

**Clovis Unified School District
Alternative Education
2023 Graduation Guidelines**



**Graduation Date:
Monday, June 5, 2023
Mercedes Edwards Theater
6:00 pm**

Qualifications: To be able to participate in the graduation ceremony, the student must:

- Complete all work by Tuesday, May 30, 2023 (white card day)
- Comply with CUSD dress code.
- Have all CUSD financial obligations cleared or have made alternative arrangements to resolve them.

Incomplete/non-passing work will prevent a student from participating in the graduation ceremony.

Mandatory Meetings and Rehearsals:

No Practice - No Ceremony - No Exceptions

- **Information:** Thursday, May 25, 2023, 10:30am at GHS MPR
- **Practice:** Thursday, June 01, 2023, 9:00am at GHS Gym
- **Practice:** Friday, June 02, 2023, 9:00am at Mercedes Edwards Theater (Clark Intermediate)
- **Practice:** Monday, June 05, 2023, 9:00am at Mercedes Edwards Theater (Clark Intermediate)
- Student speaker rehearsals will take place after each graduation practice.

Speakers:

- Speakers will be selected to give a three to five- minute speech about their experiences at Alternative Education and the impact on their lives.
- An informational meeting is scheduled on: Friday, April 14, 2023, during lunch in the Library for those interested in speaking at graduation.
- All speakers **must** attend a **mandatory** tryout on:
- Tuesday, May 02, 2023, at 11:30am in the Gateway Library.

Caps & Gowns:

Ordering of caps & gowns are completed online through Graduate Services by using the website:

Gradservicesltd.com

Orders must be completed by Friday, April 21, 2023.

- Cost: \$46.95 Includes complete Cap and Gown unit with one tassel, one sash and one diploma cover to keep.
- Extras available for purchase: Bling Tassel ~ \$15.45

Those needing to order by paying by cash or money order ~ no checks will be accepted ~ may contact the Gateway office to make the needed arrangements.

Distribution of Caps and Gowns:

- Friday, June 02, 2023, immediately following graduation practice.
- To receive caps and gowns at this time, students must have all graduation requirements met and have all library/financial obligations cleared or have made alternative arrangements to resolve them.

Graduation Announcements:

Alternative Education will provide general announcements for students free of charge. They will be available after Spring Break in the school office.

Dress Code:

Clovis Unified hair and dress code policies will be in effect for all senior activities and will be strictly enforced. All students will be checked by faculty for proper attire and grooming. Those students in violation will not participate in the graduation ceremony.

Students must wear semi-formal/formal attire. This includes a suit, dress shirt, dress pants and tie, dresses, skirts, or pant suits. All dresses/tops must have at least two-inch shoulder straps. Long dresses are permitted but must be pinned up, so they do not fall below the hem line of the graduation gown. **NO DENIM.** All clothing must meet Clovis Unified School District dress code regulations.

Students must wear dress shoes: no athletic shoes, Birkenstocks, sandals, flip flops, Crocs, or combat boots will be permitted.

Caps will be worn flat on the head with the point aimed straight ahead.

Tassels will be worn on the **left side of the cap.**

The only authorized accessory to the standard cap and gown is the GHS/CCDS sash, the CSF Life Gold Cord, National Honor Society Sash, Symbol of Academic Distinction Medallion.

Requests for any other accessory must be submitted **a minimum of two weeks prior** to graduation to Principal Steve Pagani to be approved in advance of the graduation ceremony. Requests on the same day of graduation or within the week before will not be accepted.

Scholarships:

Scholarship money is available. Talk to your counselor for more information. Scholarships will be announced at the graduation ceremony.

Obligations:

All school materials, books, uniforms, equipment, and any other district items must be returned to the school site prior to graduation rehearsals.

In order to participate in the graduation ceremony, students must clear all outstanding obligations or have made alternative arrangements to resolve them.

Please submit payments for obligations or damaged items to Trisha Allen in the front office of Gateway High School. Cash or money orders only—no personal checks will be accepted. Parents/Students may contact Principal Steve Pagani or Trisha Allen with questions regarding outstanding obligations or alternative arrangements to resolve them.

Facebook:

Gateway has a Facebook page. Follow us for information regarding graduation.

Graduation Ceremony Guidelines:

- Arrive no later than 5:15 pm at Clark Intermediate
902 Fifth Street
- Don't bring anything but a single car key.
- Be in compliance with CUSD dress code.
- Do not bring cell phones.
- Do not chew gum.
- Tattoos must be covered.
- Anyone under the influence of a controlled substance will be subject to disciplinary action and will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.
- Caps will be worn flat on the head with the point aimed straight ahead.
- Tassels will be worn on the left side of the cap.

Graduation is certainly an exciting event for the graduates, but more importantly, it is a time for the Governing Board to ceremoniously honor the graduates and teaching staff. At no time should the formality of the Graduation Ceremony be violated. Your behavior is a direct reflection of you, your school, and your family.

The graduation robes signify your class unity. The ceremony is the Governing Board's forum to represent the community honoring the graduates of Gateway High School and Clovis Community Day School. This is a formal occasion. Therefore, all graduates are expected to behave in a manner that respects the formality of the ceremony. A student may be removed for any action that draws undue attention to an individual or group. Fireworks, noise makers, beach balls, frisbees, cell phones or similar inappropriate distractions are strictly forbidden and will be confiscated at the entrance by staff and officers. Any graduate who throws their cap

or disrupts the ceremony in any way will face appropriate consequences and will not receive their diploma that night. Cap and gown will be confiscated, and graduate will be escorted off the premises.

Remember, it is a privilege, not a right to participate in the Graduation ceremony. Gateway High School and Clovis Community Day School are under no obligation to allow anyone who violates the rules and procedures in the contract or any other school district policy, to participate in the Graduation ceremony. Violators will be removed from the ceremony and will receive their diplomas at a later date. The school will determine when during the summer and under what conditions the diploma will ultimately be given. It is the expectation that all Seniors will follow all school and district policies through each extra activity including graduation practice and the graduation ceremony.

In order to participate in the graduation ceremony, each participant must sign the graduation senior contract, agreeing to abide by the specific code of dress and behavior for the ceremony. This signed contract must be on file at the school.

Behavior Referrals:

Any senior who commits a suspendable offense or a Code of Conduct offense during the second semester of their senior year may be removed from participating in some or ALL extra senior activities including the graduation ceremony at ANY Clovis Unified School District sites. Students are expected to attend all classes. Truancies, excessive absences, or tardies may result in loss of participation in the graduation ceremony.

I have read the Alternative Education 2023 Graduation Guidelines. I understand all of the requirements for graduation and will abide by school and district rules:

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Student email address: _____

Student cell phone number: _____

I plan on participating in the graduation ceremony:
(Circle One) Yes No

Please print name as you request it to be announced at the graduation ceremony. All requests are subject to approval.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Parent/Guardian phone number: _____