

USAWC Class of 2018 Distance Graduation: What you need to know

By Alex Pinnell 13 July 2018



The Army War College Distance Class of 2018 will graduate on Friday, July 27, at 9 A.M. The graduating class includes 316 Army officers, 3 Navy, 5 Air Force, 15 Marines, 24 civilians of U.S. federal agencies, and 9 International Fellows.

CARLISLE, Pa. (July 11, 2018) – The graduation ceremony of the Army War College Distance Class of 2018 is scheduled for Friday, July 27, at 9 a.m. at the Wheelock Bandstand on Carlisle Barracks' historic parade ground. This year's graduating class includes 316 Army officers, 87% of which are part of the Reserve or National Guard, 3 Navy, 5 Air Force, 15 Marines, 24 civilians of U.S. federal agencies, and 9 International Fellows from Latvia, Estonia, Spain, Taiwan, Ukraine, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. The Graduation speaker will be Gen. (Ret.) Barry McCaffrey.

The ceremony will be available for live viewing at <https://www.armywarcollege.edu/live>, from approximately 9 – 10:30 a.m.

All family members and friends are welcome to attend and watch the ceremony. The following information will aid your planning. Keep track of

developments at www.facebook.com/usawc.

Graduates & Families: parking & timeline

Students must be in seats by 8:30 a.m., and guests should plan to arrive with them or around the same time.

Prior to the ceremony, the Carlisle Town Band will offer a pre-event performance. The ceremony will begin with the faculty member procession.

Visitors can plan to use the Visitor's Gate at Claremont Road. The address is 870 Jim Thorpe Rd., Carlisle, PA 17013. Follow the signs to the vehicle access point, and then follow Special Event signs to designated parking. Security police and parking attendants will assist.

A shuttle will run between the parking areas and parade ground between 7:30 – 8:45 a.m. as well as following the ceremony. Parking is available at Anne Ely Hall on Ashburn Drive, as well as at the Exchange/Commissary near the visitor gate and at Dunham Army Health Clinic. Staff and faculty will park along Letort Lane or at Collins Hall.

Parking attendants will be available to direct guests to the drop-off point for handicapped guests at Quarters Two on Garrison Lane, as well as handicapped parking available at 315 Lovell Avenue. Handicapped seating is available at Quarters Two.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in Bliss Hall Auditorium, which will seat students only. Closed circuit viewing will be provided for guests in the seminar rooms and other venues throughout the Army War College. A weather call will be made no later than 7 a.m. and publicized via students and gate signs.

Graduates will pick up their diplomas at the Letort View Community Center immediately following the ceremony. Graduates and their families can pre-register for a brunch to be held in the Letort View Community Center at 717-245-4329.

Uniform and what to expect

The uniform for military graduates will be service dress uniform or equivalent with no head gear, and business attire for civilian graduates.

Hats and sunscreen are recommended. Water will be available. Medical personnel will be on site.

Please note that there is no smoking and no weapons, selfie sticks, backpacks, coolers, or pets at the ceremony. Bags are subject to security checks at entry to the parade field.

Restrooms are in the Thorpe Gym, with porta johns situated at the rear of the ceremony site.

Shortly after the start of the ceremony at 9 a.m., the Pennsylvania Army National Guard 107th Field Artillery will fire cannons on Indian Field in an honorary salute.

After the commencement address, every student will cross the stage. Professional photos of every student will be available at www.flickr.com/photos/usawc by the end of the day, July 27. Guests are welcome to take photos throughout the ceremony, and a photo area near the stage is available for family and friends. A highlight video of the ceremony will be available at www.youtube.com/usarmywarcollege shortly after graduation.

Employees, residents: parking and planning

Residents on Garrison Lane are asked to park their cars in their garages, if possible.

Faculty and staff who work in Anne Ely or use the parking lot are asked to park in DES or Chapel lots.

In order to support the safe and orderly flow of traffic to the handicap drop-off point at the Deputy Commandant's quarters, Garrison Lane from Ashburn Drive to Guardhouse Lane will become a one-way street Friday, July 27 from 7:00 a.m. to noon.

Dunham Clinic will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 26 for patient care. The clinic and pharmacy will be closed Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. including the pharmacy, reopening at 1 p.m. and closing at 4:30 p.m.

Liberal leave is encouraged for personnel of the Army War College/Carlisle Barracks not involved in the graduation ceremony in order to maximize parking, pending supervisor approval.

General McCaffrey is President of his own consulting firm at

www.mccaffreyassociates.com. He also serves as a national security and terrorism analyst for NBC News.

Barry McCaffrey served in the United States Army for 32 years and retired as a four-star General. At retirement, he was the most highly decorated serving General, having been awarded three Purple Heart medals (wounded in combat three times), two Distinguished Service Crosses (the nation's second highest award for valor) and two Silver Stars for valor.

For five years after leaving the military, General McCaffrey served as the Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Upon leaving government service, he served at West Point as the Bradley Distinguished Professor of International Security Studies from 2001-2005; and an Adjunct Professor of International Security Studies from 2006-2010. He previously served as an Associate Professor in the Department of Social Sciences from 1973-1976 teaching American Government and Comparative Politics. General McCaffrey is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is Chairman of the Addiction Policy Forum Advisory Board. He has served on the Board of Directors of several corporations in the engineering design, technology, healthcare and services sectors.

General McCaffrey attended Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.; and graduated from West Point with a Bachelor of Science degree. He earned a master's degree in American Government from American University and attended the Harvard University National Security Program as well as the Business School Executive Education Program. In 2015 he was selected for the Doughboy Award -- the highest honor the Chief of Infantry can bestow on any Infantryman -- for outstanding contribution to the United States Army Infantry. In May 2010, he was honored as a Distinguished Graduate by the West Point Association of Graduates at the United States Military Academy. In 2007 he was inducted into the US Army Ranger Hall of Fame at the US Army Infantry Center, Ft. Benning, GA. In 2004, Catholic University of America awarded him the James Cardinal Gibbons Medal (Highest Honor), to honor him for distinguished and meritorious service to the United States of America. In 1992 he was awarded the State Department Superior Honor Award for the principal negotiation team for the START II Nuclear Arms Control Treaty.

General McCaffrey is married to Jill Ann McCaffrey. They have three married adult children and six grandchildren. Their son, Colonel Sean McCaffrey, retired from the Armed Forces after a career as an infantry officer.

