

Graduation FAQs

Many homeschool parents are graduating a senior for the first time. Even if this isn't your first graduation, you may have some questions that are not clearly explained in the Graduation Details document. If that is the case, please see the below questions we have received over the years, along with the answers. Hopefully they will help. If you have questions not answered below, please direct them to graduation@csthea.org. We will do our best to answer them, and add them to these FAQs.

1. What is a display board and where are they to be set up?
Display boards or small (Card size) Tables are set up in the reception hall. They are used to display pictures and awards from the students' school career. Many display other meaningful momentos. Most graduates utilize a tri fold board or a regular size poster board with an optional frame. Everything should fit on a standard card table. Please bring your own tables.
2. What signatures do I put on my senior's diploma?
The signer of the diploma is really up to each family. Some families have mom sign one side, and dad sign the other. Some families have CSTHEA sign on both sides, e.g. it would say CSTHEA Board on both sides. Some families have a significant mentor, role model, pastor, etc., sign. When you register just fill out what you would like on the diploma, and then after the ceremony, you can have that person sign. If you ask for a CSTHEA Board signature, we will do that before graduation.
3. Why can't I put CSTHEA as the name of my homeschool?
CSTHEA is not a school and therefore can not be listed as the name of your homeschool. Please list your family's chosen school name or your family name as your school.
4. My senior would like to decorate his cap for graduation. Why is that not allowed?
While we encourage the individualism of our students, we would like to maintain the decorum of the graduation ceremony. If decorating a cap is important to your student, they may purchase a separate cap to put with their display board.
5. How can I be sure that the gown will fit my graduate?
The gowns are sized by height, and not just general sizes, so they are usually easy to fit. You also may need to consider if your graduate is larger in stature. In that case, you may need to order a gown that is a few inches longer to make up for that.
6. Why can't my child have dyed hair during the graduation ceremony?
Your student may have natural colored dyed hair for the ceremony. However, we discourage unnatural hair colors to ensure the formality of the ceremony.

7. Why can't my graduate wear chacos?

The ceremony is a formal event, celebrating the achievements of the graduates. Due to the solemn nature of the event, students need to adhere to the dress guidelines.

8. How is the graduation cap supposed to be worn?

Place the cap on your head so the point is in the front, about 1 inch above the eyebrows. Your mortarboard should be worn level on your head, and the tassel should be placed on the right side.

9. If the graduation is canceled due to COVID-19, or some other government shutdown, will I receive a refund of the graduation fee?

The graduation ceremony will take place if at all possible. In the event that the event is canceled, due to circumstances beyond our control, we will make every effort to refund as much of the cost as we can.

10. Can I participate in the graduation if my child is a virtual school student through the Hamilton County Dept. of Education?

No. The CSTHEA graduation is strictly for homeschool students. K12/ public virtual schools should have separate ceremonies for those graduates.