



K. Erik Swanson, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Education

Okkodo High School provides a respectful environment for quality learning that builds knowledge and skills to succeed in the 21st century.

Guam Department of Education
501 Mariner Ave, Barrigada, Guam
OKKODO HIGH SCHOOL
660 Route 3
Dededo, Guam 96929
Tel #: 671-300-1870
Fax #: 671-635-1174



Rita L. Flores
Principal

Class of 2025 Graduation Guidelines and Requirements

Introduction

Successful schools continually commit to achieving excellence in all educational programs and events. These events include high school graduation. Responsible school leaders clearly communicate proper practices and standards in order to promote the highest level of honor and professionalism at all school events such as graduations.

The following guidelines were developed in conjunction with the Guam Department of Education's vision to "Prepare all students for life, Promote excellence, and Provide support." The guidelines are recommended as the district standards for all public school high school graduations, which include the following:

1. Requirements for participating in the graduation ceremony
2. Dress code for males and females (clothing, shoes, jewelry, hair cords, and sashes, pins, caps and tassels and rings)
3. Conduct on stage
4. Adhere to COVID-19 related Executive Orders and Department of Public Health and Social Services Guidance Memos, if any.

Requirements for Participation in the Graduation Ceremony

(SOP #1700-008) In order to participate in the graduation ceremony, students must:

1. Meet the academic requirements for graduation –twenty-four (24) graduate credits, fifty-five (55) hours of service learning.
2. Be cleared of all financial obligations to the school (paid or returned textbooks, library books, uniforms, equipment, GDOE laptops, MiFi devices, etc.).
3. Must **not** get suspended starting **November 1, 2024**.
4. Attend all graduation practices. Tardiness of more than fifteen (15) minutes will count as an absence. Only **one** absence from graduation practice will be allowed, except mandatory dress rehearsal the day before graduation. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in the student not being able to participate in the graduation ceremony.
5. Adhere to the Dress Code and Rules of Conduct.
6. Submit the acknowledgement form to the Class of 2025 Main Advisors (Mr. Joseph Chargualaf or Ms. Nichole Quintanilla).

Important Notes Regarding Dress Code

1. These guidelines and standards have been developed to promote honor and pride among graduates and to eliminate distractions that may be caused by inappropriate dress.
2. These guidelines will help students to appreciate the importance of the graduation ceremony as a milestone in life.
3. These guidelines will also help families and friends enjoy the significance of this rite of passage from childhood to adulthood.
4. Participation is a **privilege**. It is *not* a right (*Williams vs. Austin, 1992*).
5. All students wishing to participate in graduation ceremonies **MUST** agree to comply with these guidelines. Failure to comply will result in not being able to be a part of this special event.
6. Principal, Assistant Principals, and Senior Advisors (along with any other school personnel) will check to make sure that students adhere to the guidelines.
7. The right time to bring up any questions about the dress code and other guidelines is during the rehearsal, and *not* at the graduation ceremony.
8. The school principal (Ms. Rita Flores) makes the final decisions about the dress code or any provision within these guidelines.

CLOTHING

Women: Attire must be gender appropriate.

1. Collarless solid color dress or solid colored skirt and blouse. (No print as they show through the gown)
2. Dress or skirt must not exceed the hemline of the graduation gown.
3. Clothing with a fixed collar must not be worn as it interrupts the collar line of the graduation gown, which includes a white collar.
4. Hosiery – skin tone, off-black or black hosiery are allowed. Any other color not mentioned will not be accepted.
5. The following are **NOT** allowed: bareback, halter tops, tank tops, and plunging neckline.
6. Spaghetti Straps must be 1” or wider.
7. Colored or printed shirts, bow ties, shorts, denim jeans/slacks, leggings are NOT allowed.

Men:

1. White collared long-sleeved button-up dress shirt.
2. Black tie (optional)
3. Black slacks
4. Black or any dark colored socks
5. Colored or printed shirts, bow ties, shorts, denim jeans/slacks, leggings are NOT allowed.

SHOES

Women

1. Plain black shoes (no mixed colors, keep the ornamentation to a minimum).
2. Flat or wedges (no taller than 3” high)

Men

1. Formal black shoes.

JEWELRY

Women

1. Jewelry should be tasteful and kept to a minimum.
2. Jewelry not normally allowed in school shall not be worn (symbols for drugs, gangs, etc. will not be permitted).
3. Earrings should be small and not exaggerated, and shall be limited to small loops (no bigger than 1" in diameter) and studs (no bigger than ½" in diameter).
4. No facial piercings.
5. Bracelets must be at a maximum of 2.
6. Necklaces must be tucked under the graduation gown.
7. Non-extravagant watches are acceptable.
8. The following items are not allowed during the graduation ceremony: dangling earrings*, large hoop earrings*, non-related school club/organization/sports pins or brooches. *No more than 1" in diameter.

Men

1. Jewelry must be tasteful and kept to a minimum.
2. Necklaces must be tucked under the graduation gown.
3. Stud earrings *Only*
4. Bracelets must be tucked under sleeve cuffs
5. Non-extravagant watches are acceptable
6. The following items are not allowed during the graduation ceremony: non-related school club/organization/sports pins or brooches.

HAIR

Women

1. Hair must be clean, neat and worn off the face. Hairstyles should be able to accommodate the proper placement of the graduation cap. Please be advised that the cap placement will NOT be compromised because of hairstyle.
2. Long hair must be worn off the shoulders (tied back or worn down the back).

Men

1. Hair must be clean, neat, and worn off the face. Hairstyle should be able to accommodate the proper placement of the graduation cap. Please be advised that the cap placement will NOT be compromised because of hairstyle.
2. Long hair must be tied back or worn off the shoulders, down the back.

CORDS AND SASHES

Women and Men

1. Only cords and sashes from recognized Okkodo High School organizations/clubs are permitted (i.e., Student Body Association, National Honor Society, Senior Class Officer).
2. Students can wear a maximum of 2 club/organization sashes and a maximum of 5 club cords.

PINS

Women and Men

1. Only pins from a recognized school organization or community service group will be permitted (i.e., NHS.). Check with advisor for specific pins and organizations.
2. Up to six (6) pins are permitted.
3. Single pins may be worn on the gown collar or grouped at the collar line beginning at one (1) inch from the zipper with at least ¼" between pins.

RINGS

Women and Men

1. Keep the number of rings worn to a minimum (preferably a maximum of one on each hand, inclusive of the graduation ring).



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Class of 2025 Graduation Guidelines and Requirements Acknowledgement Form

*The completion of this form acknowledges that both Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and Student have read the Class of 2025 Graduation Guidelines and Requirements, and agree to abide by all its content. Please print information clearly and return to respective English 12 /AP English 12 teacher by **October 31, 2024**.*

Student's Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Comments/Concerns:

