FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **What are the Spring Commencement participation requirements?**
   Apply and pay ONLINE for Commencement. See Commencement homepage for details. Deadline to apply – Friday, April 7, 2017.

2. **When and where will the Commencement Ceremony be held?**
   There are three (3) ceremonies as follows:
   - Bachelor’s Degree at 9:00 a.m.
   - ALL Associate in Science/Applied Science Degree PLUS Associate in Arts Degree graduates with last names beginning A-E at 12:30 p.m.
   - Associate in Arts Degree graduates with last names beginning F-Z at 4:00 p.m.

   All ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2017 at the Havert L. Fenn Center – 2000 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce. The Fenn Center is located approximately one (1) mile east of the Indian River State College Main Campus.

   **Graduates must arrive 45 minutes prior to their ceremony and remain for the entire event.**
   - Bachelor’s Degree arrive at 8:15 a.m.
   - ALL Associate in Science/Applied Science Degree PLUS Associate in Arts Degree graduates with last names beginning A-E arrive at 11:45 p.m.
   - Associate in Arts Degree graduates with last names beginning F-Z arrive at 3:15 p.m.

3. **What does the Commencement fee cover?**
   The Commencement fee covers the cost of your regalia (cap/gown/tassel/diploma cover).

4. **When and where can I pick up my Commencement regalia (cap and gown)?**
   All Commencement regalia will be available for pick up beginning Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Regalia should be picked up at the campus you designated during the online order process.
   - Graduates must present a photo ID in order to pick up regalia and admission tickets.
   - Members of U.S. Armed Forces* must present a military ID to receive military cords.
     - *Armed Forces (Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, Retired)

5. **How can I purchase Commencement announcements?**
   Commencement announcements will be available for purchase at all IRSC bookstore locations. Call 1-877-770-2665 for more information.

6. **How will I know if my name will be printed in the Commencement program?**
   Your name will be printed in the program if you apply for Commencement by the Friday, April 7, 2017 deadline.
7. **I belong to an Honor Society/Academic organization. Can I wear my cords or stole at the Commencement Ceremony?**
   In additions to IRSC regalia (cap, gown, tassel), the following is a list of Honor Society/Academic organizations recognized by the College:
   - Honor, High Honors, Highest Honors – gold cord & tassel (provided at line-up)
   - Phi Theta Kappa – gold medallion
   - All Florida Academic Team – blue & gold medallion
   - IRSC Honors Program – gold shoulder braid
   - Sigma Beta Delta/Business – green & yellow cords
   - Kappa Delta Pi/Education – silver medallion with purple ribbon
   - Honor Society for Nursing – purple cords
   - Military Distinction – red, white & blue cords
   - Emerging Leaders – medallion with blue/yellow ribbon

8. **How will I know if I am graduating with Honors?**
   College credit coursework attempted at IRSC as well as at other post-secondary institutions will be used in the calculation of your grade point average for graduation and Honors. Graduates will be notified of Honors status via their IRSC email and a posting on the Commencement webpage.

9. **What are the Honors designations and how will I be recognized?**
   The Honors designations are:
   - Summa Cum Laude – Highest Honors – cum GPA of 3.85 to 4.0
   - Magna Cum Laude – High Honors – cum GPA of 3.7 to 3.84
   - Cum Laude – Honors – cum GPA of 3.5 to 3.69
   Honors recipients will wear gold cords and tassels and be acknowledged as they walk across the stage during the Ceremony.

10. **Will I receive any special recognition if I am a Transfer Scholarship recipient?**
    Transfer Scholarship recipients will be asked to stand and be recognized as a group by the Chair of the Indian River State College Foundation Board of Directors during the Commencement Ceremony.

11. **Who needs a ticket to attend the ceremony?**
    All guests, regardless of age will need a ticket to enter the stadium. Each graduate will be allotted four (4) admission tickets.

12. **Does a baby or a young child need a ticket?**
    Everyone entering the stadium needs a ticket, regardless of age.

13. **When will I receive my tickets?**
    You will receive four (4) tickets for your specific ceremony when you pick up your Commencement regalia at the IRSC bookstore. Please make sure that your packet contains all four (4) tickets.

14. **How can I get extra tickets?**
    Monitor the IRSC website and your RiverMail email for announcements regarding the availability of extra tickets the week prior to Commencement.

15. **What should I wear under my regalia?**
Men should wear a dress shirt, tie, dark slacks, and dark dress shoes. Women should wear a dark dress or dress slacks and dark dress shoes. For your own safety and comfort, women should not wear high-heeled and/or open-toe dress shoes. Closed-toe low heels and/or flats are strongly recommended.

16. What do I do if I lose part of my regalia before the Ceremony?
   If you are missing or lose part of your regalia before Friday, May 5, 2017, go to the nearest IRSC bookstore for a replacement. If you find that you are missing regalia at the Ceremony, speak to a faculty member at your check-in location.

17. Is there a place where I can leave my personal belongings during the Ceremony?
   No. Please leave your personal belongings in your car or with a family member. The College and the Fenn Center cannot be responsible for securing your valuables.

18. When should I arrive for the Commencement Ceremony?
   Graduates should arrive 45 MINUTES BEFORE their ceremony (see question #2) and will be pre-seated. Each ceremony will begin promptly at the designated time. Every graduate will receive a name card that he/she will hand to the presenter before crossing the stage to receive a diploma.

19. What if I arrive after my Ceremony begins?
   Go directly to the Information Desk in the lobby at the Fenn Center and a faculty member will escort you to the reserved seating area.

20. Where do I report?
   All graduates report through the side/south entrance of the Fenn Center. Follow the signs to your check-in area and check in with the faculty member in charge.

   Check in will be by last name and each graduate will receive a pre-printed information card with his/her full name and any appropriate honors designation. Hand this card to the faculty or administrator reading names before you walk across the stage to be recognized.

21. What types of degrees will be awarded at the Commencement ceremonies?
   Bachelor of Science (B.S.) and Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degrees will be awarded at the 9:00 a.m. ceremony.

   Associate in Science (A.S.), Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) and Associate in Arts (A.A.) degrees will be awarded at the 12:30 p.m. ceremony.

   Associate in Arts (A.A.) degrees will be awarded at the 4:00 p.m. ceremony

   Click on this link for a complete listing.

22. When will I receive my diploma?
   Diplomas will be mailed to all Spring graduates beginning June 1, 2017.

23. I am a graduate with a disability or special needs. Whom can I contact for accommodations?
Graduates requiring special accommodation should contact Student Disability Services at least one week prior to Commencement at irscdisabilityservice@irsc.edu or call 772-462-7782.

24. **When should my family and guests arrive for the Commencement Ceremony?**
   Family and guests should plan to arrive at least one (1) hour prior to the start of the Ceremony. They should expect a heavy volume of traffic and allow time to park and walk to the ceremony site.

25. **Where do guests, family and friends enter the Fenn Center?**
   Guests, family and friends should use the front/main entrance.

26. **Are guests, family and friends allowed to bring water, cameras, or video cameras into the Fenn Center?**
   Yes.

27. **Are there parking and seating accommodations for individuals with disabilities/special needs?**
   Yes, accommodations are available for individuals who require special parking or seating due to a disability/special need.

28. **What other accommodations are available for persons with disabilities?**
   A sign language interpreter will be visibly located and signing during the Ceremony.

29. **How long does the Ceremony last?**
   The Commencement Ceremony will last approximately 90 minutes. Guests and graduates are expected to remain for the entire event. If you plan to make restaurant reservations following your Commencement Ceremony, allow yourself ample time as there will be traffic delays.

30. **Will there be photographs available of graduates?**
   Professional photographers will take no-obligation photographs of all graduates during the Commencement Ceremony. One photo will be taken as each graduate is congratulated by the President of Indian River State College and a second photo is taken in front of the American Flag immediately after leaving the stage. Information on how to order photos is emailed and mailed to each graduate approximately 2-3 days after the Ceremony. [Click here for more information.](#)

31. **Are there places to stay in the area?**
   Yes - go to the IRSC Commencement webpage and scroll down to the [Local Hotel Accommodations](#) link.

32. **How do I join the Indian River State College Alumni Association?**
   All new IRSC graduates receive a complimentary one-year membership to the IRSC Alumni Association. To activate your membership, look for the insert in your diploma cover or send an email to irscalumni@irsc.edu.

33. **I have other questions - whom do I contact?**
   Call the IRSC Information Call Center at 1-866-792-4772.