Graduation takes place before finals. Do I have to come back to take my tests? Absolutely! Participating in the ceremony does not exempt you from taking final exams and does not confirm program completion.

I only need to complete one class to graduate. Can I participate in the Spring 2015 commencement ceremony? No. Students who are lacking one or more credit hours or courses, even if they expect to enroll and complete all requirements during the Summer 2015 term (or intersession between Spring and Summer), will not be eligible to participate in the Spring 2015 commencement ceremony. There will be no exceptions.

If I participate in the commencement ceremony and do not pass my classes or successfully complete my degree requirements, will I receive a diploma from City Colleges of Chicago? No. You will not receive a diploma from City Colleges of Chicago until you have satisfied all of your program requirements. Your participation in the ceremony does not indicate program completion.

If I have an administrative/financial hold on my account, can I participate in the ceremony? Yes. You may participate in the commencement ceremony, but you will NOT receive your diploma or transcripts until all holds on your account have been lifted. If you have questions regarding holds on your account, please contact your advisor.

Where will my guests sit during the ceremony? Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The doors of the Pavilion open one hour before the ceremony. Since seating is open, please do not save seats in any way other than sitting in the seat. Special seating is available to guests who are hearing impaired or disabled. Children and infants will not be allowed to accompany guests on the Arena floor. For safety reasons, please arrange for family or friends to care for children in the guest seats.

Do I need a ticket to attend the commencement ceremony? Graduates do not need tickets, but all guests over the age of 1 must have a ticket to enter the Pavilion.

Where can my guests park? Your guests will park in the UIC Pavilion parking garage or identified parking lots. Parking is free.

Are there special parking and seating accommodations for elderly and disabled guests? Yes, there are accommodations for both parking and seating for elderly and disabled guests. If your guests require special seating accommodations, please notify an usher or UIC Pavilion Guest Services.

If I am a disabled graduate and need disability access, what should I do? Please notify your Disability Access Center by April 10th that you will be participating in the ceremony. Describe any assistance you may require during the event. You can request disability parking access from your Disability Access Center.

Is there a commencement rehearsal? No. In lieu of a rehearsal, City Colleges of Chicago staff members will instruct you on marching procedures and will be available to answer your questions on the day of commencement. See below for general information about what to expect:

- **Attire:** All graduates should arrive 45 minutes before the ceremony begins. Bring your gown, cap, tassel, stole and honor cords (if applicable). It is strongly recommended that students wear flats or shoes with a low heel due to the amount of time standing in the garage and the decline of the ramp entering the Pavilion. Your gown should be ironed and clean. Students are strongly discouraged from wearing: Jeans, t-shirts, shorts, gym shoes, sunglasses or casual/non-professional attire during the commencement ceremony. If you have any questions about your attire, please contact your advisor.

- **Cap:** Your tassel should be placed to the right side of your cap until your degree is conferred. At a designated point in the ceremony you will be directed to move the tassel to the left, thus indicating you have graduated.

- **Check in:** A table for your College will be set up in the parking structure. Proceed to your college area indicated by the corresponding color and signage.

Can I leave the ceremony after I receive my diploma? Leaving your seat while degrees are being conferred will cause a major disruption to the ceremony. Out of respect for your fellow graduates, please remain seated until the ceremony is concluded and you will walk in the recessional with your classmates.

Will I receive my diploma at the commencement ceremony? No. Empty diploma covers will be presented during the ceremony. However, your diploma cover will include a letter from the Chancellor and alumni information. In eight to ten weeks, you will receive a letter from the Registrar’s office regarding your Diploma.

Can my family and friends watch from home? Yes. The ceremony will be streamed live from a link on the City Colleges of Chicago website and will be archived for later viewing.

Friendly Reminder: Please refrain from bring horns, mechanical noise makers or helium balloons to the commencement ceremony. These items will be confiscated upon entry by the Pavilion security. Also, please do not deface your cap or gown with printed signs or messages.

For more information, visit www.ccc.edu/graduation or call 773-COLLEGE.