

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

**United States
Coast Guard**



Superintendent
United States Coast Guard Academy

15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320
Staff Symbol: scs
Phone: (860) 444-8464
Fax: (860) 444-8288

5060

May 9, 2025

Dear Parents, Family, and Guests:

We are glad you are able to join us in celebrating the One Hundred Forty Fourth Commencement Exercises at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy on Wednesday, May 21, 2025. We are honored to have the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Honorable Kristi Noem, as our Commencement Speaker.

To ensure you have the most enjoyable and memorable experience, and to ensure the safety and security of all of our graduates and guests, we would like to provide you with the following important logistical information.

Every effort will be made to hold the Commencement Exercises outdoors on Cadet Memorial Field. You should anticipate the possibility of being in the sun for most of the day; therefore, guests are strongly encouraged to wear sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses, and rain gear if there is a potential for inclement weather. In the event of severe inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in Leamy Hall Auditorium, which has limited seating. For those individuals who do not have "foul weather" tickets to Leamy Hall, the ceremony will be livestreamed in Dimick Hall Auditorium and in the Alumni Gym on the third deck of Roland Hall.

All guests (age 18 and older) who wish to come onboard the Academy campus are required to show valid photo identification that complies with the REAL ID Act. More information can be found here: <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id>. If your state-issued driver's license is not REAL ID-compliant, there are a variety of other forms of identification you can provide: <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification>

On Tuesday, May 20, visitors are directed to park at the Mohegan Tribe "Turtle" parking lot (see attached directions). Shuttle buses will operate continuously from this location to the Academy between 7:30am and 4:00pm. These buses are handicap-accessible and equipped. All guests (age 18 and older) must show REAL ID-compliant identification to board the bus. Parking on campus will only be for members with a valid CGA parking hang tag.

On Wednesday, May 21, only vehicles displaying a valid Coast Guard Academy Commencement 2025 parking pass will be allowed access to campus. All vehicle occupants (age 18 and older) must present REAL ID-compliant identification. All other vehicles are required to park at the Mohegan parking lots (see attached directions). Shuttle buses will operate from this location to the Academy between 7:30am and 10:00am. Bus service will be paused during the Commencement ceremony and will resume at approximately 1:30pm. All guests (age 18 and older) must show REAL ID-compliant identification to board the bus. All guests (except for lap infants under the age of 2) must also show a Coast Guard Academy Commencement 2025 ticket.

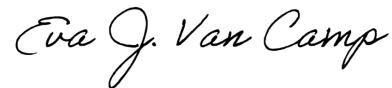
Like an airport screening process, all purses, bags, backpacks, packages, etc. are subject to search prior to boarding shuttle buses and prior to entering the Commencement venue. Due to heightened security, items such as umbrellas, beverages, liquids greater than 3.4 ounces, pocket knives, nail clippers, scissors, etc. must not be brought onboard the Academy. A complete list of prohibited items is attached.

Complementary bottled water and water-filling stations will be provided on Cadet Memorial Field.

Following the ceremony, we appreciate your patience as bus departures to the satellite parking lots may be delayed due to the volume of guests. Once shuttle service resumes, buses will run continuously with the last shuttle departing the Academy at 3:30 p.m.

Please feel free to visit our website at <https://uscga.edu/cadet-life/commencement/> for current information. If you have additional questions prior to 3:00pm on Friday, May 16, please send an email to Graduation@uscga.edu and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eva J. Van Camp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

EVA J. VAN CAMP
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Assistant Superintendent
U.S. Coast Guard Academy

Enclosures: (1) Driving Directions
(2) Prohibited Items

Coast Guard Academy Commencement 2025

Driving Directions to Offsite Parking at Mohegan Tribe “Turtle” Lot

This parking lot is located on Mohegan Sun Blvd in Uncasville, CT. There is no specific street address. Approximate GPS coordinates are 41.485°N, 72.081°W. A map is provided on the next page.

From Providence, traveling on I-95 South:

Take exit 93, turn right at the end of the off-ramp, and then left on CT Route 184 West
Follow CT Route 184 West to CT Route 2
Take CT Route 2 north to CT Route 2A West
Take exit 6 and continue straight at the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp

From New Haven, traveling on I-95 North:

Take (left) exit 76 onto I-395 North
Take exit 9 onto CT Route 2A East
Take exit 6 and turn right at the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp

From Hartford/Springfield, traveling on I-91 South:

Take (left) exit 30 onto I-84 East
Take exit 55 onto CT Route 2 East
Take exit 36 onto I-395 South
Take exit 9 onto CT Route 2A East
Take exit 6 and turn right at the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp

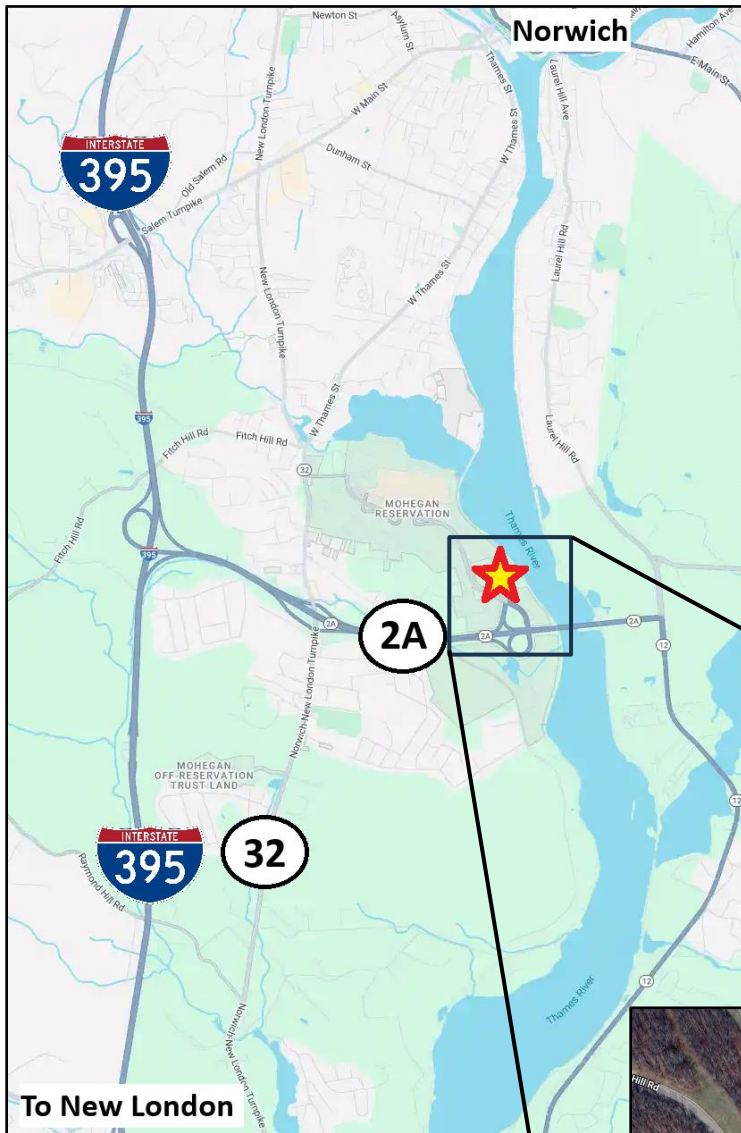
From New London, traveling on CT Route 32 North:

Use the right lane to merge onto I-395 North
Take exit 9 onto CT Route 2A East
Take exit 6 and turn right at the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp

From Groton/Mystic, traveling on CT Route 12 North:

Turn left on CT Route 2A West
Take exit 6 and continue straight at the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp

The “Turtle” parking lot will be down the hill and on your left
Academy personnel will be on-site to provide directions.



Coast Guard Academy Commencement 2025

Prohibited Items

Aerosols
Air horns
Ammunition (either real or simulated)
Animals other than service/guide animals
Backpacks and bags exceeding size restrictions (18" x 13" x 7")
Balloons
Bicycles
Coolers
Drones and other unmanned aircraft systems
Explosives of any kind (including fireworks)
Firearms
Flammable liquids
Glass, thermal, or metal containers
Knives, blades or sharp objects (of any length)
Laser pointers
Liquids in containers larger than 3.4oz/100ml
Mace / Pepper spray
Packages
Pocket or hand tools, such as "Leatherman" tools
Portable chairs (other than those for disabled persons)
Range Finders
Recreational motorized mobility devices
Selfie Sticks
Signs or posters
Strollers
Structures
Supports for signs and placards
Toy guns
Umbrellas
Weapons of any kind
Any other items determined to be potential safety hazards