



Congratulations

2024 GRADUATES

STUDENT COMMENCEMENT GUIDE

CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony will occur Sunday, May 5 at 2:00 p.m. The ceremony will last approximately two hours. RP Funding Center – Jenkins Arena, 701 W. Lime St. in Lakeland, Florida.

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 promote an efficient security process. Graduates should minimize the personal belongings they bring to commencement. 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 be able to hand off or receive personal items once the ceremony has started.

GUEST TICKETS

Enclosed you will find eight guest tickets. Please distribute these tickets and the Guest Information Guide to your guests before the ceremony. Guests will not be admitted into the arena without a physical ticket. Lap children 2 years old 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 and will not be permitted to re-enter the building. Graduates should plan to meet their guests outside the arena.

APPAREL

Graduates will not be permitted to participate without wearing the approved cap and gown, (and hoods for Master's students 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 gown. As you choose your clothing, consider:

- **Top:** A collared shirt, blouse, or semi-formal dress. Consider a tie if wearing a collared shirt.
- **Bottom:** 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 as long as the decorations are appropriate, inoffensive, and not so elaborate that they cause a distraction to the ceremony. 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 prior to April 19, 2024 with your request.

READER CARDS

Each graduate will be given a reader card when they check in. Do not lose your reader card! Graduates must keep their reader card with them at all times because it will be handed to the name reader before the graduate walks across the stage.

DIPLOMA COVERS

After handing off their reader card, graduates will be given their diploma cover, which can be taken home after the ceremony. The diploma cover should be held in front of you as you pose for your photos. Diplomas will be mailed out after degrees have been conferred. Additional information will be emailed after commencement.

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 receive a link to order your commencement photos when they become available. Visit gradimages.com to find the photos taken at the 2024 Commencement Ceremony.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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





PARKING OVERVIEW

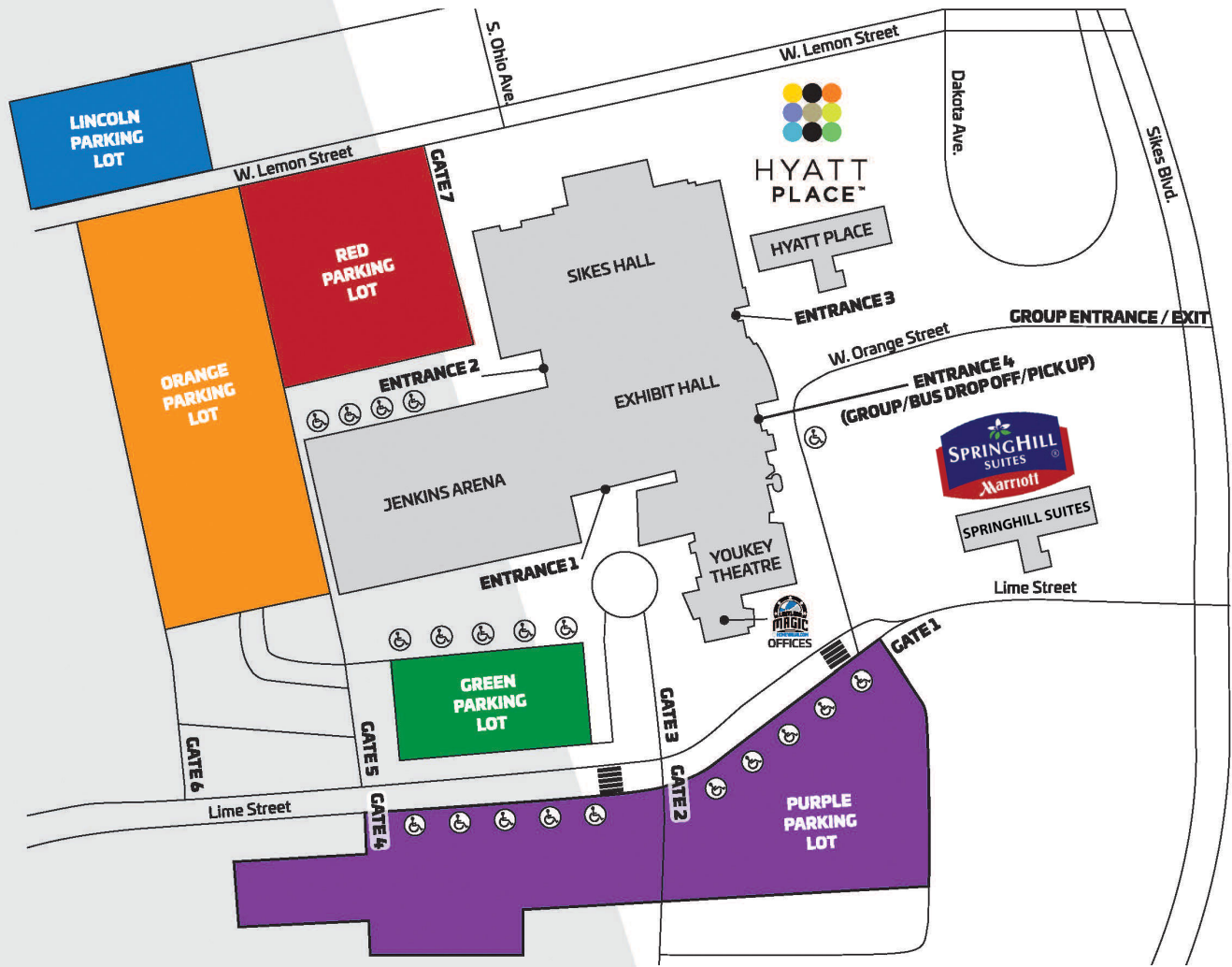
DIRECTIONS

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.