

December Conferral 2024

Graduation Information Guide

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OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR



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December 2024 Conferral Information Guide

DECEMBER 2024 CONFERRAL

The University of the Southern Caribbean will virtually host its 2024 Conferral exercise on **December 01, 2024 at 10:00am.** (YouTube Link to be provided).

PRE-GRADUATION INFORMATION

GRADUATION FEE

The December Conferral fee is **\$500.00TT**. The Conferral fee is a standard part of university graduation exercises globally. The conferral fee covers a range of costs including but not limited to diplomas, diploma holders, transcripts, and other administrative and processing costs. The deadline for payment of the graduation fee is **November 29th, 2024**.

PAYMENT OF GRADUATION FEES

Students can make Graduation Payment via the following methods:

- 1. Payments through AEORION Visa Debit/Credit Card Payments:
- i. Log on to Aeorion. --» Go to Finance --» Select Pay with Visa Debit or Credit Card.
- ii. Enter card details and billing information.
- iii. Select Pay Now.
- iv. Payment confirmation is sent to the email provided.

2. USC Cashier Monday – Thursday – 8:30 am – 5:00 pm Friday – 8:30 am - 12:00 noon

3. **International Wire Transfers** - (USD) Payments: i. RBC Royal Bank, Eastern Main Road, St Augustine Bank of New York, 48 Wall Street, NY, NY, USA. ABA# 021-000-018 to credit A/C # 890-0016-329 in the name of RBC Bank T&T Ltd. For further credit to A/C # 1000 180 103 16573, Swift Code –RBTTTTPX in the name of University of the Southern Caribbean.

4. **Extension campus payment** – Online payments via AEORION using Visa Debit/Credit Card or Lynx payments at Campus office

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PARTICIPATION IN THE MAY 2025 COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE

December 2024 Conferral participants will also have the opportunity to participate in the 2025 Graduation Exercises. Students who are interested in this option will be required to pay the difference in the graduation fee for June 2025 (\$600.00TT). Interested persons would be required to express their interest via the application form https://forms.gle/BC9sSsPG7nmabGZe8 . Once approval is granted, all other graduation May 2025 graduation procedures and processes are applicable.

STAY CONNECTED

Graduation updates will be disseminated via the following platforms:

- 1. The university website https://usc.edu.tt/graduation/
- 2. USC email (Student Email)
- 3. Graduating Class WhatsApp Group Join 2024 December Conferral Graduation WhatsApp Group: <u>https://chat.whatsapp.com/GHsF9Ipv5Y1EHkRj1fUE7u</u>

REGALIA COLLECTION AND RETURN

Regalia Collection - Students will collect regalia in the **Student Lounge** upon arrival for their photo session.

Regalia Return - Students will have the option of returning the regalia immediately after the photo session or keeping it and returning it no later than **November 11, 2024.** Should you take the second option, kindly be reminded of the following:

- The regalia must be returned on/before <u>November 11, 2024</u> between 8:30AM and 4:30PM at the Registrar's Office Assistant, *Location - Downstairs Administration Building. Two* (2) *doors after the white iron gate.*
- 2. Note// Someone can return your regalia on your behalf.
- 3. A late fee of \$50.00TT for each day after November 11, 2024 will be charged. Your transcript and diploma will **NOT** be released until the entire fee is paid.
- 4. Regalia must be returned without such damage as rips, tears, stains, burns, *makeup*, additional hems or other alterations on any item.

5. In the event of any damage as stated in No. 4, an assessment of the damage will be done and the relevant charges will be applied. Your transcript and diploma will **NOT** be released until the fee is paid.

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Before collecting regalia, all students MUST read, fill and submit the Regalia Contract. Click <u>here</u> to access the <u>Regalia Contract</u>.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Portraits for the Class of 2024's December Conferral will be captured on **November 6 & 7, 2024** from **8:30am to 4:00 pm** each day in the Student Lounge on USC's Main Campus in Maracas, St. Joseph for Main and South Campus students. Graduands will be required to book their portrait appointments by visiting **usc.edu.tt/graduation**. **December Conferral Portraits Booking Form:**

Graduands are to be robed in regalia for these portraits.

- **Date:** November 6 & 7, 2024
- Time: 9:00am to 4:00 pm each day
- Venue: Student Lounge, Main Campus, Maracas, St. Joseph
- **Dress Code:** Regalia (USC Dress Code will be observed)
- To Book, Visit: usc.edu.tt/graduation

Graduation Portrait Guidelines for Off-Campus Students

Undergraduate and Graduate Students currently located outside of Trinidad, are asked to submit a portrait for use in the virtual December Conferral Ceremony 2024.

December Conferral Portrait Submission Form

Guidelines are as follows:

- Wardrobe: Students are required to *wear a solid black top* and adhere to the university's dress code.
- **Specifications:** Portraits should be taken on a **white or plain colored background.**
- Submission Link: <u>https://forms.gle/q7De7hiiYdt3Kmqo8</u>
- Submission Deadline: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 4:00pm.



USC MEMORABILIA (KENTE CLOTH, MEDALLIONS ETC.)

Kente cloth and medallions are available for purchase from the University Bookstore. Below is the new link for the December Conferral Kente Cloth, Medallion form.

Please note the deadline for payment is **November 8, 2024**. This deadline will not be extended as we have to purchase the kente cloth from abroad and give the local company time to get the medallion ready.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1hi2bo8bWRywAAPsUm_C-YQVyjCuq5sePd0E9ksjb7Lg/edit

Please contact Mrs. Rosalind Hazelwood via email at <u>bookstore@usc.edu.tt</u> or phone at 1(868) 662-2241 ext. 2905.

Important Disclaimer to Note:

Please be advised that due to time constraints, there may be a delay in the delivery of the Kente cloth and medallions ordered for the upcoming December Conferrals. While every effort is being made to ensure these items arrive on time, there remains a possibility they may not be available until after the ceremony. We appreciate your understanding and patience, and we will keep you updated as we receive further information.

INFORMATION FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

Academic Honors

Undergraduate academic honors will be announced when the names are read during the Commencement Ceremony:

- Cum Laude honors is a cumulative GPA of 3.50-3.74
- Magna Cum Laude is a cumulative GPA of 3.75-3.89
- Summa Cum Laude is a cumulative GPA of 3.90 or above
- Graduate students do not receive academic honors

*Graduation Disclaimer:

Documents and written pronouncement of academic honors designation and completion will only be deemed final and valid when they bear the official stamp, seal and signature of the President of the University of the Southern Caribbean and the President of the Board of Trustees.

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Academic Attire

Preparing to march to "Pomp and Circumstance" requires wearing the traditional graduation cap and gown. Your academic dress will depend on the degree you will be receiving. The academic regalia consists of a cap, gown, hood, tassel and honor stole (if applicable).

Here's how to wear your cap and gown:

- a. The graduation cap is worn flat on the head, parallel to the floor. The front point of the cap should be centered on the forehead.
- b. The graduation gown should fall midway between the knee and ankle (mid-calf).
- c. Tassels are usually worn on the right side and shifted to the left upon conferral of degrees.
- d. Flowers and jewelry should not be worn on the academic gown.
- e. Gowns can be accessorized with specific regalia like stoles, honor cords, kente cloth, and medallions in keeping with the traditions of the school.

See Video of Vesting of Candidates: <u>https://usc.edu.tt/academic-and-commencement-attire/</u>

PRE & POST GRADUATION INFORMATION LETTERS OF COMPLETION

Letters of completion are available to all December Conferral Candidates.

- 1. In order to receive a Letter of Completion, students must receive financial clearance.
- 2. A shared document between the Office of Student Finance and the Office of the Registrar will be regularly updated to indicate students who have received financial clearance.
- 3. Please click the link to apply for Letter of Completion https://forms.gle/ingnihoC5iw1e1rm6



DIPLOMA DISTRIBUTION

Official diplomas will be made available for collection at the Records Office from **Monday, December 9, 2024**. Diploma collection will be subject to financial clearance from the Ministry of Education and/or the University of the Southern Caribbean. Diplomas can be delivered (TTPost or FedEx) or collected in person.

Trinidad & Tobago Delivery - TTPOST - The cost of the delivery must be covered by the student. The cost of mailing via TTPost is \$50.00TT.

International Delivery - FedEX - Due to COVID-19, mailing rates tend to fluctuate and can only be provided closer to the date of dispatch. Please see below for the estimated FedEx rate for various islands/territories.

Destination	Approximate Cost (TT)
United States of America (USA) and Canada	\$600.00TT
United Kingdom (UK)	\$660.00TT
Caribbean Islands except for Jamaica & Nevis	\$450.00
Guyana	\$500.00
Jamaica and Nevis	\$600.00

Any other territory, please inquire using the email transcripts@usc.edu.tt

The request for **mailing of diplomas** must be submitted in writing. The letter/email must include the following (along with proof of payment) to the Records Office (transcripts@usc.edu.tt):

- Your Name, USC ID Number, Personal Phone Number (preferably mobile), Degree Earned, Complete address (no P.O. Boxes) to which the diploma is to be mailed and students' signature

In-person Collection - Diplomas can also be collected from the Records Office. *Hours of Operation*: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm and Friday – 9:00 am – 11:30 am.

Proxy Collection - Students can also have someone collect diplomas on their behalf. A **signed authorization letter** and **proof of person (National ID Card or Passport)** must be presented to the Records Officer. The authorization letter can be emailed in advance but **MUST** have a signature.

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TRANSCRIPTS

All students will receive a free transcript with their diploma. Should additional copies be required please click <u>here</u> to access our transcript request form. A nominal fee of \$30.00TT/\$5.00US is required per transcript. For further information regarding transcripts, please email transcripts@usc.edu.tt.

NOTES:

Diplomas and transcripts can only be released after the receipt of Financial Clearance and Academic Clearance.

At the University of the Southern Caribbean, the last business day for the year 2024 is **December 19, 2024.** We look forward to serving you for the new year from January 02, 2024.