



Ridge Community High School

Class of 2020



Graduation FAQ's

Q: When and where is the graduation ceremony?

A: The graduation ceremony is scheduled for May 28, 2019 at 6pm. The ceremony will be held at the RP Funding Center in Lakeland. The address for the RP Funding Center is 701 W. Lime Street, Lakeland, FL 33815.

Q: How many tickets is each graduating senior guaranteed?

A: Each graduating senior is reserved 6 tickets for entry into the RP Funding Center.

Q: What if my family needs more than 6 tickets?

A: We will open a window for entering into a lottery and you will need to complete the online entry form to enter. Winners will receive 3 additional tickets. Additional lotteries may be held as tickets become available due to seniors not participating in the graduation ceremony. When entering the lottery, please make sure that all of your details are accurate and complete.

Q: When will the online lottery entry open? When will names be drawn?

A: The entry form will open on or around March 4th and be open until March 17th. The link to enter will be posted on the school website (ridgecommunityhigh.com), senior website (ridgeseniors.weebly.com) and the senior Instagram page (@ridgeseniors). The lottery will be held on March 18th.

Q: How many entries can I have in the lottery?

A: Each senior is allocated one entry per lottery. This is determined based on Student ID number. Invalid or duplicate ID numbers will be rejected and not placed in the drawing system. In the event of additional lotteries (subject to ticket availability), seniors will have to re-enter to have their name eligible.

Q: I won the lottery, can I enter again?

A: No. If you won tickets in a lottery drawing, you are ineligible to win again. This allows the maximum number of tickets to be distributed to the maximum number of families.

Q: I won the lottery, now what?

A: You must SAVE the e-mail confirmation you receive. Students will need to present the e-mail confirmation, along with their student ID to sign and receive the 3 additional tickets. These will be distributed after graduation practice, students should be prepared to collect them at that time.

Q: When will I be notified of the status of my extra ticket request?

A: Results will be e-mailed following the lottery drawings. Please ensure your e-mail address is accurate when you submit your entry. Both winners and non-winners will be notified via e-mail. E-mail is the official communication method for this process.

Q: Can I call or come to the school to request extra tickets or get an update?

A: Unfortunately, school staff are unable to provide updates or issue additional tickets outside of the lottery. Please enter via the online form.

Q: Do I have to pay for tickets?

A: No. Tickets are not for sale, and you should not pay for tickets to the graduation ceremony in any way.

Q: I have extra tickets, can I give them to my friend who needs more seats?

A: Yes! If you wish to give any extra tickets to those who may need more, that is your decision, however the school and the county are unable to monitor or facilitate those situations. Tickets may not be sold.

Q: When will tickets be distributed?

A: Tickets for graduation will be distributed in May, during graduation practice.

Q: A member of my family needs extra accommodations (wheelchair, hearing, etc.) what should I do?

A: The RP Funding Center staff will do their best to accommodate any accommodated seating on the day of the event. Please see a member of the RP Funding Center Staff once entering the arena. Reserved seating is not available.

Q: I haven't ordered a cap and gown yet! Where can I order a cap and gown?

A: Cap and Gowns must be ordered with Herff Jones via www.herffjonestampabay.com.

Q: I have a family member who graduated previously, can I use their cap, gown and medallion?

A: The cap and gown package has been bundled with other senior fees for your convenience. The cap and gown order includes a cap, tassel, gown, medallion, and diploma cover. To ensure that everything fits correctly, and graduates have the basic necessities for graduation, we strongly urge families to order the cap and gown package through Herff Jones.

Q: When should I arrive at the RP Funding Center?

A: Due to additional security screening, the doors to the arena will open 2 hours prior to the start of the ceremony. Each person entering the RP Funding Center is subject to security screening. Graduates will be given separate instructions, including a parking map, in early May.

Q: Will my student receive his/her diploma on stage?

A: No, diplomas and diploma covers will be distributed after the ceremony concludes. Graduates will be marched out of the arena and directly into the location where diplomas are distributed.

Q: Are parents allowed in the rehearsal room, or the diploma distribution room?

A: No. Due to security and privacy protocols, only badged school and district staff and graduates are permitted in these areas. You may meet your graduate outside of the RP Funding center after the ceremony and diploma distribution.

Graduation Protocol

Graduation from high school is one of the most important events in one's lifetime.

To commemorate a very special ceremony for our seniors, please observe graduation protocol:

- ◆ Family and friends should be seated through the entire program, leaving their seats only momentarily to photograph their own graduate. For best results, please stay in the designated photography areas. Professional photographers will also be taking pictures of this memorable event.
- ◆ To honor the Class of 2020, please observe courtesy throughout. No noisemakers will be permitted. Kindly silence all cell phones and electronic devices. This will allow the names of all graduates to be heard.