

April 21, 2025

Dear Graduating Seniors and Parents:

It may be hard to believe that the end of your high school journey is so near! We are looking forward to celebrating this important milestone at your commencement ceremony at **1:00 pm on Saturday, May 24, 2025, at the University of Denver, Magness Arena**. This letter will inform and prepare you for the many details involved in our beautiful and traditional Arapahoe High School graduation ceremony. Only those Seniors who have fulfilled the requirements for graduation by their last day of classes on Friday, May 16, 2025, may participate in the graduation ceremony for the Arapahoe High School Class of 2025. Some seniors in jeopardy of not graduating were notified via registered mail this month. However, all of you need to stay committed to your classes as the semester draws to an end, as **many of you are enrolled in classes needed to graduate**. Contact your teachers and your counselor if you need assistance or have any questions about your progress to complete graduation requirements.

Students who choose not to participate in the ceremony should notify Mr. Ceriani, Assistant Principal, at the email address below by **Wednesday, April 23, 2025. A parent letter/email acknowledging the decision not to participate is required**. Seniors who elect not to participate in the graduation ceremony may pick up their diplomas from Mrs. Sorensen, between May 28th & June 4th in the Student Services Office. Diplomas will not be handed out before graduation.

TICKETS:

Tickets are **not required** for the Arapahoe graduation ceremony. There is enough seating for everyone at Magness Arena.

APPROPRIATE AUDIENCE BEHAVIOR:

The high school graduation ceremony is a once-in-a-lifetime occasion for students to be recognized for achieving academic requirements set forth by Arapahoe and Littleton Public Schools. This ceremony marks the completion of thirteen years of formal education and the beginning of future adult paths. We are proud to celebrate this special occasion; however, because of the importance attached to the occasion, we ask that our pride be demonstrated with dignity.

- **Spectators can help greatly by not applauding loudly, cheering, whistling**, etc., when a favorite student's name is called. **The noise from such outbursts often obscures the next student's name**. We will move quickly through the names of the approximately 420 seniors.
- To help in this effort, DU has a list of noise-making items that are prohibited. You can read more about those and other prohibited items later in this letter.
- The Class of 2025 and the Arapahoe High School staff hope to make our ceremony the best possible. Your adherence to this guideline is appreciated.

CAPS AND GOWNS:

Caps and gowns will be distributed to graduating seniors inside the main gym on **Friday, May 16th, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm**, after Senior Fun in the Sun Day. No caps and gowns will be distributed before this date/time. If a Senior is unable to pick up his/her cap and gown, please contact Student Services at 303-347-6049 to arrange pickup after May 16th. An **ID is required to pick up caps and gowns**. Friends will not be permitted to pick up caps and gowns for each other. To pick up your cap and gown, **the following will be required:**

- Completion of the [Senior Exit Survey](#).
- Return of all **district-issued Chromebooks and power cords** to the library.
- Return of all **district-issued equipment/supplies and textbooks** to the appropriate Arapahoe teacher.
- **Payment of all outstanding fines/fees** in Infinite Campus by **noon on May 14, 2025**.

CEREMONY & REHEARSAL DETAILS:

- The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2025 will be held at **University of Denver, Magness Arena at 1:00 pm on Saturday, May 24, 2025**.
- **A mandatory graduation rehearsal** will be at **Arapahoe** on the morning of May 24
 - Where: In the **AHS auxiliary gym**.
 - When: To ensure you are there on time, students must drive themselves or be dropped off **at AHS by 10:15 am** at the **Arapahoe Event Entrance in the West parking lot**.
 - **The rehearsal will begin promptly at 10:30 am**
 - From AHS and the rehearsal, all **Seniors will be bused to the University of Denver**.
 - Graduates must come for the rehearsal dressed nicely according to the graduation dress guidelines listed below. **Graduates should bring their caps and gowns on a disposable hanger**.
 - Buses will leave AHS promptly at 11:45 am after rehearsal.
 - Students, **please do not bring your cell phones, purses, bags, or other personal belongings** to the rehearsal or the ceremony. If an adult sees you with your phone, your phone will be taken and checked in for pickup after the ceremony. We suggest leaving your phone with a parent to retrieve after the ceremony.
- **Upon completion of the ceremony, seniors are free to leave with their parents** or they may board buses from the main entrance of Magness Arena for transport back to AHS at approximately 3:15 pm.
******Again, we ask that you do NOT bring your phone at all to rehearsal/graduation.**

DRESS REQUIREMENTS:

Arapahoe High School has a long-standing tradition of pride and excellence surrounding our graduation ceremony. We are honored to be **joined by members of the Northern Arapaho tribe who will travel from the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming**. They will dress in beautiful ceremonial attire. Your graduation from high school is an important and special event in your life, and participation in this ceremony is a privilege. **Appropriate attire is expected and is defined as:**

- The only items allowed to be worn **outside the graduation gown** are the **traditional Arapahoe Warrior medallion**, which will be given to you at rehearsal on the morning of

graduation, and, if applicable, your **golden Arapahoe Honor Cords**, which are awarded and distributed during our **Senior Awards Convocation** on the Wednesday before the ceremony.

- **IMPORTANT: No other regalia, cooperating program cords (including the military sashes or LPS program/activity cords), nor decorations of any kind, including family/heritage regalia, may be worn. You may NOT decorate your cap until after the ceremony.**
- **Please use the time you have your cap/gown between May 16-May 24 to take pictures with these additional items if you'd like to.**
- Appropriate attire under the gown includes:
 - Dresses or skirts or dress pants.
 - Dress slacks and a collared dress shirt **with a tie.**
- **No casual clothing or casual shoes**, including shorts, jeans, tennis/athletic shoes, or flip-flops.
- **Heels that are too high, narrow, or spiked** can be tripping/falling hazards. Shoes/sandals with heels should be comfortable and easy to walk in. Wedges or flat shoes may be preferred.
- If you do not have any of the above items, please see your counselor or Mr. Ceriani, and we will help you acquire them before graduation.

PARKING FOR SPECTATORS:

Complimentary Parking will be available in **Lots 103, 108, T, and L**. Each lot will have an attendant at the entrance. A **map is available on the [AHS graduation tab](#).**

A **limited number of ADA-compliant parking spaces** will be available in **Lots 311 and 401** off of Buchtel Boulevard.

GUEST SEATING:

Seating is on a first-come, first-seated basis for everyone. Plan to arrive in time to park at DU. The ceremony will begin promptly at 1:00 pm.

- **Doors will open at 12:00 PM for Arapahoe's graduation.**
- **Designated handicapped seating will be available.**
- **Seat saving is not allowed; DU staff will remove any items holding seats.**

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Professional photographers from Lifetouch will be photographing each graduate as they receive their diploma. Photographs will be available within 48 business hours after the ceremony, the portraits will be uploaded to PhotoDay. You can access the images using the QR code at the bottom of this letter.

- There is no obligation to purchase the photos.
- We will hang the large **Warrior Head banner** on the west side of the building near the Event Entrance for picture purposes throughout the entire day, Saturday, May 24. The **AHS turf football field and the banner were popular photo spots last year.**

FIRST AID:

First aid stations are available within the arena.

The Ritchie Center has a NO bag policy for the graduation ceremony:

Including: clear bags, purses, fanny packs, totes, or other items that may be considered a bag. Guests who require a diaper bag or a bag for medical equipment are permitted to bring a bag no larger than 12 in. x 6 in. x 12 in. All guests entering with medical or diaper bags are subject to visual screening upon entry. There is no bag check available at The Ritchie Center. Guests will not be allowed to enter with an unapproved bag.

PROHIBITED ITEMS By The University of Denver:

These items are not allowed in Magness Arena or in the Ritchie Center—their staff will search bags upon arrival.

- Animals (licensed service animals permitted)
- Artificial noisemakers: air horns, whistles, vuvuzelas, other horns/trumpets, etc.
- Balloons, balls, confetti, frisbees, and other projectiles
- Candles or open flames
- Derogatory/defamatory clothing or signage
- Firearms, weapons, and dangerous devices
- Flash photography, video cameras, recording devices, cameras with detachable lenses
- Fireworks
- Drugs and alcohol
- Inflatable objects (beach balls, latex balloons, “clappers”, etc.)
- Laser pointers or other disturbing items
- Outside food and beverages, including empty or full plastic bottles, glass bottles, and cans
- Oversized signs or banners (larger than 28" x 22"), to include “fatheads” and any signage with a stick or pole attached
- Other items deemed prohibited by Ritchie Center or LPS Security

CONCESSIONS:

Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

LIVE STREAM:

The ceremony will be live-streamed and recorded free of charge for friends and family who are unable to attend the ceremony in person. The link will be sent out separately with instructions and will also be posted on the [Arapahoe Graduation website](#).

RECESSIONAL:

Following the ceremony, graduates will recess to the Hamilton Gymnasium where they will pick up their diplomas and retrieve any personal items that were checked.

Family members can meet their graduates on the west side of the Ritchie Center near the soccer/lacrosse stadium. Buses will be available to transport any graduates needing transportation back to Arapahoe High School. **If busing is needed, students should meet at the front entrance of the Ritchie Center, where graduates were dropped off. Buses will depart at approximately 3:15 pm. All other graduates are welcome to leave with their parents from DU.**

All of this information is available for your convenience on the [GRADUATION tab of the Arapahoe Website](#). A **mandatory Senior Class Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 24th, during TRIBE** where we will review in detail all of the outlined information. This meeting is for **students only**.

Sincerely,

Brian Ceriani

Assistant Principal, Student Services
bceriani@lps.k12.co.us

Abby Kuhlmann

Assistant Principal/Activities Director
akuhlmann@lps.k12.co.us

Jill Hawthorne

Graduation Chairperson

Ethan Kuhlmann

Graduation Chairperson

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR SENIORS

Date	Event	Details
April 24th	Senior Class Meeting (Students Only)	AHS Auditorium During TRIBE
May 12th May 13th	Yearbook Pickup Late Yearbook Pickup	3:40 pm, Cafeteria All day, E1288
May 14th	All fees paid and Senior Survey completed by 12:00 pm in order to pick up yearbook and cap/gown on 5/16/25	AHS Bookkeeper
May 16th	Seniors Last Day Fun-in-the-Sun Day Cap and Gown Pickup	11:00-2:00 pm, AHS Soccer Fields 2:00-3:30 pm, Main Gym

May 21st	<i>Class of 2025 Awards Convocation</i>	6:00 pm, AHS Theatre
May 24th	<i>Graduation Rehearsal</i> <i>Graduation Ceremony</i>	Report to AHS at 10:15 am 1:00 pm, University of Denver- Magness Arena

Congrats,

GRADUATES!

Scan to opt-in to view our commencement photos.



Or text this code to 90738*

9931GY25

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