



Mid-Michigan Homeschool Graduation

Policy Statement

CHEMinistry is the annual sponsor of the Mid-Michigan Homeschool Graduation, and serves as the contact ministry related to financial and policy issues. Prayerfully, it will serve as the final say if there are any areas of contention.

The Mid-Michigan Homeschool Graduation is open to homeschool families and their graduates throughout the mid-Michigan area. Families are not required to be CHEMinistry members in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. The ceremony is intended to honor the parents and the graduates and to serve as a culminating celebration of the families' homeschool journey. All decisions, actions and participation must reflect the Christian faith and the Christian emphasis of the ceremony.

The following guidelines have been established to ensure a smooth planning process and graduation day.

GRADUATION COORDINATOR

The Graduation Coordinator organizes both committees and oversees all planning activities for the Mid-Michigan Homeschool Graduation. Decisions will be based on precedent and/or the impact they would have on future ceremonies.

THE CEREMONY

Mid-Michigan Homeschool Graduation colors are royal blue and white. Seniors may participate in the selection of the class verse, class motto, the Commencement Speaker and the Master of Ceremonies.

The order of ceremony will be as follows:

Processional to "Pomp and Circumstance"
Welcome by the Master of Ceremonies
Invocation by the Master of Ceremonies
Senior Presentations
Commencement Address
Presentation of Diplomas by parents
Benediction by the Master of Ceremonies
Recessional to "Trumpet Voluntary"

PROCEDURE FOR VOTING

Voting will be done by either a show of hands, a paper ballot or electronically, which will be determined by the Graduation Coordinator at/or prior to the time of voting. Each participating senior has one vote. If a senior is absent from a meeting where voting is taking place, the senior may still be allowed an absentee vote, by proxy or electronically, at the discretion of the Graduation Coordinator.

DATE AND LOCATION

The date and location of graduation will be based on venue capacity/availability/accessibility, equipment requirements and other events. Decisions should be made by September 30 of the school year.

DETERMINING SPEAKERS

Participating seniors will vote to determine which candidate they would like to have as their first choice, second choice, etc. The candidate determined to be the group's first choice will be contacted regarding availability to be the speaker. If he/she is unavailable, the second choice will be contacted, and so on, until a speaker is confirmed. No potential speaker will be contacted unless he/she is being asked to be the actual commencement speaker and/or Master of Ceremony.

SENIOR PRESENTATIONS

The Graduation Coordinator, a board member from CHEMinistry, along with two junior parent volunteers will formulate a committee for the purpose of previewing the graduates' senior presentations. This review must take place prior to the printing of the graduation program. The goal of this process is to make helpful suggestions for excellence, appropriateness, length, etc., and to ensure that the presentations are prepared and rehearsed ahead of time. Each graduate making a senior presentation will be required to go through the review process (including the attire he/she plans to wear at the ceremony) or the presentation will not be included in the graduation ceremony. If a senior is unable to meet with the Review Committee on the night established, with permission of the Graduation Coordinator, he/she may email a video of the presentation, which will then be reviewed by the committee. In order for a senior presentation to go forward, the committee must have unanimous approval of the presentation.

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS/SENIOR BIO VIDEO

Each senior must adhere to the conditions set by the Graduation Coordinator regarding senior bio videos in order to participate in the Mid-Michigan Homeschool Graduation. Conditions and fees will be determined annually.

DEADLINE FOR PARTICIPATION

All families interested in participating in the graduation ceremony must make a commitment by February 28 of each school year, abiding by any and all prior decisions. (Exceptions may be

considered by the Graduation Coordinator but must take place prior to senior bio video deadlines.) All fees must be paid in full by the deadline in order to participate.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Because the Mid-Michigan Homeschool Graduation comes under CHEMinistry sponsorship, it is imperative that participating families abide by the financial policies governing CHEMinistry. The Graduation Coordinator will be responsible for contacting the CHEMinistry Treasurer to find out specific details and procedures regarding maintaining accounting records for meeting tax regulations.

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The intention of the above policy is to address preparation details so that participating families and graduates can focus on establishing friendships and a unified spirit and truly enjoy their graduation year.

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“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
(Romans 15:5-6)