Congratulations Graduates! We are very excited to be celebrating your success with you. Please review the information below regarding Graduation and Commencement activities. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the Graduation Office at 714-432-5581 – Option 2 or Email at occgraduation@occ.cccd.edu.

**2019 IMPORTANT GRADUATION AND COMMENCEMENT EVENTS & DATES:**
- Thursday, April 18 | Grad Fair in the OCC Main Quad | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Thursday, May 23 | Rehearsal & Lunch at Pacific Amphitheatre | 11:30 am - 1:45 pm
- Friday, May 24 | OCC 71st Commencement at Pacific Amphitheatre | 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**COMMENCEMENT CHECKLIST, TIPS, REMINDERS**
- **Events:** Attend the Important Graduation and Commencement Events.
  - **Regalia:** Purchase your Cap, Gown, Tassel from the Bookstore. Sales begin April 18 thru May 24, 2019 at noon.
    - *If you are in one of the following programs, please contact your program’s office for instructions on acquiring regalia: EOPS (714) 432-5817 | Guardian Scholars (714) 432-6877 | Student Equity (714) 432-6847 | Veterans (714) 432-0202 x 25836
    - Please bring your “Save the Date” card when you purchase your regalia. Extras available in the Graduation Office.
    - Purchase your regalia early! Sizes of regalia become limited closer to day of event. No special orders available.
  - **Commencement Website:** See up-to-date event information & order Graduation Gifts
    - [www.orangecoastcollege.edu/Commencement](http://www.orangecoastcollege.edu/Commencement)
  - **Suggested Dress (Please dress appropriately for the occasion):**
    - **Men:** Wear trousers or khakis, socks, dress shoes, and a neatly-pressed dress shirt with tie underneath an academic gown.
    - **Women:** Wear slacks, dress, or skirt, and a dress blouse with dress shoes. High heels are not recommended for reasons of safety and comfort; flats or pumps are suggested as there are many stairs.
    - **Regalia:** The cap is worn flat on the head. The gown should fall midway between the knee and ankle. Tassels are usually worn on the right side and shifted to the left when graduates receive their diplomas.
  - **Bag Check Area:** If you have an oversized bag or backpack that you would like to drop-off, go to the Bag Check Area during check-in. You will be given a “Bag Tag”. Your bags/items will be available after Commencement.
  - **Tickets:** NOT required for this event. There is no limit to the number of guests graduates may invite.
  - **Ceremony Etiquette:** Graduates are expected to silence their phones and remain in their seats for the entire ceremony.
  - **Accommodations:** Students, please contact the DSPS office at least 2-weeks prior to the event to make arrangements by phone (714) 432-5807 or Email disabledstudents@occ.cccd.edu.

**REHEARSAL & LUNCH - THURSDAY, MAY 23, PACIFIC AMPHITHEATRE**
- **11:30 am – 12:00 pm** Rehearsal Check-in.
- **12:00 pm - 12:45 pm** Free Lunch.
- **1:00 pm - 1:45 pm** Rehearsal Practice & Presentation.
- **Student Parking ONLY (Gate #4/ Lot E):** Enter Gate #4 on Arlington, across Fairview from OCC.

*Additional details coming soon*
COMMENCEMENT - FRIDAY, MAY 24, PACIFIC AMPHITHEATRE

*This event is estimated to last a few hours 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm - Please Plan Accordingly*

**Check-in (Approx. 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm)**
- **Check-in (Lot F).** Graduates must arrive BEFORE 4:45 p.m. Proceed to the “Graduates” line-up area near Lot F, to check-in and pick up your name card prior to joining the graduates’ processional line-up. Please do not be late – this is your night to shine! The ceremony will take place inside of the Pacific Amphitheater.
  - **Line-up:** After check-in move to (Lot F) where colored flags will be hung on poles. Please choose a line and wait. You will receive a colored wristband to designate your group and row.
- **Staging:** You will begin to move to a staging area towards the Amphitheatre.

**Commencement (Approx. 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm)**
- **Processional:** You will begin to process (walk down the stairs) into the theater and into your assigned row.
- **Ceremony:** The opening speech will begin, followed by the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, and various speakers.
- **Receiving your Degree:** You will be prompted to stand and move to the stage to accept your degree or certificate. Accept with your LEFT hand; as your RIGHT hand should be free for a handshake.
- **Photography:** Your photograph will be taken by professional photographers (1st) behind the stage and (2nd) onstage after receiving your degree. **PLEASE DO NOT TAKE SELFIES ONSTAGE: this lengthens the ceremony.**
- **Ceremony Etiquette:** Graduates are expected to silence their phones and remain in their seats for the duration of the ceremony.
  - Towards the end of the ceremony, graduates will be instructed to “Move your Tassel”.
  - At the completion of the ceremony, Graduates will exit the Amphitheater following Faculty and the Platform Party towards the Reception area for refreshments.

**Grads & Guests Reception (Approx. 7:30 pm - 8:00 pm):**
- Immediately following the ceremony, you can arrange to meet your guests and favorite professors at the reception.
- Take lots of photos and tag us.

**PARKING**
- **Student Parking ONLY (Gate #4/ Lot E):** Enter Gate #4 on Arlington, across Fairview from OCC.
- **Student Drop-off (Gate #4):** Enter Gate #4 on Arlington, across Fairview from OCC.
- **Guest Parking (Gate #2+3/ Lot B):** Enter through Gate #2 at Fair Dr. and Vanguard or Gate (#3) at Merrimac and Fairview Rd.

**ACCESSIBILITY/ACCkommodations**
- **Students:** If you will be requiring accommodations due to a disability, please contact the DSPS office at least 2-weeks prior to the event to make arrangements. Accommodations include designated seating for graduates using a wheelchair, ASL Interpreters for hard of hearing students, guides for blind students, etc. With advanced notice, we will try to accommodate you. Please contact the DSPS Office at disabledstudents@occ.cccd.edu or (714) 432-5807.
- **Guests:** If you have family or friends that require physical assistance or accommodations in seating, please have them arrive early (45 minutes to one hour). Identify themselves to an OCC staff member and we will make every effort to assist them with appropriate seating arrangements.
- **Strollers:** are not permitted in the seating areas or aisles of the Pacific Amphitheatre.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2019!

FOR MORE INFO VISIT THE COMMENCEMENT WEBSITE AT: www.orangecoastcollege.edu/Commencement