

May 4, 2023

Dear HISD Spring 2023 Graduate and Parents/Guardians:

Spring ceremonies for HISD's Class of 2023 will be held in May/June. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the HISD Spring 2023 Graduation requirements and procedures:

Graduation Date: Sunday June 4, 2023
NRG STADIUM
1 NRG Park Houston, Texas 77054

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Graduation Requirements and Procedures

Student Requirements

- In order to participate in the Spring graduation ceremony, you must have met all graduation requirements by May 31, 2023. This means that you have successfully completed the necessary credits in the appropriate courses required for graduation and state requirements.

Student Dress and Check-in

- Graduates who participate in the Spring graduation ceremony may contact Ms. Angelia Worzel of Great Grad & Graphics at 832-443-5689 or email www.greatgrad.net, for a cap and gown. The cost of the cap and gown is payable in cash, credit card or money order and may be kept as keepsakes for the graduate. A Herff Jones will be at the graduation site for last-minute orders.
- Students are to obtain graduation announcements on their own. Herff Jones also offers announcements and other graduation items which may be ordered online at <https://www.herffjones.com>.
- Graduates are encouraged to arrive at the venue one and half hours (1.5) before the ceremony time to check-in with campus personnel.
- **Graduates must have their cap and gown upon entrance to the facility. No cellular phones will be allowed onto the venue floor by the graduates.**
- The graduates will line up with the assistance of a representative or registrar of the school. The representatives will lead the line of graduates from his/her school to their seats.
- Graduates participating in the Spring graduation ceremony are expected to exhibit the highest level of discipline and decorum when assembling, during the processional, when walking across the stage, and during the recessional. Exemplary conduct throughout the graduation ceremony will make this event a most memorable occasion for everyone.

Guest Tickets and Parking

- Attendance at graduation ceremonies will be limited. Graduates do not need a ticket to enter the venue from the graduate entrance. Seating will be limited based on the capacity of the venue. Campuses will provide additional information on tickets and limited seating.

- Graduates are responsible for the \$20.00 parking fee (debt or credit card only) for ceremonies held at NRG Park Stadium/Arena.

Live Streaming

- HISD will not provide a virtual option to view the commencement ceremonies for anyone not able to attend in-person. The links to view recorded graduations will be shared at a later time on the HISD Spring 2023 Graduation website www.houstonisd.org/graduation.

Safety

In keeping with HISD's core value of student safety, all graduates and guests will be screened using metal detectors and/or security wands, and bag checks at the venue entrances. Although there is not a clear bag policy for graduations, bags will be checked. To expedite movement of guests through the lines to enter the stadiums we highly encourage guests to consider not carrying a bag, carry a clear bag, or carry a small-sized bag.

HISD Police, in partnership with other law enforcement, will be on-hand for safety and traffic control during the graduation ceremony. Guests are not allowed to bring weapons, including pocketknives, to the graduation venue. Other items such as balloons, signs, noise makers, flowers, and outside food will not be allowed in the venue. Guests can bring a clear water bottle as applicable for health needs. First Aid stations will be onsite for emergencies.

In summary, I look forward to your participation at our spring graduation ceremony. You should feel a special sense of accomplishment for your academic efforts. The district places special emphasis on the spring graduation ceremonies. Your presence and participation are strongly encouraged.

Sincerely,



Dr. Diego S Linares
Principal, Sam Houston Math Science & Technology Center
Houston Independent School District