



EVERGREEN
VALLEY
COLLEGE

2023

GRADUATION GUIDE





EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE

3095 Yerba Buena Road, San Jose CA, 95135

Dear Class of 2023,

It is my distinct honor, on behalf of the San José Evergreen Community College District Board of Trustees, Interim Chancellor Raúl Rodríguez, and the Evergreen Valley College faculty, classified professionals, and administrators, to invite you to participate in the 2023 Evergreen Valley College Commencement. We want to celebrate your joyous achievement of accomplishing one of life's significant triumphs, becoming a college graduate.

My heart is full of pride as I think of all the hard work and perseverance you've exhibited to achieve this milestone, including completing your studies amid a global pandemic. Your determination to succeed, regardless of challenges, is the manifestation of your dreams and those of your loved ones.

I do not doubt that the fortitude you demonstrated here at Evergreen will continue to move you forward into the future. Whether it be transferring to a four-year university, securing a life-sustaining career, or being in a better position to care for your family, I look forward to seeing the great things you will do in your life and the lives of our community!

Every Good Wish,

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson
President Evergreen Valley College





*Congratulations
Class of 2023*

EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE
2023 COMMENCEMENT



THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023
6:00 PM

EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE
SOCCER STADIUM
3095 YERBA BUENA ROAD
SAN JOSE, CA 95135



DATES TO REMEMBER

February 16, 2023

GRAD FAIR DAY

11:00am - 1:00 pm inside of Gullo II.

Join us to learn more about the graduation process and receive a grad gift.

March 24, 2023

ADT TRANSFER DEGREE GRADUATION PETITION FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2023 DUE IN THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS

March 24, 2023

LAST DAY TO SUBMIT GRADUATION PETITIONS

Visit the Counseling Office for your appointments located in SC-250 or call (408) 270-6475 for more information.

March 29, 2023

LAST DAY TO PRE-ORDER CAP AND GOWNS

Pre-Order ends at 8:59 pm. PST

http://colleges.herffjones.com/college/_evc/

May 12, 2023

LAST DAY TO RSVP FOR COMMENCEMENT

Visit the Graduation 2023 tab located on the EVC Homepage or visit:

<http://evc.marchingorder.com/>

Students must RSVP by this date in order to participate in the Commencement Ceremony on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

May 24, 2023

GRADUATION PRACTICE

EVC Soccer Stadium

4:00pm

May 25, 2023

COMMENCEMENT DAY

EVC Soccer Stadium

4:00 p.m.- Graduate Check-In Opens

5:45 p.m.- Graduate Line Up Begins

6:00 p.m- Graduation Starts

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS FOR GRADUATES AND GUESTS

We encourage all graduates and guests to complete a [self-assessment](#) from the CDC before attending the commencement ceremony. The Coronavirus Self-Checker is an interactive clinical assessment tool that will assist individuals ages 13 and older, and parents and caregivers of children ages 2 to 12 on deciding when to seek testing or medical care if they suspect they or someone they know has contracted COVID-19 or has come into close contact with someone who has COVID-19. The online, mobile-friendly tool asks a series of questions, and based on the user's responses, provides recommended actions and resources.

COMMUNICATION & GRAD UPDATES

All information and updates related to graduation will be available online through the Graduation 2023 tab on the EVC Homepage, on EVC Student Life Social Media Pages, and via email. Please be sure to both follow us on Instagram and Facebook and check your email regularly to ensure you do not miss important reminders and updates. If you are not receiving email notifications please contact the Office of Student Life: by email at studentlife@evc.edu.

STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER & NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGER

An invitation will be sent to students graduating with a 4.0 to audition to be the student commencement speaker. Auditions for the National Anthem singer are open to all graduating students. Auditions will be hosted in April. Both the Student Commencement Speaker and National Anthem singer will be seated on the stage during the ceremony.

RSVP & GRADUATION TICKETS

Students must RSVP before the May 12, 2023 deadline in order to be able to participate in the commencement ceremony. No exceptions. Students must RSVP through MarchingOrder. You can access the EVC Marching Order page through the Graduation tab on the EVC Homepage or by accessing the email sent to your email address on file. Emails are sent once a week following your Graduation Petition Appointment.

Tickets and Wristbands are required to attend the graduation ceremony. Each graduate will receive 6 tickets. Should more tickets become available, an allotment window will open up through MarchingOrder on Saturday, May 20th. Each eligible graduate will be able to request up to an additional four tickets, first come- first served, should they be available.



Key Information

INFORMATION ON YOUR CAP & GOWN/ GRAD DAY ATTIRE

Your cap and gown is black with green lining. Make sure you wear complementary colors under your gown as there is a slight “V” neckline in the gowns and a portion of your shirt will show. Also, the bottom of your legs and feet are visible, so wear appropriate shoes.

Caps are worn on the top of the head, not tilted off the back or side. Hairpins will help secure your cap in place and will be provided during check-in, if needed. Students are allowed to decorate caps, so long as the decorations are appropriate.

Your tassels should be worn on the right front-side of the cap until you are told to move them to the other side during the commencement ceremony.

The only accessories allowed over your gown are Phi Theta Kappa stoles/cords, honors cords, student leadership stoles/cords, purchased EVC stoles and/or personalized heritage stoles. See the Office of Student Life for more details.

ORDERING YOUR CAP & GOWN

Students can pre-order with shipment to the EVC Bookstore ends at 8:59 pm PST on March 29, 2023. Pick-up of pre-ordered Cap and Gown orders will occur beginning mid-April.

Students who do not pre-order their Cap and Gown can still purchase their cap and gown directly from the EVC Bookstore beginning in May. Graduates also have the option to order their cap and gown for direct delivery to their homes. The deadline to order Home Ship is Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 8:59 pm. The Home Ship option shipping cost is \$13.95. Items shipped to your home will ship out within 30 days of your order date. For this reason, do not recommend waiting until the home-to-ship deadline, as the ceremony is on Thursday, May 25, 2023. To pre-order your cap and gown and other graduation items, such as announcements and class rings. Please visit the Herff Jones Website at:

http://colleges.herffjones.com/college/_evc

If you are in a Special Academic Program (i.e. EOPS), please check with your program to see if a Cap & Gown will be provided to you **BEFORE** purchasing your Cap & Gown.



Key Information

ASSISTANCE WITH COST OF CAP AND GOWNS

Students needing financial assistance with the purchase of their cap and gown can submit an Emergency Funding application to studentlife@evc.edu to determine their eligibility.

GRAD FAIR DAY

Students are encouraged to attend the Grad Fair Day on February 16, 2023. This will be an opportunity to learn about the graduation process, pick up your grad gift, and save money! Students who order during grad fair, is will save them \$13.95 shipping costs, can order discounted Grad Packs on the site. These folks will also have the benefit of getting their orders early.

HONOR CORDS AND TASSELS

Every year the Associated Student Government purchases gold chords and tassels for students graduating with honors. This list of students is verified and provided by Admissions and Records. Students graduating within the following three Honors Distinction will receive a FREE cord and tassel to wear during the graduation ceremony:

1. CUM LAUDE (3.50-3.74)
2. MAGNA CUM LAUDE (3.75-3.99)
3. SUMMA CUM LAUDE (4.00)

Students with a cumulative GPA that falls in one of the three above categories will receive an email notification. You will be able to pick up your cords and tassel from the Office of Student Life during the week of May 23rd or during check-in the day of graduation.

CAP & GOWN PICK UP

Students who pre-order their Cap and Gowns before the March 29th deadline will receive an email notification from the EVC Bookstore when their package has arrived. Payment will be due upon pickup. If you do not pre-order your Cap and Gown you will be able to purchase these items for to be shipped to your home via the Herff Jones website until Tuesday, April 25, 2023 or inside of the EVC Bookstore beginning the second week of May. Please be sure to check your email for updates related to Cap and Gown availability. If you are in a Special Academic Program (i.e. EOPS), please check with your program to see if a Cap & Gown will be provided to you **BEFORE** purchasing your Cap & Gown.



Graduation Day Parking

Parking Lot 9 will be reserved and available ONLY for graduates and for graduate drop off between 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. All other parking lots will be open and free of charge for the graduation commencement ceremony.

Friends and family of graduates may enter at either the San Felipe Rd campus entrance or the Yerba Road campus entrance to access available parking lots. The closest parking lots to the event are Student Parking Lots 4, 3, & 2. ADA accessible parking is available in Lot 4A and Lots 5 and 6. The closest ADA parking lot to the event location will be Lot 4A. For those needing additional assistance, Golf Cart Shuttles will be available for those parking in Student Parking Lot 6 & 7 from 5:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

In order to receive a wrist band for entrance into the stadium, all guests will be required to present either their vaccination card or negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of Graduation Day, at the check-in table located in their chosen Plant Parking Lot. Check-in stations are located in Parking Lots 2, 4A, 9, 6, and 7.



Graduation Seating

The EVC Soccer Stadium will have two areas available for seating; field seating and seating in the bleachers. There will be a limited number of seats available on the field, as field seats will be reserved for graduates and faculty ONLY. The remaining seats will be available to all ticketed guests.

Please note: A barrier will be used to separate graduates from guests to ensure the safety and flow of the event. Guests will not be able to come close to the stage to take pictures during the ceremony. Nor will guests be permitted to come up to the barriers in place.

After the field seats have been filled, guests of graduates will be able to sit in the remaining bleacher sections. For the safety and flow of the event, all guests must remain seated until the completion of the ceremony.

Gates will open at 4:00 pm. We encourage guests to arrive early for optimal seating and to allow enough time to show their vaccine cards. The commencement will begin promptly at 6:00 pm. No guests will be let into the stadium until the commencement party has fully entered the stadium. Should your guests arrive late, there will be volunteers and ushers available to assist guests in finding seating after all graduates have entered the stadium.

If you require ADA seating, please contact the Director of Student Development & Activities, raniyah.johnson@evc.edu no later than **Friday, May 12th** to reserve these seats.



Before the Ceremony

There will be an opportunity for graduates to participate in a practice ceremony. Graduates have the option to attend the practice ceremony the day before graduation on **Wednesday, May 24th at 4:00pm.**

You may register for grad practice on the [MarchingOrder Website](#) or by emailing studentlife@evc.edu.

Professional photographers from GradImages will be present during the entire commencement.

Check in begins at 4:00 pm and Commencement line-up begins promptly at 5:45 p.m. Graduates who are late may not be able to participate in the ceremony. Please arrive no later than 5:30 p.m. to ensure you have plenty of time for photos with friends and the check-in process before line up begins. Students arriving after 5:45pm may not be able to join in the ceremony.

A ceremony program will be provided to you upon graduation check-in. Programs will be available to all guests as they enter the stadium.

You will not be allowed to carry anything with you during the processional except the graduation program and the name card you receive when you arrive. The name card will be used to announce your name as you walk across the stage. Please fill it out during check-in. If you have a concern about the correct pronunciation of your name, speak with the Director of Student Development before the ceremony.

For your safety, please ensure that you wear comfortable shoes as you will be standing for a total of one to two hours prior to and during the actual ceremony. Stiletto heels are prohibited.



During the Ceremony

We will begin the ceremony with a processional promptly at 6 p.m. Students will lead the processional, followed by faculty. Staff will provide direction to you throughout the evening. Please make sure you silence your cell phone before the procession begins.

Walk slowly down the aisle, one arm's length behind the person in front of you. When you reach your seat, face the podium and remain standing until you are told to be seated.

Please note: *If ADA Accommodations are needed, please contact the Office of Student Life at least two weeks in advance of the commencement ceremony.*

Your picture will be taken three times: once before you go on stage, when you are shaking hands with the president or chancellor and again as you exit the stage.

After the conferring of degrees, you will be told when to stand for the recessional. The platform party will guide you out of the stadium to where a post-graduation reception will be held in the grass area. Here you will be able to reconnect with your guests.

Please note: Your actual degree/certificate is not processed until all grades have been posted. Admissions & Records will e-mail you when your diploma or certificate is available to be picked up. This usually occurs in late summer/early fall.

The ceremony lasts approximately 1.5 hrs.

Please have all needs taken care of before the ceremony and plan to attend the entire time. Diploma covers will not be conferred until the end. Graduates must remain until the completion of the ceremony.



JOIN SJECCD'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

You're joining the ranks of thousands of others who have completed degree and certificate programs at EVC. Since 1975, we've been educating and training San Jose's workforce. Now, you join them as another elite alum of San Jose's premier educational institution.

We're excited to see where your degree or certificate from EVC takes you from here. We hope that you'll keep in touch with us.

To become an official member of our Alumni Association, email:
EVCAumni@evc.edu.

Stay Connected with EVC:



@evcstudentlife & @evergreenvalleycc



@EvergreenValleyCollege



@evergreen-valley-college





EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE

2023 EVC GRADUATION

CHECKLIST

- ☐ Schedule a Graduation Petition Appointment.
- ☐ Submit Grad Petition(Deadline March 24, 2023)
- ☐ Attend Grad Fair Day: February 16, 2023
- ☐ Order Cap and Gown though Herff Jones
(Deadline to ship to Bookstore, March 29, 2023)
(Deadline to order Home Ship, April 25, 2023)
- ☐ RSVP for Graduation (Deadline May 12, 2023)
- ☐ Submit Information for Graduation Slide Show &
Upload Grad Photo (Deadline May 12, 2023)
- ☐ Request Graduation Tickets (Deadline May 12,2023)
- ☐ Practice Graduation: May 24, 2023
- ☐ Graduation Day: May 25, 2023
Grads Must arrive by 5:30pm



For questions please email the Office of Student Life:
studentlife@evc.edu

Congratulations Graduate!
See you Thursday, May 25, 2023



Evergreen Valley College
Soccer Stadium

3095 Yerba Buena Road
San Jose, CA 95135

For questions please email the Office of Student Life: studentlife@evc.edu

NOTES:



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