Heritage Academy Mesa

2027 Commencement Handbook

Seniors,

It is almost the time that you have been anxiously awaiting…graduation is upon you! Heritage Academy Mesa is dedicated to providing you and your families with a formal, celebratory commencement ceremony. In our effort to provide that, we ask that you read through the following guidelines and adhere to all policies.

Details for the commencement exercises are as follows:

Thursday, May 27th at 5:30 pm.

Living Word Church

3520 E Brown Rd.

Mesa, AZ 85213

There will be open seating this year for graduation. No tickets will be issued. Feel free to invite your family and friends to celebrate your graduation.

Important Dates/Times:

Wednesday, May 19 - Senior Dinner, yearbooks, and tie-dye Heritage polo shirts

Wednesday, May 26 - Senior Sunset and LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Thursday, May 27 - Graduation Rehearsal at 10:30 a.m. Be on time. Dollars for Duds attire. Attending rehearsal is mandatory if you plan to walk at graduation.

Thursday, May 27 - Graduation, **arrive at 4:30 p.m.** in appropriate semi-formal clothing with cap & gown to line up for the ceremony.

GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS

Heritage Academy Mesa expects the same dress code standards to be upheld throughout the course of graduation. Please make sure you are prepared with the following:

- Caps and gowns should be clean and pressed and worn zipped up. Be careful ironing them as they are synthetic and can melt. Cap & gown should be worn throughout the entire ceremony.
- Under cap and gown - Heritage Academy semi - formal dress standards.
  No jeans, shorts, or flip flops. The cap is worn flat on the head. Men should be clean-shaven with hair within the guidelines. Women's dresses must have sleeves, backs and midriffs covered, length at the top of the knee.
- No other ornamentation will be allowed on your cap or worn over the gown with the exception of stoles, awards, or distinctions handed out by the school.
- Each scholar will receive a medallion which will be worn on top of the gown. This is yours to keep.
- Tassels are to be worn on the right side and shifted to the left when graduates are instructed to do so.
- Cell phones are to be put away and not seen nor heard for the duration of the ceremony. Absolutely no cell phones on stage.

GUEST EXPECTATIONS

This is a joyous occasion and we are so thrilled to share this evening with you, your friends and families. Please review the following guidelines with those who will be in attendance.

- Open seating begins at 4:45 PM. Please arrive with plenty of time to be seated 10 minutes before the ceremony begins.
- Open seating is on a first come, first-served basis. Any saved seats will need to be forfeited at 5:10 for other attendees.
- Doors will close at 5:25 PM for the procession of graduates. Doors will reopen after the graduates have taken their seats. Please plan accordingly.
- Please remain in your seat for the duration of the ceremony.
- Professional photographers will be on hand and are the only individuals who will have access to the aisles and stage.
- If your child(ren) becomes restless or loud, please take them to the lobby.
- Noisemakers or confetti of any kind are strictly prohibited. Anyone caught with noise makers or confetti will have the items confiscated and potentially be escorted from the venue.
- Balloons and signs are also strictly prohibited. Please do not bring them to the venue as you will be asked to leave them in your car.
- Please express your love and appreciation for your graduate while maintaining respect for those graduates who are following. Please applaud to express your love and refrain from calling out names. Everyone would like to be able to applaud their graduates.
- Please remain in your seats until the graduates have exited the stage. You will be able to greet your graduate after the ceremony.
- Please turn off your cell phone as cell phones will interfere with the sound system.
- No food or drinks other than water allowed.
- The commencement ceremony will be viewable live on our Heritage Academy Events YouTube channel. A specific link will be sent out closer to the date.

Thank you for your cooperation as we celebrate
the amazing accomplishments from our Class of 2027.

Check List

- **Review Graduation Information**
- **Complete Senior Survey**
- **Request a Transcript (purple form)**
- **Complete Senior Slide & pick up yard sign (Dr. Wells' class)**

- **Confirm Distinctions w/Ms. Connelly**
- **Confirm Graduation w/Ms. McDowell**
- **Confirm DE Credits w/Mr. Brown**