

Commencement 2025 FAQs:

What are the dates and time for Grad Bash (cap and gown and ticket pick up) at Youngwood?

Pick up will be held in the front of the Student Achievement Center.

- April 7th – 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- April 8th – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

If I owe money, can I still walk in the ceremony?

No, all financial obligations, including past due balances, must be paid by April 16 (unless student has previously been enrolled in and is up-to-date on payments in a payment plan).

What if I can't make it to Grad Bash? How do I get my cap, gown and guest tickets?

You can pick up your cap, gown and tickets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Enrollment Center desk in the Student Achievement Center (SAC) building on our Youngwood campus AFTER April 8 (last day of Grad Bash).

Can you send my cap and gown and guest tickets to an Education Center for pick up?

Yes, please email your request to commencement@westmoreland.edu. The last day to make this request is April 28th (no exceptions)

When is Commencement?

Friday, May 9, 2024. **The ceremony will begin promptly at 1:30 p.m.**

Do I have to RSVP to commencement?

Yes, you will be receiving an email with the RSVP link beginning the week of 3/31. If you don't receive the commencement RSVP link, please email commencement@westmoreland.edu.

What time should I arrive for Commencement?

Registration for students begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Science Innovation Center (SIC) building. Guests can check in starting at 12:30 p.m. at the main entrance of the Student Achievement Center (SAC). The Commencement Ceremony starts promptly at 1:30 pm.

How many guests can I bring? Where will they sit?

Each graduate is allowed four (4) guests, this includes children/infants – this is strictly enforced so everyone can enjoy their graduate’s special day. We have a wonderful overflow space prepared where guests with children/infants can enjoy the live streamed ceremony. Therefore, if you have an infant or a small child, they require a ticket.

Two guests will sit in the gym for the ceremony and two will be directed to one of our overflow seating areas. The ceremony will be livestreamed in the overflow areas.

Paper tickets are required for ALL guests and can be picked up at the Grad Bash.

***NO ONE WILL BE PERMITTED ACCESS TO THE CEREMONY SPACE ONCE THE GRADUATION PROCESSION BEGINS. Late arrivals will be seated after the graduates process into the gym.**

Where do I park?

Students and guests are welcome to park in Student Lots B & C which are located across the bridge walkways.

What if my guests need parking accommodations?

Lot A near the North Entrance and the parking spaces directly in front of the Student Achievement Center (SAC) have been designated for guests and students needing parking accommodations. There are limited parking spaces in this area so arriving early is recommended.

Where do I enter the school and do my guests enter at the same place?

All graduates will report to the Science Innovation Center (SIC) building and guests enter through the Main Entrance near the brick pavilion of the Student Achievement Center (SAC). There will be signage and college staff guiding you that day.

What if my guest needs special accommodations?

Please email commencement@westmoreland.edu for accommodations.

Will the ceremony be available online?

Commencement will be live streamed via the Westmoreland website. This will allow others who could not attend to watch the Commencement Ceremony. There will be a link to the streaming service on the website in an announcement banner.

Will there be an opportunity for photos?

There will be two opportunities for photos. One will be prior to commencement in the SIC building and these photos will be headshots only. There will also be a photographer in the gym that will take your formal graduation photo and your official

photo of you receiving your degree from Dr. David Devier, interim college President. Information regarding purchase of photos will be sent to your Westmoreland student email.

Will there be time to gather to congratulate our fellow classmates or spend time with faculty at the conclusion of the Commencement?

There will be a reception following Commencement with cookies and punch will be available. If the weather permits this reception will be held outside under the brick pavilion. In the case of inclement weather it will be moved inside in the Student Achievement Center (SAC). There are also many great spaces on campus to take photos. You may take photos around campus and enjoy the day.

Summary of Important Commencement dates:

Graduation application deadline (guarantees your name in the commencement program)
March 30*

**Applying for/walking in graduation does not guarantee degree confirmation. Students must meet all graduation requirements, located here: <https://westmoreland.edu/resources/graduation.html>*

Commencement RSVP deadline

April 30

Grad Bash

April 7: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

April 8: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

All financial obligation needs paid by (in order to participate in the ceremony)

April 16

Make up day (cap, gown and ticket pick up at Youngwood)

Students can pick up their cap, gown and tickets at the Enrollment Center front desk in the SAC building of the Youngwood campus, Monday through Friday, 8a-4p.

Last day to request cap, gown and tickets to be sent to an Education Center

April 28 (no exceptions)

Registration on commencement day (May 9)

students - 11:30 a.m. Science Innovation Center (SIC) Building— be there no later than 12:45 p.m., procession from SIC to Student Achievement Center (SAC) starts at 1:15 p.m.

guests - 12:30 p.m. SAC Building