



Congratulations

2025 GRADUATES



STUDENT COMMENCEMENT GUIDE

CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony will take place Sunday, May 4 at 2 p.m. The ceremony will last approximately two hours. RP Funding Center – Jenkins Arena, 701 W. Lime St. in Lakeland, Florida 33815.

ARRIVAL AND CHECK-IN

Graduates should park in the Orange or Red parking lot and enter through Entrance 2. Graduates must check in at Exhibit Hall West to receive their seating assignment and reader card. Graduate check-in will open at 12:30 p.m. and graduates should check in no later than 1:15 p.m. Please review the attached map for clarification.

Guests and graduates will pass through security upon entrance and all bags will be checked. Clear bags are recommended to provide an efficient security process. Graduates should keep personal belongings brought to commencement to a minimum. Items such as purses, bags, or anything else that will not fit in your pockets should be left with your guests or should be securely locked in the trunk of your car prior to checking in. Graduates will be separated from their guests and will not have the ability to hand off or receive personal items once the ceremony has begun.

GUEST TICKETS

All graduates receive 8 guest tickets. Students are responsible for distributing these tickets with the Guest Information Guide prior to the ceremony. Guests must have a physical ticket with them to be admitted into the arena. Children ages 2 and younger do not need a ticket. If your tickets are lost or damaged, please contact graduation@floridapoly.edu, however, we cannot guarantee replacements as seating will be limited.

After the ceremony, graduates will be led out of the arena near Entrance 2 and will not be permitted to re-enter the building. Graduates should plan to meet their guests outside of the arena.

APPAREL

Caps and gowns can be ordered directly from [Herff Jones](#). **The deadline for orders is March 21.** Graduates will not be permitted to participate without wearing the approved cap and gown (and hoods for master's degree candidates only). Graduates are permitted to wear cords, medallions, or sashes that have been previously approved by the Office of the University Registrar. Bachelor's tassels are initially worn on the right of the cap and will be moved to the left when directed to do so in the ceremony. Master's tassels are worn on the left of the cap as the bachelor's degree has already been earned.

Graduates are encouraged to wear professional attire under their gowns. As you choose the clothing to wear, consider:

- **Top:** A collared shirt, blouse, or semi-formal dress. Consider a tie if wearing a collared shirt for an extra touch.
- **Bottoms:** Slacks or a skirt. If choosing a long skirt, consider how the length of the skirt aligns with the length of the graduation gown.
- **Footwear:** Avoid shoes that are too casual. Dress shoes, two-inch block heels, or wedges are recommended.

Cap decorations are permitted so long as the decorations are appropriate, not offensive, or so elaborate that they cause a distraction to the ceremony. The gowns may not be altered in any way. Any decorations deemed inappropriate will need to be removed prior to the start of the ceremony.

All content is subject to change. Please check floridapoly.edu/commencement for updates.



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ADA ACCOMMODATIONS

If you and/or your guest(s) need ADA accommodations, please email ada@floridapoly.edu no later than April 18 with your request.

READER CARDS

Each graduate will be given a reader card when checking in. **Do not lose your reader card!** The reader card must be always kept with the graduate as it will be given to the name reader before the graduate walks across the stage.

DIPLOMA COVERS

After handing off the reader card, graduates will be given their diploma cover. The diploma cover should be held in front of you as you pose for your photos. The diploma cover is yours to take home after commencement. Diplomas will be mailed out after degrees have been conferred. Additional information regarding diplomas will be mailed to you after degree conferral.

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Grad Images is the official photographer for commencement. The photographers will have clear access to take photos of the graduates during the ceremony. Graduates and their families will have the opportunity to order the commencement photos from Grad Images. You will be sent a link to order your commencement photos when they become available. Visit gradimages.com to find the photos taken at the 2025 Commencement Ceremony.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND LIVE STREAMING

Share your Florida Poly pride before, during, and after the ceremony by tagging your pics **#FLPolyGrad** on Facebook, Twitter/X, and Instagram. All day-of updates will be communicated via Facebook and Twitter/X.

Live streaming of the entire ceremony will also be available online at floridapoly.edu/commencement.





PARKING OVERVIEW

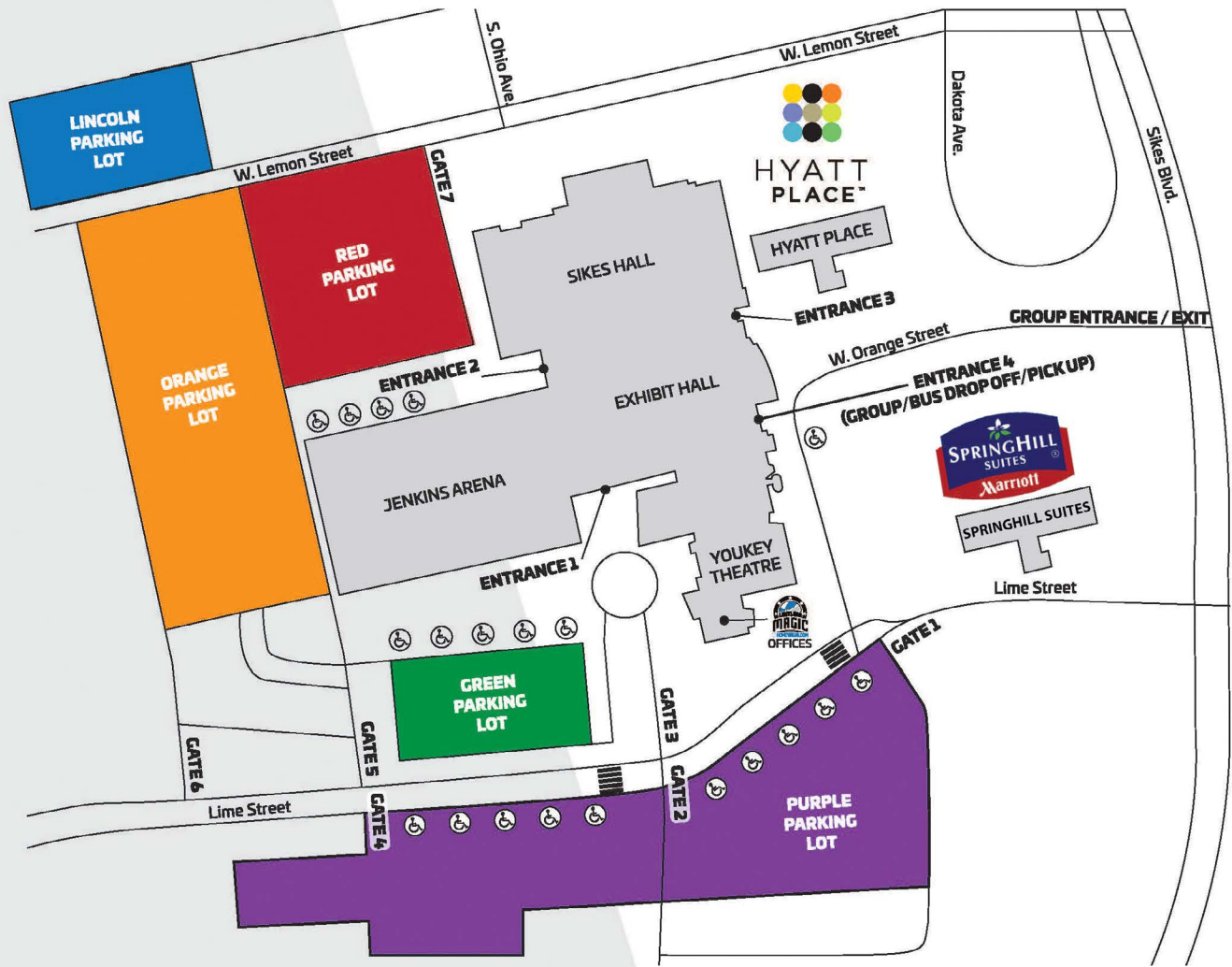
DIRECTIONS

I-4: Exit 31, travel south on Kathleen Road, turn right on West Lime Street.

POLK PKWY: Exit 4, travel north on Harden Blvd., then turn left on West Lime Street.

SOUTH: Travel north on Hwy. 37 to West Lime Street, turn left.

SOUTHEAST: I-75 N to Hwy. 60, head east to Hwy. 37, follow directions from SOUTH.



Visit RPFundingCenter.com to see how we can accommodate your event. Email us at sales@rpfundingcenter.com or call 863-834-8100 for pricing today.