



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FALL GRADUATION 2021

Abundant Life Center  
601 Delaney, La Marque, Texas

### WHEN TO BE THERE:

Saturday, December 11, 2021 - AA, AS, AAT, AAS, Certificate and Texas Certificate High School Equivalency graduates report to the cafeteria of the Premier Learning Academy by 9:15 a.m. for the 10 a.m. ceremony. Inform your guests that the doors to the auditorium will open at 9 a.m. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Carpooling is encouraged.

### WHERE TO FORM LINES:

Pick up your graduation information card in the cafeteria of the Premier Learning Academy, then proceed to line. Honors/highest honors designations will be given out here. Form lines behind the sign with your degree plan. It is very important to pay attention to the marshals when it is time to enter the auditorium.

### WHAT TO DO:

Your graduation information card will have your name and graduate information on it. Make sure you hold on to these cards and carry them to the stage. Please remain in alphabetical order. This enables your family to follow along in the program. The seating arrangements are planned so that you will be in the correct alphabetical order to walk across the stage to receive your certificate or degree. You will be assisted by a marshal to enter the correct row.

**Do not leave any gaps. Fill in all seats on each row.**

All candidates will remain standing until President Nichols motions everyone to be seated. Candidates will then sit and remain seated until the presentation of the diplomas and certificates.

For the presentation of diplomas and certificates, Dr. Fliger, Vice President for Instruction, will ask the group to stand. This group will stand and wait until President Nichols confers degrees on the candidates.

Your marshal will then lead your group to where you will wait in line for your name to be called before crossing the stage to receive your diploma. Dr. Nichols will give you your diploma. Take it with your left hand and shake hands with your right hand. (Smile, there will be a photographer below taking pictures.) Continue across the stage, where another marshal will guide you to your row. Proceed back to your seat. Remain standing until all your group has returned to their seats. Dr. Fliger will signal for you to be seated. All groups will follow the same procedure.

**At the end of the ceremony President Nichols will ask the graduates to rise and move their tassels in honor of graduating. Remain standing for the recessional. The marshals will start the graduates in the recessional by signaling each row.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please do not leave your seats during the commencement ceremony. It is disruptive to other graduates and guests. Take care of personal business before you line up. Also, do not use cell phones or any other electronic devices.

Graduates will receive a "mock diploma" stating that diplomas will be mailed six to eight weeks after degree completion. Those who have already received a diploma will not receive another one.

You must have earned at least 40 semester hours at COM to be recognized for honors. You must also be graduating with an associate degree. Your grade point average in the semester that you complete determines your honors status. A GPA of 3.5 to 3.79 is required for the honors status and 3.8 to 4.0 for highest honors status. This status is not posted until the day of commencement, and you will receive notice as you come to pick up your graduation information card at the appointed times on Saturday. If you have not completed your degree, you will not receive honors.

**Thank you for participating in our commencement ceremony. Congratulations!**



## INFORMATION FOR FALL GRADUATION PARTICIPANTS 2021

This information outlines the final details regarding the ceremony. Please review carefully.

Graduation correspondence is emailed and posted online at [www.com.edu/graduates](http://www.com.edu/graduates).

A Graduation Expo for all graduates will be held Thursday, October 7, 2021, from noon – 2 p.m. and Tuesday, October 12, 2021 from 4 - 6p.m. in the Student Center.

Students must apply for graduation even if they choose not to participate in a ceremony.

The application deadline to participate in the commencement ceremony is Friday, October 29, 2021.

### COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

The commencement ceremony will be held Saturday, December 11, 2021, from 10 a.m. - noon, at the Abundant Life Center at 601 Delaney in La Marque. Tickets will not be required for admittance.

The ceremony is for students who graduated in Summer 2021 or Fall 2021 receiving an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Arts in Teaching, Associate of Applied Science, Certificate, or Texas Certificate High School Equivalency. Doors open to the public at 9 a.m. Graduates must report to the AbundantLife Center at 9:15 a.m.

\*Please note that the ceremony is on a Saturday.

All participants must pick up their graduation cards in the cafeteria of the Premier Learning Academy. Please be in regalia and ready to line up at your designated time in the designated area.

### CAP AND GOWN FITTING DATES

There is no charge for regalia. Fitting dates: October 7, 2021 from noon-2 p.m. or October 12, 2021 from 4-6 p.m. at the COM Bookstore during the Graduation Expo.

The deadline to be fitted is November 5, 2021, at

noon. If you do not meet this deadline, there is a very good chance you will not be able to participate in the ceremony due to not having regalia.

### GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graduation announcements may be ordered online. Go to the COM Bookstore website and follow the link to Balfour.com.

### PHI THETA KAPPA

All Phi Theta Kappa Regalia is available for purchase during the Graduation Expo or directly from the Sigma Delta Chapter at meetings or induction ceremonies. Members can also purchase regalia at [PTK.org/store](http://PTK.org/store). If you haven't paid your dues for PTK, you will not be recognized as a member. Email PTK at [ptk@com.edu](mailto:ptk@com.edu) if you have questions.

### PI KAPPA DELTA

All Pi Kappa Delta Regalia is available for purchase during the Graduation Expo or directly from the chapter. Email PKD at [debate@com.edu](mailto:debate@com.edu) if you have questions.

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Collegiate High School, Dual Credit and Upward Bound Students are eligible to wear white cords during the ceremony. Please contact your academic advisor.

### VETERANS

Veterans who have a Character of Service Rating of "Honorable Discharge" are eligible to receive a Military Honor Cord to wear during the graduation ceremony. Please call 409-933-8455 or email [comvets@com.edu](mailto:comvets@com.edu). Cords will be available during the Graduation Expo.

### PICTURES

Pictures taken by Gulf Coast Imaging Studios will be available for purchase. Allow two to four weeks after the ceremony for delivery. For information, call 409-945-5055.

COM will have photographers shooting before, during and after the graduation ceremony. These photos may appear in future COM publications or the COM website. They may include your family and friends. If you have any questions, please contact the COM Marketing Office at 409-933-8437. Many of these will be posted to COM's social media pages after the ceremony.

Please feel free to contact the Admissions and Records Office if you have any further questions at 409-933-8264.



**DEAR STUDENT:**

Congratulations! You will be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony upon satisfactory completion of this semester or if you have already completed. Some graduates will be recognized for academic honors (See page 165 of the 2021-2022 catalog) that are determined by computing grade point averages (GPAs).

Honor graduates include students who completed an Associate of Arts, Associate of Arts in Teaching, Associate of Applied Science or Associate of Science, have earned at least 40 semester hours at COM and have attained a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.79 for honors or 3.8 to 4.0 for highest honors.

The recognition will be entered on students' permanent records whether or not they walk at graduation. Honor cords and medallions will be given out with graduate cards. The GPA is computed by dividing the total number of grade points by the total number of earned hours attempted (See page 35 of the 2021-2022 catalog). Developmental courses will not be used to compute the GPA.

The following example shows how this works:

Course	Semester Hours	Grade	Grade Points
ENGL 1301	3	A (4 GP)	12
MATH 1314	3	B (3 GP)	9
PHED 110	1	B (3 GP)	3
WELD 1410	4	B (3 GP)	12
HIST 1302	3	C (2 GP)	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>		<b>42</b>

**GPA: 42 grade points divided by 14 semester hours = 3.0 GPA**

If you have any questions about your graduation status, please contact the Admissions and Records Office at 409-933-8264 or toll free at 1-888-258-8859, ext 8264.

Sincerely,

COM Admissions and Records Office