

Dakota County Technical College (DCTC) will hold this year's commencement ceremony at Grace Church in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, on Friday, May 12, 2017, beginning at 7 p.m. This event is held annually to honor those students who have completed their programs of study and are ready to begin their new careers. Grace Church, located at 9301 Eden Prairie Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55347, is host to numerous conventions and graduations, and offers a spacious venue for graduates and their friends and family. Graduates are encouraged to invite as many of their friends and family as they wish.

APPLY FOR YOUR DIPLOMA BY APRIL 10

Apply for graduation online at www.dctc.edu/oga. The application is used to review if all academic requirements have been met. Applications need to be submitted no later than Friday, April 10 for inclusion in the graduation program.

CAPS AND GOWNS

All graduates attending the ceremony are strongly encouraged to wear a cap and gown to graduation, although it is not required. Caps, gowns and tassels are available for purchase in the Bookstore beginning the end of March (sizes become limited closer to graduation). The cost of the set is \$30. Tassels are also available for purchase separately for \$10.

REGALIA

PHI THETA KAPPA

Graduates who are members of Phi Theta Kappa can purchase a stole, tassel and cord set for an additional \$40. Purchase by April 28 in the Student Life Center.

VETERANS AND MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS

DCTC recognizes graduates who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces. Veteran honor cords in red, white, and blue, are available at no additional cost. Veterans are invited to wear the honor cord along with their academic regalia during the commencement ceremony. Please bring proof of military service, such as a military ID or a DD214, when picking up honor cords in the Military and Veterans Service Center.

TRANSPORTATION TO GRACE CHURCH

We are currently gauging interest in providing bus transportation to and from Grace Church. If you are interested in taking a bus from DCTC to Grace Church and back, please contact kendall.palfi@dctc.edu by March 1st. This option may be available to students if there is enough ridership.

SPECIAL SEATING AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Graduates and guests who need special accommodations during the ceremony (i.e. sign language interpreter, wheelchair access, stage lift, etc.) are strongly encouraged to let us know in advance so arrangements can be made in advance. Contact Anne Swanberg, Disability Services Advisor, at 651-423-8469 or anne.swanberg@dctc.edu by April 29 for accommodations.

DO I GET MY DIPLOMA ON MAY 12?

Whether you are completing a certificate, diploma, or degree program, each graduate will receive a diploma cover when their name is announced and they cross the stage. The actual awards will be mailed to graduates approximately 10-12 weeks after the graduation ceremony. Those who graduated in December should have already received their award and cover (if not, contact the Registration Office at 651-423-8038).

IS THERE A REHEARSAL? WHERE DO I SIT?

DCTC does not have a graduation rehearsal; however, we ask that graduates arrive at Grace Church (allow time for travel and parking) by 6 p.m. on May 12. Graduates will check in and receive name cards to verify pronunciation and receive instructions about the processional. Students will be lined up alphabetically within their program. The line-up must be complete by 6:30 p.m. so that the ceremony can begin promptly at 7 p.m. PLEASE BE ON TIME or risk not being able to sit with your fellow students. Graduates will have reserved seats.

SAY CHEESE!

GradImages will be taking photographs of each graduate when receiving his or her diploma. A few days after the ceremony, graduates will receive an email with a link to purchase the photos.

CAREER SERVICES FAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS

SOUTH METRO VETERANS JOB FAIR

January 25 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Teaming up with the State of Minnesota's Department of Employment & Economic Development and Department of Veterans Affairs for a large job fair in the south metro area for veteran students and the public. Join us Veterans to meet with up to 60 employers and visit at resource tables on your benefits and more!

CAREER AND COLLEGE TRANSFER FAIR

March 28 • 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Career & College Transfer Fair is focused on internship and employment opportunities for academic programs here at DCTC, along with transfer options at other institutions for your career advancement and/or four-year degrees and beyond. We anticipate about 50 tables and around 80 representatives will be on-campus!

CAREER SERVICES FAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS

Further announcements of fairs and workshops coming in early 2017!

RESUMES FOR SUCCESS _WALK-INS

- February 23 • 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
- February 28 • 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- March 14 • 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- March 21 • 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
- April 25 • 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Get employers' attention by highlighting the experiences and knowledge you bring to the table. Learn how to effectively capture your education and work experiences and communicate your qualifications. Bring your memory stick for a starter resume or review of existing one!

BUSINESS ETIQUETTE LUNCHEON

April 12 • 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Whether you are new to the work world or looking to be promoted, a proper understanding of business etiquette can move you up the ladder. One of the important skills you should master is the ability to act appropriately in a business lunch setting. A business lunch refers to any lunch you have with a boss, client or coworker. Etiquette consultants Sally Berkholder and Julie Walsh will cover the basics of proper business lunch etiquette.

IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

- March 1 Submit your interest in transportation to Grace Church.
- April 10 Application for Graduation Due
- April 28 Requests for Special Seating Due
Purchase Phi Theta Kappa Regalia
- May 12 Commencement Ceremony
- 6 p.m. Graduate Line-up Begins
- 6:15 p.m. Faculty Line-up Begins
- 7 p.m. Processional/Ceremony Begins
- 8:30 p.m. Approximate End of Ceremony

GRADUATION QUESTIONS


Registration Office | 651-423-8038 | registration@dctc.edu

CEREMONY QUESTIONS

Student Life Center | 651-423-8270 | studentlife@dctc.edu

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS QUESTIONS

Anne Swanberg, Disability Services Advisor | 651-423-8469 | anne.swanberg@dctc.edu



GRACE CHURCH
9301 Eden Prairie Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55347

DIRECTIONS FROM I-494
Take Interstate 494 to Highway 212 West. Stay on 212 for approximately 3 miles and take the Eden Prairie Road exit. Turn right onto Eden Prairie Road for approximately 1 mile and Grace Church will be on your left.