



HOUSATONIC
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Grad *Guide*

Your guidebook for all things Commencement

COMMENCEMENT 2023





CONGRATULATIONS!

HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE 56th COMMENCEMENT

Thursday, May 25, 2023
AT 10:00AM

Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater
500 Broad St, Bridgeport, CT 06604

Congratulations on reaching this very significant milestone in your life. We look forward to a joyful and dignified ceremony that will honor your personal achievement.

COMMENCEMENT SITE

Commencement will be held at the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater, 500 Broad Street, Bridgeport on May 25, 2023 at 10:00am. Graduates: please plan on arriving between 8:30am and no later than 9:15am.

Student Procession will begin at 9:45am. The ceremony will begin promptly at 10:00am. Check the website for important updates: [Housatonic.edu/commencement](https://housatonic.edu/commencement)

Currently, there is no masking or vaccination requirements to attend the graduation ceremony. Attendees should take personal precautions as they see fit. COVID requirements are subject to change.

Bags are subject to search. The following items are NOT allowed inside the Amphitheater:

Food	Beverages
Confetti	Helium Balloons
Baby Strollers	Gifts/Wrapped Packages
Flowers	

DIRECTIONS & PARKING

The Amphitheater is easily accessible from I-95 and the Merritt Parkway. Due to the likelihood of rush hour traffic, please allow extra time to arrive at the Amphitheater.

Parking is available in the HCC parking garage. It is a short walk from the HCC parking garage to the Amphitheater. There is also a parking lot across the street from the Amphitheater.

ARRIVAL & PROCESSION

Graduates must arrive between 8:30am and 9:15am and proceed to the Tunnel for lineup. The Procession begins at 9:45am. Students who have chosen to participate in the commencement ceremony must plan to stay for the entire ceremony.

Guest of Graduates must arrive by 9:30am to be seated before the Procession of Students begin.

CAPS & GOWNS

Graduation candidates must order caps and gowns online. Please click on this link to order your cap and gown. [Click Here to Order](#)

The last day for online pre-orders is April 6. There is no charge for cap & gowns. Pick up will be at HCC's Bookstore beginning May 17 through May 24. A valid photo ID must be shown for pickup.

Bookstore Hours:

Monday - Thursday from 9:30am - 4pm
Friday from 9am - 1pm

Hours are subject to change, please check the bookstore website.

HONOR CORDS

Honor cords will be distributed at the Amphitheater prior to the ceremony to students who have a GPA of 3.4 or higher.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

All students and guests who have chosen to be at and participate in the commencement ceremony **MUST** stay for the entire ceremony. Guests can leave and meet the graduates after the Student Process through the Faculty/Staff "Clap Line".

KEEP UP TO DATE AT:

housatonic.edu/commencement

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR GRADUATES & GUEST

If you are a graduate with a disability who needs special accommodations, please contact Marilyn Wehr, Coordinator of Accessibility Services, at (203) 332-5018 email MWehr@housatonic.edu. Please remember to include your contact information: name, Banner ID and phone number.

Guests of Students who require accessible seating at the ceremony will be assisted upon arrival by the staff of the Amphitheater.

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

A professional photographer will be available to take your photograph on the stage after receiving your diploma cover with Dr. Smith. Additional photographs will be taken when you exit the stage. An order form will be mailed directly to you from the Photography Company to order photographs with the Photography Company.

Guests are not permitted in the aisles to take photographs during the Commencement ceremony. This activity is prohibited by the Fire Marshall and such activity can be distracting and may create safety concerns.

DIPLOMAS

All graduates will be given a diploma cover on stage at the Commencement Ceremony. The diploma will be ready for pick up sometime in August. An announcement/ email will be made regarding where, when and what time diplomas will be available.



E V E N T S

Virtual Graduation Workshops

Attend a workshop and be prepared for the big day! To attend these virtual workshops, please visit the website at housatonic.edu/commencement

Monday, March 20, 2023	10am-11am
Tuesday, March 28, 2023	11am – 12pm
Wednesday, April 5, 2023	12pm – 1pm
Thursday, April 13, 2023	2pm – 3pm
Friday, April 21, 2023	3pm – 4pm
Monday, April 24, 2023	4pm – 5pm

Award Convocation

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 | 6:00 PM

The annual Award Convocation celebrates the accomplishments of students with outstanding academic excellence nominated by HCC Professors.

Be on the lookout for an invitation inviting you to the Award Convocation. This invitation will be sent to students who have been nominated for an award. Students will find out what award they will be given at the Award Convocation.

@HCCBridgeport

#HCCGrad

#CommunityCollegeProud

WELCOME TO THE HCC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Please visit the HCC Alumni webpages:

Alumni Homepage: [Click Here](#)

and

Join The Alumni: [Click Here](#)

The Alumni Association strives to connect and engage with alumni by advising them of activities and developments at the college, by providing opportunities to form beneficial networks, and by creating the means to assist the college to maintain its vital presence in the Greater Bridgeport area.

Please stay in contact with HCC and the Alumni and participate in the events and activities.

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*Thank you to the staff for their hard work in putting together the
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