

Howard High School 2022 Graduation FAQ

1. What day is graduation?

Graduation Day is Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. All seniors are to be at Merriweather Post Pavillion in line by 6:00 p.m.

2. When is the last day of school for seniors?

The last day of school will be Thursday, May 26, 2022. There will be final exams and graduation rehearsals that week as well.

3. When and where will caps and gowns be given to the graduates?

Caps and gowns will be distributed during one of the graduation rehearsals the week before graduation.

4. Can my child decorate their cap and or gown for graduation?

Graduates **CAN NOT** decorate their caps with signs, colors, emblems, etc. This is a HCPSS policy and any student who arrives to graduation with a decorated cap will be given a replacement cap to wear across the stage.

5. What are the graduates allowed to wear on their gowns?

The only regalia that graduates are allowed to wear are from approved clubs and organizations and educational honor societies (NHS, top 5%, etc.) Students are not allowed to wear flowers, leis, pins or anything unless approved by HCPSS. Students will be asked to remove anything not approved.

6. How will Regalia (cords, pins, etc.) be distributed from the various organizations.

Some cords and pins will be distributed during the cap and gown distribution day at Howard during rehearsal. Other groups are scheduling their own individual distribution. Please check with the sponsor or teacher in charge of that individual group.

7. How do I order other accessories?

Other accessories such as frames, graduation announcements etc. can be ordered from Jostens. That information can be found on the ordering website. Those items will be mailed to your

home and not the school. If there is a problem with the order, please contact Jostens and not the school.

8. Are graduation rehearsals mandatory?

We have prided ourselves in having a smooth, professional and timely ceremony and that tradition can only continue if students are at rehearsals. Sometimes seats change or lineups change, so it is imperative that graduates know where they should be.

9. What should my child do if they need to miss a rehearsal?

In case of emergency, please let the graduation coordinator or the principal know that your child will miss a rehearsal. The timeline schedule has been released, students should make any changes to their schedule to accommodate rehearsals (work, internships, doctors appts., etc.).

10. Who should I contact if my child is not participating in the graduation ceremony?

If your child will not be participating in graduation ceremony, please write a letter to Mr. Novak informing him of the reason for the absence. All seniors are expected to participate in all graduation activities.

11. How long is the graduation ceremony?

The actual graduation ceremony is planned for an hour and forty-five minutes. Once again it is imperative that all seniors attend all rehearsals and practices.

12. Who do I notify if I want to hand my child their diploma covers during graduation?

HCPSS allows for any employee to physically hand their child their diploma cover on stage during graduation. The period of signing up for that opportunity is from April 29-May 2. This is an optional opportunity for parents or legal guardians only.

13. When do we received the graduation tickets and how many does each student receive?

Tickets for graduation are handed out a few days before graduation. Each graduate receives 10 tickets. All obligations need to be clear before tickets are issued. It is important that seniors stay on top of any obligations to Howard High School. If you need more than 10 tickets, seniors will be allowed to request up to 8 additional tickets.

14. What do I do if I need disability parking?

Disabled parking spaces are on a first come, first serve basis. No pre-registration or tickets are required. There is also a drop off area if you would like to drop off a disabled person and then proceed to the general parking spaces.

15. Is there disability seating?

There is a limited amount of disability seating and they are on a first come first serve basis. Because there is limited seating in the disability area, only one other person may sit with the disabled person in question. Unfortunately, whole families will not be able to sit together in that area.

16. Who should I contact if I need sign language services for the graduation/awards ceremony?

There will be sign language interpreters at graduation. If you require this service, please email Ms. Jeffery as soon as possible so seats can be properly labeled and reserved.

Daneace_jeffery@hcpss.org

17. Is it mandatory for my child to attend the Awards Ceremony?

The Awards Ceremony is open to all graduates and families to attend regardless if they are receiving an award or not. However, attendance at the ceremony is OPTIONAL. Graduates who are receiving an award will be notified by invitation once that information is confirmed with Guidance. This year community organizations giving out awards are invited back to present the award in person. More information will be forthcoming.

18. What is the dress code for graduation and Awards ceremony for graduates?

Graduation is a time honored celebration of accomplishment. Seniors will wear professional, appropriate clothing. Men should wear a collared shirt with a tie, dress pants with a belt and closed toe dress shoes. Ladies can wear either dress pants or dresses, but restrain from wearing very high heels or shoes that are difficult to walk in. Please do not allow your child to come to the graduation in jeans, tee shirts, shorts, leggings, midriff shirts with stomach exposed, flip flop sandals, cut up pants, or very revealing clothes. This is a very dignified ceremony and graduates should dress appropriately and accordingly. This dress requirement is the same for the Awards ceremony. For the Awards ceremony, graduates will also wear their cap and gowns.

19. Will there be a photographer during the graduation?

Lifetouch will be taking pictures on stage as your child is receiving their diploma cover. Once ordering Instructions have been finalized, it will be shared with students and parents at a later date.

20. Who do I contact if I have specific questions regarding my senior's last weeks at Howard?

The senior class sponsor are **Ms. Erica Dean** and **Mrs. Kristen McManus**, they can answer questions concerning senior activities.

The role of the coordinator is to plan the ordering of caps and gowns, planning the ceremony, facilitating graduation rehearsals and coordinating graduation day. Contact **Ms. Daneace Jeffery**, for any graduation day questions.

The yearbook teacher is in charge of collecting all senior pictures that will appear in the yearbook. This year it is **Mrs. Amanda Orndorff**. All questions concerning yearbook should be directed to her.

Awards Ceremony is coordinated by the Guidance department. They work directly with the graduation coordinator and class advisors to help with the planning and rehearsals for awards ceremony. For more information contact **Mr. Matthew Mindel**.