

Class of 2025
Somerset College Preparatory Academy

Senior Handbook

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Somerset College Preparatory Academy

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Welcome Class of 2025

Somerset College Preparatory Academy family extends a warm welcome to each of you, as you are working to complete the final year of your high school career. We want you to experience a successful year. We are very excited to assist with making this a memorable time, as many exciting activities are being planned for you. This handbook is provided to keep you up to date with events, deadlines, and pending fees.

Class of 2025 is only our 10th graduation class. It is important that we build strong relationships and memories by participating in these planned activities. As school leaders, we expect you to set an example, stay motivated and most of all have a memorable final year filled with fun school spirited activities.

Please know that as your class sponsors, we are here to help you. Feel free to stop by (at an appropriate time), email or leave a note for any of us if you are in need of assistance. We are here for you!

Class of 2025 Contact Info:

Ms. Erika Rains – Rains.Erika@somersetcollegeprep.org

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Senior Fees

Senior fees cover everything *except* activity week, Grad Bash, Prom and yearbook which can be purchased separately.

Senior fees for the class of 2025 are \$185.00 per student.

The payment for senior fees will be collected by the Guidance Clerk in the main office, and all checks should be made payable to Somerset College Preparatory Academy. **The fees are due by March 28, 2025.**

Refund Policy

If you have paid your graduation fees and do not graduate in 2025, but you return to Somerset College Preparatory Academy in the fall of 2025 as a 2nd year senior, the senior fee for the Class of 2026 will be waived.

If you do not graduate in 2025 and do not return to Somerset College Preparatory Academy, no refund will be issued.

Graduation Cap and Gown

Representatives from Jostens will be at Somerset College Preparatory Academy, on **TBD** for a mandatory senior presentation on caps, gowns, victory hood, and class of 2025 tassels. The ordering of your cap and gown for graduation will be taken by Jostens. You must complete an order form for the cap and gown when Jostens representatives are on campus during the announced date. **Cap and Gown cost is included in senior fee.** Jostens representatives will be on campus taking graduation material orders on **TBD**.

Graduation Announcements

The Jostens representatives will present the Somerset College Prep Class of 2025 graduation announcements and other graduation memorabilia on **TBD**. The cost of announcements varies depending upon the item(s) you choose to purchase and the quantity. A deposit for your announcement order will need to be paid when you place your order. The amount of the required deposit will be given to you in the meeting with Jostens. If you pay by check, **MAKE THE CHECK PAYABLE TO JOSTENS.**

*******Parents are encouraged to meet with Jostens. Do not miss this opportunity to order all the items you may need to celebrate your graduation*******

PICKING UP YOUR CAP AND GOWN FOR GRADUATION

Your cap and gown may be picked up on Friday, May 16, 2025 at Senior-Check-out.

All seniors will receive **8** tickets to the graduation ceremony. This number is determined by the space available. Due to the planned seating arrangement for graduation and because of traffic and security considerations, there is a seating capacity for the graduation ceremony that will be enforced.

Graduates may request extra tickets during the second week in April. Every attempt will be made to give you additional tickets. However, there is **NO GUARANTEE** that you will receive the total number of tickets you request. The request form for additional tickets will be located in the main office.

Before your cap and gown can be issued to you, all obligations (books, fines, parking fines, athletics, activity money, and any other outstanding obligation) must be cleared.

It is not wise to wait until the last minute to take care of these important matters.

2025 Graduation

Seniors, you and your Parent/Guardian must read and sign the SCPA Graduation Contract on the last page of this handbook in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

To graduate in 2025, you are **REQUIRED** to attend the rehearsal that will guide you through the Graduation Ceremony activities. Rehearsal will be at the Civic Center on Graduation Day at 12 PM.

IF YOU WANT TO WALK FOR GRADUATION, YOU MUST ATTEND REHEARSAL.

Required Dress Code for Graduation

Ladies: Do not let your dress show below the hem of your gown. Dress shoes are mandatory. Thong type shoes (any type of flip flop) are not allowed. This is a safety issue for your protection as you are going up and down the stairs of a stage.

Gentlemen: Dress pants must be worn. You must wear dress shoes. No tennis shoes or sandals may be worn.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDING SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Seniors must:

1. HAVE A GOOD ATTENDANCE RECORD
 - a. Excessive absences may result in your NOT being allowed to participate in Senior Activities. No more than 10 (ten) unexcused absences per year.
 - b. Special circumstances will be addressed and considered on an individual basis.
 - c. Remember that all notes for absences need to be turned into the attendance office within 3 days. The note should include first and last name.
2. BE A SENIOR OF RECORD (20 or more COMPLETED credits)
School records must verify you are classified as a senior and will graduate in May 2025. You must have a minimum GPA of 2.0.
3. HAVE A GOOD DISCIPLINE RECORD
4. TURN IN CORRECTLY COMPLETED and SIGNED PERMISSION FORMS BY THE SPECIFIED DATE

All financial obligations must be paid in full to participate in all senior activities.

At SCPA it is expected that ALL students will be on their best behavior at all senior activities. **Seniors who do not follow the rules at any of the senior activities will NOT be permitted to attend other senior functions.** You may also be subject to a discipline referral, along with disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from walking in graduation ceremony.

SENIOR PINNING

The Senior Pinning will be held at the Senior Banquet on **Wednesday, May 15, 2025** at 6:00pm at the Havert L. Fenn Center.

Tickets cost TBD.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES WEEK

See separate handout.

Graduation Cords

SCPA Cord: Maroon/Gold

Requirements: 4 Science Credits 4 Math Credits
 4 English Credits 1 World History Credit
 1 US History Credit 1 Performing Arts Credit
 1 World History Credit .5 Economics / .5 Government Credit

Scholar Designation Cord: Teal/White

Requirements: Earn 1 Credit in Algebra II, Earn 1 Credit in Statistics or an Equally Rigorous Mathematics Course, Earn 1 Credit in Chemistry or Physics, Earn 1 Credit in a course Equally Rigorous to Chemistry or Physics, Earn 2 credits in the same World Language, Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or Dual Enrollment course; Pass the Geometry EOC exam; Pass the Biology 1 EOC exam; Pass the US History EOC exam.

National Honor Society: Blue/Gold

Science National Honor Society: Green/Purple/Gold

English National Honor Society: Blue/Yellow

High Honors Cord: Gold

Honors Cord: Silver

Talented 20 Cord: Teal

Volunteer Cord: White

Music: Light Pink

SGA Cord: Maroon

FFEA: Light pink/Light Purple

FBA: Light Blue/Ivory

Science Olympiad: Black/Gray

7-Year Cord: Black

Must be a current member

Must be a current member

Must be a current member

Weighted GPA of 4.0+

Weighted GPA of 3.5-3.9

Be in the Top 20% of class

250 Volunteer Hours on file

4 HS yrs. of Chorus

Served as elected off. 2+ yrs.

2+ yrs. FFEA member

4+ yrs. FBA Chapter member

2+ yrs. of comps in 3+

events, inc. sr yr.

Somerset student 6-12th g.

Volleyball Cord: Purple	2+ full Varsity seasons
Basketball Cord: Red	2+ full Varsity seasons
Soccer Cord: Green	2+ full Varsity seasons
Swim Cord: Light Blue	2+ full Varsity seasons
Cheer Cord: Red/Black	2+ full Varsity seasons
Bowling Cord: Navy Blue	2+ full Varsity seasons
Cross Country: Light Purple	2+ full Varsity seasons

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

To be selected as *Valedictorian*, you must have the highest weighted GPA **AND** have been an SCPA student continuously since the first day of 9th grade.

To be selected as *Salutatorian*, you must have the second highest weighted GPA **AND** have been an SCPA student continuously since the first day of 9th grade.

Somerset College Preparatory Academy Graduation Contract

I, _____ (print name of senior), being a senior of the class of 2025 at SCPA and planning to participate in the Graduation Ceremony to be conducted on **May 24, 2025**, do agree to the following:

____ I WILL ATTEND the Graduation Rehearsal at 12pm I WILL STAY FOR THE ENTIRE REHEARSAL.

____ I WILL FOLLOW all guidelines concerning behavior and dress code.

____ I WILL NOT DISRUPT the Graduation Ceremony by leaving my seat at inappropriate times.

____ I WILL ARRIVE ON TIME to graduation rehearsal and also at the designated time for the Graduation Ceremony.

____ I WILL NOT LEAVE the Graduation Ceremony until the Recessional is complete and I have received my diploma.

I understand and acknowledge that failure to attend Graduation Rehearsal in its entirety may result in my not participating in the ceremony.

Print Student Name

Student Signature

I, as the parent/guardian of the above listed Senior of the Class of 2025, I have read this Graduation Contract. I understand and acknowledge its contents.

Print Parent/Guardian name

Parent/Guardian signature

Date