

GRADUATION2024

A newsletter for the 2023-24 graduates of Dakota County Technical College

A Member of Minnesota State

CELEBRATE YOUR ACHIEVEMENT, PLAN FOR GRADUATION!

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024, 7 PM • ALDRICH ARENA, MAPLEWOOD, MN

Join the DCTC staff and faculty for this annual event to honor those students who have completed their programs of study and are ready to begin their new careers. Hosting graduation at Aldrich Arena allows DCTC to keep student costs low, while the spacious venue ensures graduates can bring as many of their family and friends as they wish.

APPLY FOR YOUR DIPLOMA BY MARCH 20TH

Apply for graduation online at dctc.edu/oga. The application reviews if all academic requirements have been met.

Applications must be submitted no later than Wednesday,

March 20 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 will be available for purchase in the Bookstore after spring break (beginning March 18). You can also order online at: www.dctcbookstore.com. Sizes may be limited closer to graduation.

REGALIA

PHI THETA KAPPA

Graduates who are members of Phi Theta Kappa can purchase a stole and/or a tassel in the Bookstore.

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 veteran honor cord 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 ALDRICH ARENA

We are currently gauging interest in providing bus transportation to and from Aldrich Areana. If you are interested in taking a bus from DCTC to Aldrich Areana and back, please contact anna.voight@dctc.edu by March 2nd. This option may be available if there is enough ridership.

SPECIAL SEATING AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Graduates and guests who need special accommodations during the ceremony (wheelchair- accessible seating and/ or ASL interpreting), please contact accessibility@dctc.edu no later than Friday, April 26 at 4 PM. Real-time captioning will be provided. Accessible parking is available around the Arena.

DO I GET MY DIPLOMA ON MAY 10?

Whether you are completing a certificate, diploma, or degree program, each graduate will receive a scroll when their name is announced. The actual awards will be mailed to graduates within 10–12 weeks after graduation.

Those who graduated in December should have already received their award (if not, contact the Registration Office at 651-423-8254).

IS THERE A REHEARSAL? WHERE DO I SIT?

DCTC does not have a graduation rehearsal; however, we ask that graduates arrive at Aldrich Areana (allow time for travel and parking) by 6 p.m. on the day of graduation. Graduates will check in and receive name cards to verify pronunciation and receive instructions about the processional. Please allow at least **15 minutes** to to get through the check in process. Students will be lined up within their program. Line-up must be complete by 6:30 p.m. so 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 take photographs of each graduate when they receive their diploma. A few days after the ceremony, graduates will receive an email with a link to purchase the photos.



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CARFER SERVICES

Complete the Graduate Follow-Up Survey

Your success is important to us! Please submit the Grad Follow-Up survey to let us know about your employment or continuing education after graduating from DCTC. It's quick and easy (just 2 or 3 minutes).

The information is confidential and helps us better serve future students. Find the survey at: www.dctc.edu/gradsurvey.

Career and Professional Growth Opportunities

The Career and Transfer Resource Center offers assistance with resume writing, cover letters, interview skills, and job search. Join Handshake, our virtual job board platform, to connect to relevant opportunities based on your profile.

If you are searching for a job or have plans to transfer, now or in the future, the Career and Transfer Resource Center can help. Go to www.dctc.edu/career for more information, or register on Handshake at www.dctc.joinhandshake.com/login

IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

MARCH 2 SUBMIT YOUR INTEREST IN

TRANSPORTATION TO ALDRICH AREANA

MARCH 20 APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION DUE

APRIL 27 REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL SEATING DUE

MAY 10 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

6pm Graduate Line-up Begins
6:15pm Faculty Line-up Begins

7pm Processional/Ceremony Begins 8:30pm Approximate End of Ceremony

GRADUATION QUESTIONS

Registration Office, 651-423-8038 • registration@dctc.edu

CEREMONY QUESTIONS

Student Life Center, 651-423-8649 • studentlife@dctc.edu

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS QUESTIONS

Disability and Access Services 651-423-8469 • accessibility@dctc.edu



ALDRICH ARENA

1850 White Bear Ave. Maplewood, MN 55109

DIRECTIONS FROM I-94

Take exit 245 from I-94E.

Follow White Bear Ave to Van Dyke St in Maplewood.



SCAN FOR GOOGLE MAPS DIRECTIONS