Cap Decorating Guidelines

Please take into consideration the following rules when decorating your graduation cap. Failure to follow these rules will result in the removal of the cap prior to the ceremony. Students WILL NOT be allowed to participate in the ceremony without a cap and gown.

Graduation cap decorations:

- Cannot contain any advertisement, symbols, abbreviations, initial, words, slogans, patches, or pictures that refer to drugs or controlled substances, tobacco, alcohol, or weapons or be of a sexual nature.
- Denote an affiliation with gangs or which advocate drug use, violence, illegal activity, or disruptive behavior which is detrimental to the safety and welfare of other students.
- Be obscene, profane, vulgar, or lewd.
- Include numbers other than the graduation year.
- Threaten the safety and welfare of any person.
- Only the flat, top area of the mortar board may be decorated. There may be nothing hanging down from any of the side of the cap.
- Decorations must be flat on the surface of the cap. 3-D creations are prohibited.

Graduation caps will be reviewed and approved in advance of the ceremony.

It is appropriate to put the following on your cap.

- Thank a parent, grandparent, teacher, friend
- Recognize the university you will be attending
- The graduation year
- The branch of the military you will be joining
- Their home country’s flag