



Washington Homeschool Organization

2015 Spokane Valley Graduation Information Packet

General Information

Where & when will the commencement ceremony be held?

The Graduating Class of 2015 will receive their diplomas on Saturday, May 30, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. Graduation Ceremonies will be held at the Mirabeau Park Hotel and Convention Center, 1100 N. Sullivan Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99037

When is the rehearsal?

Graduation rehearsal will begin **promptly** at **11:00 a.m.** the day of graduation- on **Saturday, May 30, 2015** at the Mirabeau Park Hotel and Convention Center, 1100 N. Sullivan Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99037. **It is required that the graduate, and at least one parent/guardian, attend the rehearsal and stay until rehearsal ends.**

Do I have to be a WHO member to participate?

No. Non-members are welcome to participate in the ceremony.
There is an additional cost for those that are not WHO members.

Is the diploma state-certified?

The diploma is not state-certified. WHO is not an accrediting agency, and the WHO diploma is not an accredited diploma. The diploma is issued from the parent to the student.

We can't attend the ceremony - can we purchase a diploma from WHO?

The diplomas are not available independent of the ceremony. If you are interested only in the diploma, consider one of the many options online. Use the term "homeschooling diploma" in your search.

What is required for the ceremony?

A completed registration form & registration fee, the **80-word statement** and **cap and gown** are required for the ceremony.

What is the final deadline for registration?

The final deadline for registration is April 27, 2015.

All registrations must be postmarked by April 27. There will be no exceptions.

Please make careful note of all deadlines.

What is the 80-word statement?

As the parents and graduate meet at the center of the stage for the presentation of the diploma, the WHO presenters read a statement, written by the parents, about their student. This brief (80 words or less) typed statement may make reference to the student's accomplishments, personal

qualities, future plans, or anything else the parent would like to say to honor their graduate. **Any statements over the limit will be, at WHO's discretion, edited down to the appropriate length. For sample statements, see the WHO graduation website.**

Please include the student's name as you want it read on the 80-word statement form. Also include the names of the parents/guardians who will present the graduate their diploma. The statement must be typed, using a font size of 14, double-spaced, and be no more than 80 words. Because these statements are used directly by our readers, **handwritten statements cannot be accepted.** Please provide phonetic assistance for more difficult name pronunciations on the form.

What is the Student Display?

As part of the Graduating Class of 2015, we invite each graduate to provide a personal presentation about their homeschooling experience. It may be presented in the following forms:

- A self-standing display board
- A graduation scrapbook

The display could showcase the student's accomplishments, talents, interests, and family photos. It should be brought to rehearsal on May30, 2015. These will be set-up by you and displayed in the lobby area near photography.

Who can accompany the student on stage for the presentation of their diploma?

The immediate family may join the graduate on stage. For this event, the immediate family is defined as parents/guardians and siblings.

Who can sit in the "Reserved Seating" section?

This area is reserved for those who will be going up on stage to present the graduate their diploma. The **reserved seating** area is exclusively for those who are joining the graduate on stage, and meet the above criteria. If you do not wish to have the graduate's siblings on stage, they are welcome to sit in the non-reserved section with other family members. All persons who sit in the reserved section will be going up on stage in order to simplify the ceremony.

Eligibility

Is my student eligible to participate in this graduation?

Any student who meets the following criteria may participate in the graduation ceremony:

- The student has homeschooled and filed a Declaration of Intent for at least one year immediately prior to high school graduation.
- **The student may be enrolled in Running Start during the 2014-15 school year**, but must have homeschooled and filed a Declaration of Intent for the year prior to beginning Running Start.
- The student and parent have completed all portions of the registration form, and have paid the required fees.

NOTE: Full time enrollment in an alternative learning experience program (ALE) does not meet eligibility requirements for this ceremony. Only

student's homeschooling under the Home-based Instruction Law are eligible for the WHO graduation.

Cost

What is the cost for graduation registration?

	<u>WHO Members</u>	<u>Non- Members</u>
Postmarked by March 30th	\$75.00	\$105.00
Postmarked by April 27th	\$105.00	\$135.00

Graduation Supply Ordering

Where do I order cap and gown and other graduation accessories?

The cap and gown and other grad accessories are being handled by HomeschoolDiploma. All information concerning prices and ordering deadlines is available on their website just for WHO graduates. Prices for those items vary with certain packages being offered. **Please make careful note of the order deadlines.**

After registering for graduation, please visit:

<http://www.homeschooldiploma.com/who-2015.html> for specific information on WHO graduation supplies. **Cap and gown are required for the ceremony**, other items are optional.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE WHO GRADUATION REFUND POLICY APPLIES ONLY TO THE CEREMONY BASIC FEE. You will receive a full refund if requested by March 30th, 2015, and a 50% refund if requested by April 30th. After April 30th, no refunds will be given. The refund policy for the ordering of cap, gown, or other graduation accessories is determined by HomeschoolDiploma.

What does the announcement look like?

A picture of the announcement can be found at:

<http://www.homeschooldiploma.com/who-2015.html>

Cap and Gowns

What color cap and gown do I order?

Gentlemen wear red and ladies wear white cap and gown.

The graduate is required to wear these items in order to participate.

Deadlines are set by the vendor, [HomeschoolDiploma.com](http://www.homeschooldiploma.com), so please make a note of the dates for placing an order listed on the vendor website.

Ceremony Information

WHO intends to offer a memorable ceremony to honor the graduates and their families. Therefore, we ask that graduates not add to, or alter, their cap and gown in any way that would distract from the uniform appearance of all graduates (*with the exception of honor cords*). This can be a dynamic process, so we ask that graduates follow directions, and be courteous during the rehearsal and ceremony.

What is the schedule for graduation day?

Rehearsal at Mirabeau Park Hotel and Convention Center, 1100 N. Sullivan Rd.
Spokane Valley, WA 99037

Promptly at 11:00 a.m. Drop off Student Display (*optional*) before attending rehearsal.

Lunch

After rehearsal—return by 2:00 pm

Group Picture

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Graduation

Promptly at 2:30 pm

Optional Expenditures

Graduation Announcements

Announcements may be purchased alone or in a package that includes cap, gown, tassel, and name cards through HomeschoolDiploma at their website

<http://www.homeschooldiploma.com/who-2015.html>

Graduation Accessories

HomeschoolDiploma also has 2015 graduation accessories and gifts.

Confirmation and refund policy

You will be sent confirmation of your registration, via e-mail, unless otherwise noted, after your registration has been received.



Washington Homeschool Organization

Spokane Valley 2015 Graduation
Registration Form

For Office Use Only

Post Marked _____

Check # _____

Amount _____

WHO member

You can type directly on this form by typing in the gray boxes

Graduate's name: _____

Please print clearly; name will be printed on diploma as submitted

Parent/Guardian name(s) _____

Please print clearly; names will be printed on program as submitted

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ *E-mail: _____

***Your confirmation letter & other correspondence will be sent via e-mail unless otherwise noted**

Number of immediate family walking on stage for the diploma presentation? _____

Will you be submitting a Student Display? • Yes • No

Would the graduate like to be considered for either of the following? (Registrations must be received by March 1st to allow time for student selection.)

Senior class address • Yes • No

Performing at ceremony • Yes • No

<u>Basic Fee</u>	<u>WHO Member</u>		<u>Non-WHO Member</u>	
March 30th	\$75.00	•	\$105.00	•
April 30th	\$105.00	•	\$135.00	•

There will be a \$25.00 fee for NSF checks.

Please send **payment**, completed **registration form** & **80-word statement** to:

**WHO Graduation
PO Box 66960
Seattle, WA 98166**

All confirmations and communication will be sent via e-mail.
If you do not have email, we will mail your confirmation.



80 Word Statement For:

Graduate's name: _____

Parent/Guardian presenting diploma: _____

Name Pronunciation Tips _____

PLEASE TYPE YOUR STATEMENT. Handwritten statements cannot be accepted. **Any statements over the 80-word limit will be, at WHO's discretion, edited down to the appropriate length.** If you cannot use this form, please duplicate the top information on the one you provide. If your name is difficult to pronounce, please provide an explanation of how to pronounce it for us, so our readers will get it right!

Send this completed page along with graduation registration form to:
WHO Graduation
PO Box 66960, Seattle, WA 98166