

**WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Class of 2023**  
**Commencement Information and Schedule of Activities**

**Saturday, May 27, 2:30 PM**  
**Convocation Center**  
**Kennesaw State University**

It is important that students and family review the following information carefully.

**LOCATION OF VENUE AND DIRECTIONS**

- **The Convocation Center is located on the Kennesaw campus of Kennesaw State University** at the intersection of I-75 and Chastain Road.
- From I-75, exit at Chastain Road (Exit 271) and turn west.
- Go to the first traffic light past the I-75 ramps and turn right onto Frey Road for graduate or guest parking.
- For accessible and special assistance parking, continue to the second traffic light and turn right on Kennesaw State University Road.
- Additional approach information and alternate routes are available on the district website at [www.cobbk12.org/graduation](http://www.cobbk12.org/graduation)

**COMMENCEMENT TICKETS**

- All guests attending commencement, including babies and small children, will need a ticket to enter the venue.
- ***Each graduate must submit their ticket request using the student portal by March 24.***
- Commencement tickets will be distributed at the May 23 commencement practice.
- Lost or damaged tickets cannot be replaced.

**SENIOR CLEARANCE**

- All fees for lost or damaged textbooks, media materials, parking, classroom instructional equipment, uniforms, or any other materials owed to the school must be cleared by Friday, May 19, 2023.
- All students must be cleared of fines by May 19 to participate in commencement on May 27.

**FINAL EXAMS**

- Wednesday, May 10, 2023
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Block Exams
  - All A Day Finals
- Thursday, May 11, 2023
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Block Exams
  - All B Day Finals

**COMMENCEMENT PRACTICES**

- Monday, May 22, 2023, and Tuesday, May 23, 2023
  - 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM – Wheeler Café
- **Attendance is mandatory** for both practices.
- Commencement tickets will be distributed at the May 23 practice.

## COMMENCEMENT DAY

Saturday, May 27, 2023, 2:30 PM, Convocation Center, Kennesaw State University (KSU).

- **Arrival Time and Location**

Graduates

- Graduates need to arrive at KSU and report to the Siegel Recreation Center (SRC) by **1:00 PM**.
- Graduates are to park in the Central Parking Deck. Graduates should **wear comfortable shoes for walking** from the Central Parking Deck to the Siegel Recreation Center (SRC) and the Convocation Center (CC).
- In accordance with KSU requirements, all graduates must pass through metal detectors upon arriving for line-up.

Guests

- Doors open at 1:45 PM (1:30 PM for those requiring special assistance).
- All guests will enter the Convocation Center (CC) at the atrium level through the doors on the north side of the building.

- **Attire**

Dress for graduates will be as follows:

- Gentlemen: Collared shirt, dark dress slacks, dress shoes, and socks.
- Ladies: Solid colored or black dresses (or black dress slacks), and dress shoes. Flat shoes are recommended. You will be doing a lot of walking and standing.

Cap & Gown

- Caps should be worn flat on top of the head. Tassels should be on the right side of the cap.
- To ensure the decorum of the ceremony and to provide consistency among schools, **alterations to the mortarboard and gown will not be permitted**. Graduates may only wear stoles, cords, and other insignia authorized by the school.

- **Conduct:** Behavior at the ceremony and practices must be exemplary. Please understand that misconduct in any form will not be tolerated. Any senior(s) causing a disturbance or in any way conducting themselves inappropriately during the ceremony will be removed and will not be able to participate in commencement. In addition, restitution for any damage to the venue, district property, or vendor property will be the responsibility of the graduate or guest who causes said damage.

- **Bag Check:**

**Guests entering the venue with a bag MUST have either a CLEAR TOTE or SMALL CLUTCH to be approved for entry into the venue. All bags and packages are subject to inspection by public safety personnel. Diaper bags are permissible when accompanied by an infant and are subject to a bag search. Bags that do not meet these criteria will not be permitted into the venue. Please be aware this will delay your entry into the facility, and we advise arriving early to make sure you are seated for the start of the ceremony. Please DO NOT bring any packages that cannot be opened or inspected. The descriptions below have been provided by KSU regarding clear totes and small clutches.**

### Clear Totes

- Size may not exceed 12"x 6"x 12"
- Logo may only be on one side of the bag
- Items in the tote must be loose
- All bags are subject to search



### Clutch Bag or Small Purse

- Size may not exceed 6.5"x 4.5"
- May include a handle or strap
- Does NOT need to be clear
- All bags are subject to search



- **Prohibited Items:** Any object which obscures the view or impacts the safety of others is not allowed in any district-managed venue. The following items are also prohibited: animals (except service animals), flags, glitter, laser pointers, signs, unapproved pamphlets, noisemakers, and weapons. A complete list of prohibited items is available on the district graduation web page ([www.cobbk12.org/graduation](http://www.cobbk12.org/graduation)).

## PARKING

- **KSU charges a \$10.00 parking fee per car.** Be prepared to pay with credit or debit card. Please bring exact change to enter the lot quickly and keep traffic moving.
- **Graduates** are to park in the Central Parking Deck. Graduates should be encouraged to wear comfortable shoes for walking from the Central Parking Deck to the Siegel Recreation Center (SRC) and the Convocation Center (CC).
- **Guests** will park in the East Parking Deck and the East Economy Lot (across Frey Road from the East Parking Deck). Overflow parking will be available in the Central Parking Deck.
- **Guests with disabilities and elderly guests needing individualized assistance** should park in either Lot A or Lot B (as designated on the campus map). Golf carts will run continuously to convey guests to and from the Convocation Center.

## DIPLOMA DISTRIBUTION

- Graduates will not receive their diplomas on the day of commencement.
- Diplomas will be distributed at Wheeler High School on Tuesday, May 30, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM.
- Picture ID is required to receive the diploma.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Participation in commencement is optional and a privilege.
- Please remember all graduation requirements must be met to participate in the commencement ceremony.
- Prior to the day of the ceremony remove your gown from the packaging and hang it up so wrinkles will fall out. Use a cool iron to press, if necessary.
- Club sponsors will give out their cords/stoles. Contact them for details. Honors cords for honor graduate students with a non-rounded 3.500 GPA or higher will be distributed at commencement practice on May 23.
- There is no place on campus for students to store bags or any other personal items on the day of commencement.
- The ceremony will be video recorded, and a DVD will be offered for sale by the school district. Commencement, video, and broadcast information can be found on the district website ([www.cobbk12.org/graduation/](http://www.cobbk12.org/graduation/)).
- Flowers and graduation gifts may be purchased from district-approved vendor(s) at district-managed venues. Sales kiosks will be located in the lobby areas and/or outside the venue.
- Cady Studios will take photos as each graduate receives his/her diploma and will make these available for purchase. Parents may not be in the aisles to film or take photographs.
- Please contact Mrs. Ostrowski, [megan.ostrowski@cobbk12.org](mailto:megan.ostrowski@cobbk12.org), with any questions.

## COMMENCEMENT TIMELINE

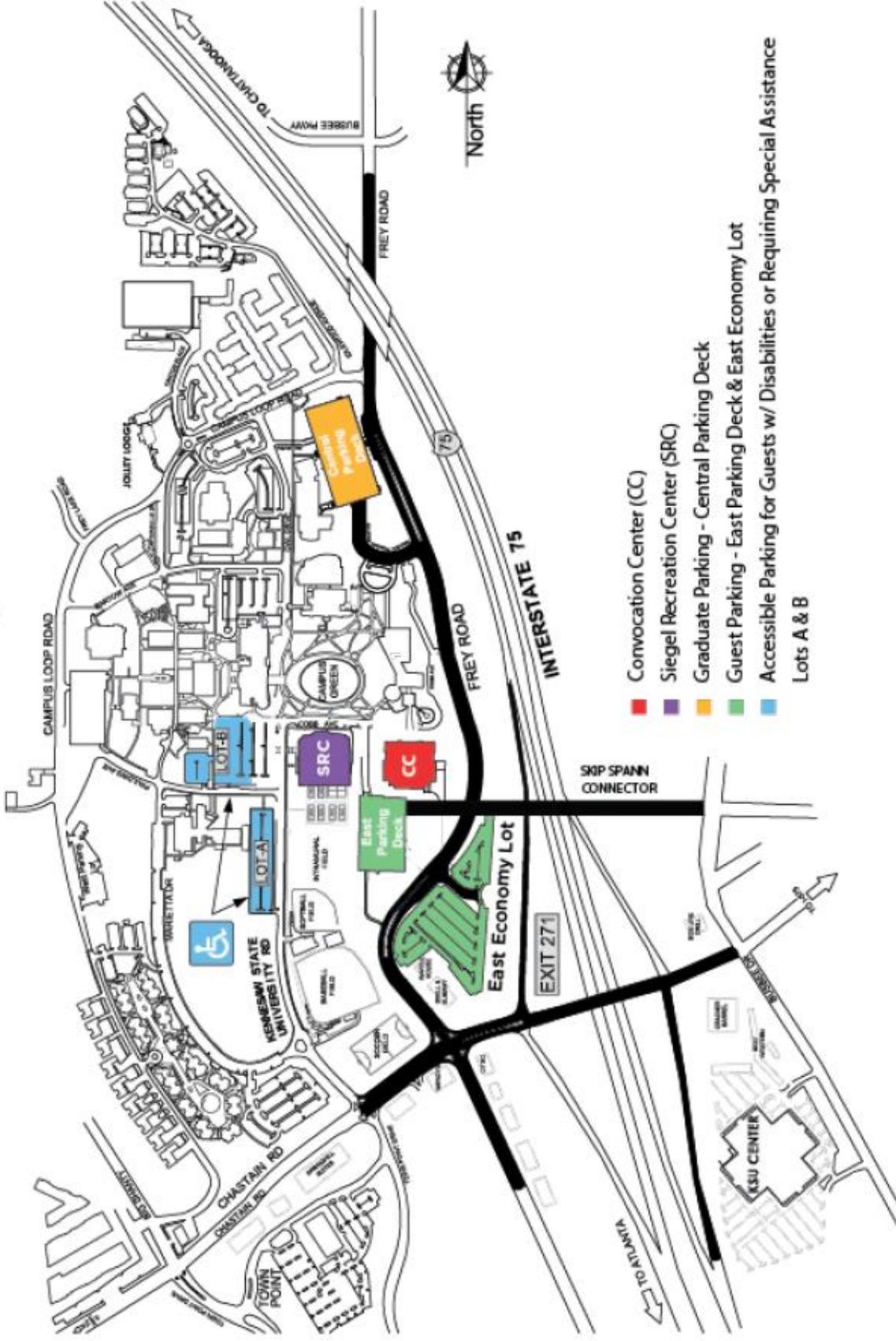
Wed. May 10, 2023	.....	All A Day Exams & 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Block Exams
Thur. May 11, 2023	.....	All B Day Exams & 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Block Exams
Fri. May 19, 2023	.....	Senior Clearance Deadline
Mon. May 22, 2023	.....	Commencement Practice, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM Wheeler High School
Tue. May 23, 2023	.....	Commencement Practice, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM Ticket & Honor Cord Distribution Wheeler High School
Wed. May 24, 2023	.....	Technical Rehearsal 10:45 AM Convocation Center, KSU (mandatory for speakers and performers only)
Sat. May 27, 2023	.....	Commencement 2:30 PM Convocation Center at KSU Student Arrival 1:00 PM Siegel Recreation Center
Tues. May 30, 2023	.....	Diploma Pick Up, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Wheeler High School

For additional information and updates,  
please check the commencement page on the district web site: [www.cobbk12.org/graduation](http://www.cobbk12.org/graduation).





# Commencement Facilities & Parking Locations



- Convocation Center (CC)
- Siegel Recreation Center (SRC)
- Graduate Parking - Central Parking Deck
- Guest Parking - East Parking Deck & East Economy Lot
- Accessible Parking for Guests w/ Disabilities or Requiring Special Assistance  
Lots A & B