



# 2026 Sequoyah High School Guidelines for Graduation Practices and Ceremony



Graduation from high school is an event that comes only once in a lifetime. Your parents, relatives, friends, and, most importantly, you, deserve a graduation ceremony that will be dignified and memorable. Your cooperation is essential. The following guidelines explain what is expected of you.

## Ceremony Participation Requirements

- Seniors must complete all course work, including dual enrollment and online courses, by **Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:15pm** and satisfy graduation requirements by this deadline in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.
- Seniors must clear all outstanding debts by **Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:15pm** in order to receive your diploma.

## General Graduation Ceremony Information

- **Graduation Ceremony Details**
  - Date & Time: Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00am
  - Location: First Baptist Church Woodstock
  - 11905 Hwy 92, Woodstock, GA 30188
- **Graduate Arrival**
  - Graduates must report to the Chapel dressed and ready by 7:30am.
- **Guests & Entry**
  - The ceremony is open to the public and no tickets are required.
  - All parents and guests must enter through the main entrance of the Worship Center.
  - Doors will open to guests at 8:00am. Early entry will not be permitted.
- **Live Stream**
  - The graduation ceremony will be streamed live online at [www.fbcw.org](http://www.fbcw.org).
- **Parking Information**
  - Graduation morning is very busy. Arrive early to allow time for traffic, parking, and walking to the Worship Center.
  - Families are encouraged to carpool whenever possible. A parking map is available online, showing the designated areas for each group:
    - Students: Enter from Neese Road and park in the blue section in front of Building A.
    - Guests: Enter from Highway 92 or Trickum Road and park in the green section.
    - Accessible Parking: Reserved for individuals with disabilities and senior citizens, located in the yellow and orange sections.

## Graduation Ceremony Attire

- Anything visible below the gown must be black (pants, dresses, shoes, socks).
- Shoes should predominantly be black; low heels recommended.
- Students wearing a shirt should choose a collared dress shirt. Ties are optional but recommended.
- Not allowed: shorts, jeans, t-shirts, flip-flops, tennis shoes, or any clothing that is too casual or draws attention.
- Cap decorations are prohibited. Violators must buy a new cap at the ceremony.
- Only approved academic regalia (honor medals, tassels, cords for CCSD achievements) may be worn. All others must be approved beforehand.
- Administration has the final decision on attire and may deny participation for inappropriate clothing.
- Please contact Carey Blalock (770-721-3256 ~ [carey.blalock@cherokeek12.net](mailto:carey.blalock@cherokeek12.net)) with any questions you have regarding attire PRIOR to the ceremony.

## Graduation Gowns

- All students participating in the graduation ceremony must order a Sequoyah cap and gown from ATL Grad. The gown is unique to Sequoyah and includes the Sequoyah Chief logo. No other gown is permitted. More information is available at [www.atlgrad.com](http://www.atlgrad.com).
- Caps and gowns are keepsakes and do not need to be returned.
- When you receive your gown, remove it from the bag and hang it immediately. Your gown is delivered clean—do not wash, and only steam if necessary. Do not iron.
- If your cap or gown does not fit, contact ATL Grad at 404-615-7702 right away. A representative will also be available on graduation day for last-minute issues, but do not wait until then if you already know there is a problem.

## Practice Guidelines/Information

- **Graduation Practice Requirements**
  - Attendance is mandatory. All students participating in the graduation ceremony—including students who attended alternative high schools—must attend the entire graduation practice on:
    - Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:30–2:30pm at Sequoyah High School, and
    - Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> time TBD at First Baptist Church Woodstock (exact time will be announced).
  - Be on time. Tardiness or missing any portion of practice will result in the student not being permitted to participate in the ceremony. Please adjust work, travel, and personal plans now to ensure attendance.
- **Rules & Expectations**
  - All CCSD rules and regulations, including the CCSD dress code, will be enforced during practices.
  - Any violation of school rules during practice will result in removal from the graduation ceremony.
  - No food or drinks are allowed at practices.
  - Transportation to and from all practices is the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian.
- **Graduation Materials**
  - During practices, students will receive several important items such as items from their Cumulative file, Honor medal (if applicable), Graduation programs, diploma, etc.
  - Students who do not participate in the ceremony may pick up these items during normal business hours beginning Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Graduation Ceremony Guidelines

- All CCSD rules and regulations will be followed during the graduation ceremony.
- Participation in the graduation ceremony is a privilege, not a right. Any behavior that draws attention to an individual or detracts from the dignity of the ceremony will result in immediate removal from the ceremony.
- Graduates may bring only their cap and gown to the ceremony. No other items are permitted, including (but not limited to) cell phones, purses, bags, hangers, lighters, vapes, or similar items.
- Caps may not be thrown inside the facility. After the recessional, graduates will move outside to the designated area where caps may be thrown.
- Guests must remain seated throughout the ceremony. Moving into aisles or toward the front to take photos or videos is not permitted.
- No food or drink, noisemakers, balloons, or signs are allowed inside First Baptist Church Woodstock. Prohibited items will be confiscated by security.
- Families should pre-arrange a meeting location for after the ceremony to ensure a smooth and safe dismissal.

## Graduation Ceremony Pictures & Video

- Every graduate will have a candid onstage and posed offstage photo taken by Cady Studios. A link to view photos will be emailed from Cady Studios to students and parents. There is no purchase required.
- A free digital video of the entire graduation service will be available to download approximately 1-2 weeks after the ceremony at [www.cherokeecountygrad.com](http://www.cherokeecountygrad.com).

## Final Transcripts

- **Sequoyah High School does NOT send transcripts.**
- Students must request their final transcript through one of the following:
  - GA Futures: Send your final transcript to any Georgia college at no cost.
  - Parchment: Send transcripts in-state or out-of-state for a small fee.
- All final transcripts will be uploaded to Parchment (<https://www.parchment.com/u/auth/login>) and GA Futures (<https://www.gafutures.org>) by the end of June, barring any complications.
- Graduates will be notified once transcripts are uploaded. Do not attempt to send your final transcript before this notification, as you will only be sending transcripts from January.

## Students Not Participating in the Graduation Ceremony

- Students who are not participating in Sequoyah's graduation ceremony are responsible for a \$30 diploma fee, paid directly to ATL Grad at 404-615-7702.
- Diplomas can be picked up from Student Services beginning Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Graduates must bring a copy of their ATL Grad receipt when picking up their diploma.
- Diplomas will NOT be mailed.

## CCSD Email Account and Files

- All network and email accounts for graduating seniors will be permanently deleted after the last day of school.
- To avoid losing important information, forward important emails and save any files from your CCSD OneDrive to a personal account before your account is deleted.

## Senior Information & Deadlines (Online)

- For the most up-to-date information, please visit the Senior "Check N Connect" Canvas page.
- Sequoyah also posts information and deadlines on the Senior Information page found on Sequoyah's website.
- The following information will be available on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> with responses due by Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Senior Day RSVP – Required**
    - Senior Day, consisting of the senior slide show and activities, is Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> after the last final exam. Students must RSVP to indicate whether they will or will not attend so we can plan accordingly.
  - **Post High School Survey – Required**
    - Graduates are asked to complete a survey regarding their plans for after high school.
  - **Senior Slide Show – Optional**
    - Seniors can submit pictures for the Senior Slide Show by emailing them directly to the yearbook staff at [sequoyahchiefsyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:sequoyahchiefsyearbook@gmail.com).
  - **Elementary School Graduation Walks – Optional**
    - The four elementary schools that feed into Sequoyah High School invite their former students that are graduating this year attend an informal "Graduation Walk" at their former elementary school. Specific information regarding dates and times will be available on April 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Graduate Name Pronunciation – Optional**
    - Graduates participating in the graduation ceremony have the option to complete a survey to assist with the pronunciation of their full name, especially if it may be difficult to pronounce.

**Please contact Carey Blalock with any questions you have.**

**We look forward to a wonderful ceremony!**

**[carey.blalock@cherokeek12.net](mailto:carey.blalock@cherokeek12.net) ~ 770-721-3246**

# 2026 Sequoyah High School ~ Graduation Calendar of Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Friday, February 13 <sup>th</sup>	Due by 3:15pm	<b><u>MANDATORY Senior Participation and Senior Exam Check Out Permission Agreements Due</u></b>	Return to Student Services or email to <a href="mailto:shsgraduationforms@gmail.com">shsgraduationforms@gmail.com</a>
Friday, March 20 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 – 10:30pm	Prom	Georgia Aquarium
Wednesday, April 1 <sup>st</sup>	All 4 Lunches	Graduation Gown Delivery from ATL Grad	Sequoyah East Gym
Friday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Due by 11:59pm	Senior Day RSVP – Required Post High School Survey – Required Senior Slide Show – Optional Elementary School Graduation Walks – Optional Graduate Name Pronunciation – Optional	Available on the Senior “Check N Connect” Canvas Course
Friday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Due by 11:59pm	Final day to pre-order a yearbook with the code 10795 at <a href="http://www.yearbookordercenter.com">www.yearbookordercenter.com</a>	Online Orders Only Call 1-866-287-3096 for help
Friday, May 8 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> periods)	Sequoyah High School
Monday, May 11 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> periods)	Sequoyah High School
Tuesday, May 12 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> periods) Students must leave campus after exams.	Sequoyah High School
Wednesday, May 13 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> period only) Students then will report to the Auditorium	Sequoyah High School
Wednesday, May 13 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	Senior Day	SHS Auditorium and Stadium
Wednesday, May 13 <sup>th</sup>	3:15pm	All graduation requirements completed (e.g., online courses, Dual Enrollment, Edgenuity) All debts cleared (e.g., lunch, athletics, textbooks, library, parking, technology)	Sequoyah High School
Wednesday, May 20 <sup>th</sup>	12:15 – 2:30pm	Mandatory Graduation Practice	Sequoyah High School Auditorium
Friday, May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	TBD	Mandatory Graduation Practice	First Baptist Church Woodstock Building A
Saturday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:00am	GRADUATION CEREMONY <b><i>Graduates report to Building A at 7:30am</i></b>	First Baptist Church Woodstock Worship Center (Building W)

**GRADUATES MUST ATTEND BOTH PRACTICES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRADUATION CEREMONY.**

# 2026 Sequoyah High School

## Senior Exam Check Out Parent/Guardian Permission

Seniors may check out after Senior Exams on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> provided that the following criteria are met:

- All debts to Sequoyah High School and the Cherokee County School System are paid in full.
- The Senior Exam Check Out Parent/Guardian Permission (this form) is signed and turned into Student Services by **Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**.
- The Graduation Participation Agreement (reverse side) is signed and turned into Student Services by **Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### SENIOR EXAM SCHEDULE

Friday, May 8 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> periods)
Monday, May 11 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> periods) Students may leave after 5 <sup>th</sup> period; all remaining students must attend class.
Tuesday, May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> periods) Students may leave after 3 <sup>rd</sup> period; all remaining students must attend class.
Wednesday, May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Exams (Student attends 1 <sup>st</sup> period only) Students then will report to the Auditorium for Senior Day

### Please Choose One of the Following

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree for my student to check out after Senior Exams. I am aware that my student must leave campus immediately after the exam period and, additionally, will not be allowed on any CCSD campuses. Only students under direct supervision of a teacher are permitted on campus. I understand that if my student violates this policy, he or she will lose this check-out privilege for the rest of the Senior Exam Week.

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not give permission for my student to check out after Senior Exams.

\_\_\_\_\_ My student does not have classes currently on Sequoyah’s Campus this semester (ex: online learning, early graduate, dual enrolled, etc.) and therefore does not have to take any exams at Sequoyah.

Student Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID # \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ALL SENIORS MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM

**Please return this form to Student Services no later than Friday, February 13, 2026.**

**Forms can also be scanned and emailed to [shsgraduationforms@gmail.com](mailto:shsgraduationforms@gmail.com).**

# 2026 Sequoyah High School Graduation Participation Agreement

In order for a senior to participate in the graduation ceremony, this agreement must be signed by the senior and his/her parent and returned by **Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** for filing. Failure to do this will result in the senior not being able to participate in the ceremony.

I understand that I must comply with everything in the 2026 Sequoyah High School Guidelines for Graduation Practice and Ceremony packet to be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony and receive my diploma.

## Please Choose One of the Following

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be participating in Sequoyah's Graduation Ceremony.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will NOT be participating in Sequoyah's Graduation Ceremony. I am aware that I am responsible for a diploma fee of \$30.00, which must be paid directly to ATL Grad (404-615-7702). Diplomas are available for pick up from Student Services beginning Tuesday, May 26, 2026. Graduates must bring a copy of their receipt from ATL Grad when picking up their diploma. Diplomas will **NOT** be mailed.

Student Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID # \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ALL SENIORS MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM

Please return this form to Student Services no later than Friday, February 13, 2026.

Forms can also be scanned and emailed to [shsgraduationforms@gmail.com](mailto:shsgraduationforms@gmail.com).