerall Field  
Inclement Weather: Cancelled  
Approx. Running Time: 1 hour  
Suggested Dress: Casual  
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to be seated 15 minutes prior to the parade.  
Suggested Parking: Once on-campus parking areas fill, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles. Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to Summerall Field.  
Special Information: Members of the Class of 2004 will march in their final parade as cadets. As the class crosses Summerall Field to “take the review,” the leadership of the Class of 2005 will take command of the Corps of Cadets.

4:00 p.m.  Garden Party Given by Maj. Gen. and Mrs. John S. Grinalds for Members of the Class of 2004 and Their Guests  
Place: Quarters One  
Inclement Weather: Cancelled  
Approx. Running Time: 1.5 hours  
Suggested Dress: Casual  
Suggested Arrival: Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Grinalds will welcome guests on the porch of the President’s House immediately after parade until 5:30 p.m.  
Suggested Parking: Same as for Graduation Parade  
Special Information: This is an opportunity for the Senior Class and their guests to meet the President and First Lady. Light refreshments will be served in the garden.

Please refer to the back page of this guide for important information regarding your arrival and seating for Cadet Commencement Exercises.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

9:30 a.m.  Cadet Commencement Exercises  
Place: McAlister Field House  
Inclement Weather: As scheduled  
Approx. Running Time: 3 hours  
Suggested Dress: Coat and tie  
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to be seated 10 minutes prior to the processional. Please refer to the box on the back page for important, detailed information.  
Suggested Parking: Once on-campus parking areas fill, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles. Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to McAlister Field House or take the campus shuttle van. No parking is allowed in Hampton Park.  
Grads and Participants: Graduates will gather in Deas Hall no later than 8:30 a.m. for lineup. Alumni fathers presenting diplomas to their sons or daughters will be lined up in the rear hallway of McAlister Field House.  
Special Information: A professional photographer will take photos of each graduate during the diploma presentation. Families are asked not to come forward to take family snapshots or video.  
What to Expect: The ceremony will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. with the processional of the graduating class, the faculty and the platform party. After the invocation, national anthem and introductions of the special guests, Maj. Gen. Grinalds will deliver remarks. The College will present several honors, awards and honorary degrees. The Commencement Speaker, S.C. Governor Mark Sanford, will then deliver the address. Maj. Gen. Grinalds will administer the oath to those entering the Armed Forces. The presentation of candidates and conferring of degrees will precede the actual presentation of diplomas. At the conclusion, the President of The Citadel Alumni Association will have graduates rise and turn their rings so that the numerals face out. The ceremony will conclude with the singing of the alma mater, the benediction, closing remarks by Maj. Gen. Grinalds and the “tossing of hats.”
SPECIAL EVENTS FOR SELECTED GROUPS
These events are for selected graduates and their families and are by invitation only.

Thursday, May 6 – 11:00 a.m.

Who’s Who Awards Presentation
Place: Mark Clark Hall Auditorium  Inclement Weather: As scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 30 minutes
Suggested Arrival: All family members and guests are asked to arrive 15 minutes prior to the start.
Special Information: This ceremony is for members of the Senior Class who were selected for the award of Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Friday, May 7

Commissioning Ceremonies
Times: 8:00 a.m. – Army  10:00 a.m. – Air Force  6:00 p.m. – Navy/Marine
Place: Summerall Chapel  Inclement Weather: As Scheduled  Approximate Running Time: 1 hour each
Suggested Dress: Coat and tie
Suggested Arrival: All guests are asked to arrive 15 minutes prior to the start.
Suggested Parking: Most visitors will be directed by Public Safety to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to Summerall Chapel.

Graduates and Participants: Commissionees, in their service uniforms, will be instructed where to assemble.
Special Information: These ceremonies are for graduates being commissioned into the Armed Forces and their families. The actual “swearing-in” ceremony for all branches will take place Saturday morning during Commencement Excercises. Please, no flash photography or artificial lighting inside the Chapel.

Friday, May 7 – 10:45 a.m.

Briefing for Alumni Fathers Presenting Diplomas
Place: McAlister Field House  Inclement Weather: As scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 30 minutes
Suggested Dress: Coat and tie for fathers (to be prepared for photos immediately following the briefing)
Suggested Arrival: Fathers are asked to arrive no later than 10:40 a.m. in McAlister Field House.
Special Information: Alumni fathers who will be presenting diplomas to their sons or daughters will meet with the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs for special instructions. Information will include a walk-through of the presentations on the stage and details on where to meet, park and when to arrive Saturday morning.

Friday, May 7 – Immediately after Briefing for Alumni Fathers (approx. 11:15 a.m.)

Individual Diploma Presentation Photos for alumni news magazine, Family Photos and Legacy Photo of Alumni Fathers and Graduates
Place: McAlister Field House  Inclement Weather: As scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 45 minutes
Suggested Dress: Coat and tie for fathers; full dress with waistplate or sash (no hats) for cadets.
Special Information: Immediately following the Briefing for Alumni Fathers, individual diploma presentation photos for alumni news magazine will begin. Family photos may also be taken at this time. Families are asked to wait in the Field House Lobby until the conclusion of the Fathers’ Briefing. The legacy group photo of alumni fathers and their graduating sons/daughters will be taken at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Friday, May 7 – Noon

Life Membership Ceremony for The Citadel Alumni Association
Place: Holliday Alumni Center  Inclement Weather: As scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 1.5 hours
Suggested Arrival: New Life Members in the Class of 2004 and their families will gather at the Holliday Alumni Center for this “by invitation” event.
Suggested Dress: Casual for invited guests; full dress with waistplate or sash (no hats) for cadets.
Special Information: Families which purchased a Life Membership in The Citadel Alumni Association for their sons or daughters will receive 4 invitations (including the cadet’s) to this event. A stand-up reception will be held for invitees and the new life members. The cadets will be presented life member plaques by the Association President at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Friday, May 7 – Noon

Honors Program Certificate Presentation Luncheon
Place: Regt. Commander’s Riverview Room  Inclement Weather: As scheduled  Approx. Running Time: 1 hour
Special Information: This is a special luncheon for Honors Program participants and their family members.
Parking Areas for Commencement Week Activities

For most events, campus parking will be limited to handicapped vehicles once on-campus lots fill. Most families and graduates will be directed by Public Safety or a cadet traffic detail to park near Johnson Hagood Stadium and then walk to campus or take the campus shuttle van (when provided).

Parking areas are shown in gray. Please note that not all on-campus parking areas shown are available for each event.

DO NOT PARK IN HAMPTON PARK.
Families are urged to allow sufficient time to park when planning their arrival time for an event.

Directions to The Citadel

From Interstate 26 Eastbound: Take the Rutledge Avenue Exit (#219-A). Follow Rutledge Avenue 1.2 miles and turn right on Moultrie Street. Follow Moultrie Street to Lesesne Gate.

From U.S. 17 Southbound: After crossing the Cooper River Bridge, continue 1.4 miles and turn right onto Hagood Avenue. Follow Hagood Avenue to enter The Citadel through the Hagood Gate or circle right via Huger Street and Elmwood Street to enter Lesesne Gate at the end of Moultrie Street.

From U.S. 17 Northbound: After crossing the Ashley River Bridge, continue 0.3 miles and turn right onto Cherry Street by the Burger King. Turn right onto Bee Street in front of the VA Hospital. Continue to the stop sign then turn right onto Lockwood Drive. Follow Lockwood across U.S. 17 as the road becomes Fishburne Street in front of the Police Department and follow to the traffic light. Turn left onto Hagood Avenue and proceed two blocks to the Hagood Avenue gate.
Location Map for Commencement Week Activities

**A - Summerall Field**
*Events*
- Thursday, 1:30 p.m. – *Star of the West Final*
- Thursday, 3:45 p.m. – Awards Review
- Friday, 2:15 p.m. – 2005 Summerall Guards Performance
- Friday, 3:00 p.m. – Graduation Parade

**B - McAlister Field House**
*Events*
- Sunday, 2:00 p.m. – Commencement Exercises for the College of Graduate and Professional Studies
- Friday, 10:45 a.m. – Briefing for Alumni Fathers Presenting Diplomas
- Friday, approx. 11:15 a.m. – Individual Diploma Presentation Photos for alumni news and Legacy Group Photo
- Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – Cadet Commencement Exercises

**C - Deas Hall**
*Events*
- Sunday, 1:15 p.m. – Robing and Lineup Area for CGPS Participants and Graduates
- Sunday, 3:00 p.m. – Reception for Graduates of the CGPS and their Guests
- Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – Lineup Area for Cadet Graduates

**D - Snack Bar & Gift Shop**
The Snack Bar and Gift Shop will have extended hours. Check the posted schedules for operating times.

**E - Summerall Chapel**
*Events*
- Thursday, 7:30 p.m. – Baccalaureate Service
- Friday, 8:00 a.m. – Army Commissioning Ceremony
- Friday, 10:00 a.m. – Air Force Commissioning Ceremony
- Friday, 6:00 p.m. – Navy/Marine Commissioning Ceremony

**F - Mark Clark Hall Auditorium**
*Events*
- Thursday, 11:00 a.m. – *Who’s Who* Awards Presentation

**G - Holliday Alumni Center**
*Events*
- Friday, Noon – Life Membership Ceremony for The Citadel Alumni Association (by invitation only)

**H - Quarters One**
*Events*
- Friday, 4:00 p.m. – Garden Party for Cadet Graduates and Their Guests

★ – Restrooms and Water Available
Important Information Regarding Your Arrival and Seating for Cadet Commencement Exercises Saturday, May 8, at 9:30 a.m.

Reserved Seating will be handled through the issuance of 10 tickets to each member of the graduating class. Each person MUST have a ticket to enter McAlister Field House. Please note that an invitation sent by the graduate is NOT a ticket for seating.

It is MOST IMPORTANT that you arrive and are seated PRIOR TO THE PROCESSIONAL. Those not seated by 9:20 a.m. must wait until the conclusion of the Processional before being seated. The ceremony will last approximately 3 hours.

Please bring this Commencement Guide with you to use as a reference during your visit to campus.