



# MORGAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## GRAD NEWS 2024

### ***Congratulations MCC Grad!***

*Please read below for important information regarding graduation and the commencement ceremony. The most up to date information can be found on the [MCC website \(www.MorganCC.edu/grad\)](http://www.MorganCC.edu/grad).*

#### **Dates of Note:**

April 15 - Deadline to contact MCC for Special Accommodations

Week of April 29 - Caps & Gowns available to pick up in the College Store

May 3 - Fifteen-week classes end for Spring Semester

May 4 – Commencement Ceremony

“GRAD News” is published once a year and is sent to all MCC students who apply to graduate within the academic year. We are proud of our MCC graduates and their accomplishments. MCC periodically honors its graduates and outstanding alumni, and we are always happy to hear how you are doing. Please let us know if you move so we can keep in touch!

#### **CEREMONY DETAILS**

MCC’s Spring Commencement ceremony will be held **Saturday May 4, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Dahms-Talton Band Shell in Glenn Miller Park, 414 Main Street Fort Morgan, Colorado**. Students participating in the ceremony should check in at the Fort Morgan United Methodist Church, 117 E. Bijou St. no later than 8:30 a.m. Ceremony participants will process from the church to the park. The ceremony will last approximately 90 minutes. Seats are only reserved for students, faculty, and other MCC representatives. However, Glenn Miller Park has spacious lawn seating with excellent views of the ceremony. Remind guests to bring lawn chairs or blankets for their comfort. If it is a sunny morning, sunglasses, visors, and/or hats are recommended. It is also a good idea to bring water.

#### **CANCELLATION**

If MCC makes the decision to not hold the in-person ceremony due to inclement weather or other health or safety reasons, an announcement will be made the day before commencement. It will be broadcast over local radio stations, posted on MCC social media, and listed on the MCC website, [www.morgancc.edu](http://www.morgancc.edu).

#### **CEREMONY PROCEDURES**

Detailed ceremony procedures will be emailed separately to graduation applicants who have paid the Participation Fee. Information will also be posted on the MCC website.

#### **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students who need special accommodations to participate in the commencement ceremony (e.g., special stage access, sign language interpreter, physical assistance, a ramp, etc.), may contact Kenne Bauer at 970-542-3167 **by April 15, 2024**.

#### **CAPS, GOWNS and TASSEL**

Caps and gowns will be available for pick up in the College Store starting the last week in April. Store hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Regalia will be delivered to Centers specified on the graduation application for students attending the Limon, Wray, or Burlington Centers. Regalia not picked up by 3:00 p.m. on the Friday before the ceremony will be taken to the ceremony check-in location (Fort Morgan United Methodist Church, 117 E. Bijou Ave,) the day of Commencement.

### **OTHER REGALIA (Cords, Stoles & Yokes)**

Approved cords and stoles symbolize academic achievement and student participation in clubs and organizations. The following guidance governs the wearing of cords, stoles and yokes.

- Students may only wear one approved stole and up to two cords of their choosing during commencement ceremonies.
- Cords or stoles are designated for members of registered student clubs and organizations, college recognized honor societies, and first-generation students.
- Approval for new cords or stoles must be obtained at least six months prior to the commencement be in the recognized in the program and included in the regalia order.
- Students graduating with a bachelor's degree will wear a yoke as part of their graduation regalia to honor completion of their 4-year degree.
- The cost of the stole is the responsibility of the organization or the individual graduate.
- Non-approved cords, stoles, or other regalia are not allowed to be worn during commencement ceremonies.

### **CEREMONY PHOTOGRAPHS**

MCC will have a photographer on site at commencement. These photos will be posted on the MCC website and available to download and share as desired. Commencement will be live streamed on MCC social media platforms. The live stream will be available to access on the MCC website at [www.MorganCC.edu/Grad](http://www.MorganCC.edu/Grad).

### **DEGREE POSTING and DIPLOMAS**

There is *no charge* to receive a diploma. After the end of the semester and all final grades are recorded by the instructors, final graduation checks begin, and degrees and certificates are posted to the official academic records. The diploma will be issued with the name listed in the student's academic record and will be mailed to the physical address listed in the student's record. All financial obligations to the college must be met before a diploma can be sent. Students can expect to receive diplomas six to eight weeks after the end of the term; however, requests for transcripts can be made as soon students receive notice in their MCC student email.

### **DIPLOMA COVERS**

Students attending commencement ceremonies will be provided one free diploma cover, which will be handed to students during the ceremony. Additional covers may be purchased at the MCC College Store.

### **NOT ATTENDING THE CEREMONY?**

Students not planning to attend the ceremony will receive their diploma in the mail six to eight weeks after the ceremony date (as long as all requirements are met). One diploma cover will be provided for free (shipping extra). Students must contact Student Services by **May 31, 2024**, to receive it. After this date students will need to pay for the diploma cover through the College Store. Extra MCC diploma covers, tassels and other graduation items are available for purchase at the MCC College Store.



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## PHI THETA KAPPA (PTK) MEMBERS

Members of the PTK honor society are encouraged to wear PTK stoles or tassels with their graduation robes. Ordering information is available at [www.PTK.org](http://www.PTK.org). Click on “shop” in the upper right corner, then select “Graduation.” **Phi Theta Kappa members are responsible for ordering and paying for their own PTK stoles and/or tassels.** PTK membership is indicated in the Commencement program for A.A., A.S., A.A.S., and A.G.S. students, but is not announced as students cross the stage. If a student elects to wear a PTK tassel, no other tassel should be worn. PTK regalia may only be worn by A.A., A.S., A.A.S., and A.G.S. graduates/candidates. For more information, contact a PTK Advisor.

## GRADUATION WITH HONORS

Students who have applied to graduate by the posted deadline and meet all the requirements listed below for Graduation with Honors will be notified via their student email accounts advising them of the honor to be conferred at the Spring ceremony. This notification will be done no later than the last week in March. Students who have not received notification by that time and feel they are eligible for Honors should contact the Registrar’s office no later than the second week in April. Students will not be allowed to “add” honors to their name cards the day of commencement.

Graduation with honors recognizes outstanding academic achievement throughout a student’s academic career at MCC. These honors are awarded to students who:

- Complete the requirements for an associate degree (A.A., A.S., A.G.S., A.A.S., B.A.S) and earn a 3.5 or better cumulative grade point average at MCC.
- (Only college level courses completed at MCC will be included in the GPA calculation.)
- Transfer students must complete a minimum of 51% of course work at MCC.
- Recipients must have all course work in progress to be completed by the end of the graduation semester to be recognized at commencement and receive honors designations during the ceremony, in the program, and in commencement publicity.
- Honors recognition at the Spring Commencement ceremony is based on the GPA from the last completed term prior to the graduation term.
- If a final GPA qualifies a spring graduate for honors, even though the previous final GPA was below 3.50, the honor will be posted on the official academic transcript, although the honor was not noted at the commencement ceremony.
- Conversely, if a final GPA disqualifies a spring graduate from receipt of honors designation, the designation will not be posted on the official academic transcript, even if the honor was noted in the ceremony program and publicity.

The three levels of recognition are defined as follows and will be posted on the student’s transcript:

cum laude (“with honor”) 3.50 to 3.749 Cumulative GPA
magna cum laude (“with great honor”) 3.75 to 3.99 Cumulative GPA
summa cum laude (“with highest honor”) 4.00 Cumulative GPA



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## SUMMER COMPLETERS and HONORS

A student who is completing requirements during the summer term *will not be eligible for commencement honors recognition the spring before completion.* If, at the end of the summer term, completion is within honors ranges, the honors will be posted to the student's official transcript.

## FINANCIAL AID

If a student has a student loan, they must complete exit loan counseling. Stafford loan repayment begins six months after graduation. Students who are continuing their education should contact the lender for a deferment form to postpone payments while attending school. Contact the MCC Financial Aid Office with questions.

## ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS

Students who are transferring and wish to have their MCC transcripts sent to another college can request this through the MYMCC portal. It can take from three to seven days to process, PLUS mailing time if it is not a request for an electronic transcript. There are fees associated with ordering and sending transcripts. Also, since transcripts requested are sent out immediately, **students should check that the degree or certificate is posted to their academic records BEFORE putting in a transcript request** or risk submitting a second request and paying additional fees after the award is posted.

## NON-COMPLETER NOTICE

If degree/certificate requirements, including financial obligations, are not complete by the end of the application term, students will receive a "Non-Completer Notice" via their student email accounts. This notice will include information regarding how the student may re-apply to graduate upon completion of deficient requirements.

## GRADUATION GIFTS

The MCC College Store has MCC gifts and clothing items available to commemorate your graduation.

## CONTINUING YOUR EDUCATION ELSEWHERE?

MCC requests that students planning on continuing their education at another institution notify Students Services about their plans. MCC often receives notices of scholarships, grants, etc. specific for transfer students, and will share this information with students. Call Kenne Bauer at 970-542-3167 or e-mail her at [kenne.bauer@morgancc.edu](mailto:kenne.bauer@morgancc.edu).

*Note: Participation in the commencement ceremony does not imply that a degree/certificate has been awarded nor that a student is a 'graduate.'*