



Student Commencement Speaker Information and Guidelines

Eligibility:

Graduating students interested in delivering the commencement address must meet these criteria:

- Be eligible for graduation.
- Be in good academic and disciplinary standing.
- Commit to attend and participate fully in the in-person rehearsal and the commencement ceremony, May 9, 2024.

Guidelines:

- Discuss the transformative power of the Lamar Institution of Technology (LIT) educational experience.
- Include appropriate examples from collegiate life such as common coursework, co-curricular involvement, and significant contemporary events that have shaped your life during college. Avoid references that are unique to personal experience unless they provide insights into an extraordinary life lesson valuable to your listeners.
- A variety of emotional content is always welcome in a speech. Appropriate humor is useful as well as a serious tone, as well as joy and sorrow. Keep in mind that the audience ranges from young children to senior citizens, community leaders, students, faculty, and staff.

Submission Process:

Eligible and interested student are required to submit a speech that is no longer than 10 minutes to the e-mail: grad@lit.edu by **5 p.m. Friday, March 22nd, 2024**. Applicants must include a cover page with the following information:

- **Name**
- **Student ID Number**
- **Address**
- **City/State**
- **Phone Number(s)**
- **E-mail Address**
- **Degree or Certificate Program**
- **Graduation Date**

Selection Process:

A selection committee comprised of representatives from LIT and Student Government Association will review entries and will select finalists by Friday, April 12, 2024. The selected finalists will be expected to present their speeches to the selection committee by Friday, April 19, 2024.

The selection committee will consider the following when making their selection of student speaker:

- Clarity of ideas
- Appeal to a broad audience & common experiences of LIT students
- Quality of speech content
- Length of presentation (no longer than 10 minutes)
- Speaker's delivery – well prepared, engaging, vocal variety, animated delivery, stage presence

Important Dates:

- **Friday, February 2, 2024:** Commencement student speaker application open
- **Friday, March 22, 2024 (at 5 p.m.):** Commencement student speaker application closes
- **Friday, April 12, 2024:** Applicants will be contacted by Selection Committee with a decision
- **Friday, April 19, 2024:** Finalists will present their speeches in-person to the Selection Committee
- **May 9, 2024:** In-person rehearsal and Spring Commencement