

ADCP GRADUATION FAQs!



When is the next Miami Valley commencement ceremony?

The final Ohio commencement ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. at Fairhaven Church at 637 E. Whipp Road. You may also participate in the May commencement ceremony held in New York if you meet eligibility requirements.

Who can participate in the June ceremony?

Those in ADCP Cohorts 975, 976, 977 and 978 will be specifically invited to participate in this ceremony. In addition, anyone who is eligible and who has not already participated in a commencement ceremony may participate.

What are the deadlines to complete credits before graduation?

This graduation will require stricter adherence to deadlines because of limited office staff available to plan, process assessed credits and verify credit completion.

March 16, 2009	✓ Research Project (Parts I & II) must be submitted for a grade (if not already). ✓ Any outstanding assignments for incomplete Nyack courses must be submitted for grading. ✓ Completed PAL Portfolio, and any essays or professional/technical training to be evaluated for credit must be submitted (if not already).
May 1, 2009	✓ All CLEP and DANTES exams must be <u>completed</u> . ✓ Completed credits must total at least 114 credits to “walk” in the ceremony. ✓ Completed credits must total at least 120 credits to graduate in the ceremony.

What does it mean to “walk” vs. “march” in the commencement ceremony?

To qualify to “walk” at graduation, students must have completed 114 credits at least six weeks prior to the graduation (May 1, 2009). They must also have submitted Research Project Part I (if not already), their PAL Portfolio (if not already), and any essays or professional training courses that are to be evaluated for credit by March 16, 2009. Students who “walk” at graduation will be capped and gowned, will march with the other graduates, and will be announced. There will be a notation in the program indicating a projected time for actual graduation.

Students may “graduate” if they have completed all the requirements for the degree, including: 120 credits; an acceptable Portfolio; all general education requirements; and a satisfactory research project. All participants must also receive financial clearance by Student Financial Services.

Are the graduation ceremonies the only times I can graduate?

No! Because our program uses a non-traditional calendar, students who complete all degree requirements may graduate any month of the year! The date on the diploma will reflect the date we received documentation that all degree requirements were fulfilled. The graduation ceremonies are the times we formally get to celebrate together.



Can I participate in the New York commencement ceremony?

Yes! If you have completed all 120 credits you may apply to participate in the New York commencement ceremony also. The mid-May commencement is institution-wide and is an exciting experience! It is large enough that the event is held off-campus to accommodate the crowd. Contact Ann Barr for more information.

What's the difference between "commencement" and "graduation"?

These two words can be used interchangeably. The word "graduation" connotes completion and the word "commencement" connotes beginning. Both are appropriate to mark the completion of your educational goal and the beginning of a new chapter in your life as a college graduate!

Will I receive my diploma when I walk across the stage?

You will receive your diploma cover when you walk across the stage but the actual diploma will be available sometime after the ceremony. In recent years the diploma supplier has been late in delivering our diplomas so we plan not to have them at the ceremony. In an accelerated program the timing is a balance between how close students are to completing the degree and how long it takes for the diploma order to be processed and shipped. More often than not, diplomas have not arrived in time for the ceremony.

How long will it take to receive my diploma?

There are several factors which determine how long it will take for you to receive your diploma. From the time you complete your requirements to when you actually receive your diploma could be between two and three months. Whether you have completed your requirements at the end of our program or at another time of the year will also influence how long it will take to receive your diploma.

Once you have completed all degree requirements and provided us with official documentation, an official transcript audit must be conducted by Ann Barr. Once complete, she submits an order for your diploma to the SADE Registrar, Elizabeth Hanson, who in turn, adds your order to the official SADE diploma order. An official SADE diploma order is submitted approximately once per month. Usually, the manufacturer requires 45 days to fill the order and ship diplomas back to the SADE office. The fine SADE folks send your diploma either to our office or to you directly via certified mail.

What if I need proof of my graduation before I receive my diploma?

The good news is that you don't need to wait for your diploma to officially graduate! Your official transcript will indicate that your degree has been conferred. If you need something beyond this, Elizabeth Hanson, the SADE Registrar, can write a letter confirming that you have in fact completed your degree.

What happens if I don't complete degree requirements before the deadlines?

You can always complete your degree and graduate from Nyack College even if you are not eligible to participate in the June 2009 Ohio graduation. The only difference is that you will work with the fine folks in New York rather than with Ann Barr in the NMVC office. For academic advising, you will work with Dr. Elena Murphy, Director of Assessment; for making up a course or completing Incompletes, you will work with the Assistant to the Registrar, Lissette Robinson.