



Latinx Graduation Celebration (LGC)

Informational Webinar – Thursday, March 14, 2024

California State University Chico

Presenter: CECILIA

- Welcome! *¡Bienvenidos!*
- Thank you for your interest in Latinx Grad, and CONGRATULATIONS on your upcoming or recent graduation from Chico State! Felicidades!
- We are really excited that this year we will commemorate our 47th annual Latinx Grad celebration! Yay, 47 years of this wonderful Chico State tradition!!!!
- During this session, we will review information about the 2024 Latinx Graduation Celebration. Some information is still unknown, but we are eager to share what we do know at this time.
- Please know that this session is being recorded. We will make the slide deck and webinar recording available from our website.
- You will have the opportunity to ask questions through the Q&A Zoom feature, but ask that you listen to the content of our presentation first.

Next slide.

Meet the Planning Team



Elli Alaniz
Financial Aid and Scholarship Office



Teresita Curiel
Latinx Equity and Success



Almendra Lawrence
University Communications



Marina Lomeli
PATH Scholars



Chuy Rojas Rivas
Student Life and Leadership



Cecilia Santillan-Robles
Early Outreach and Support Programs



Pepe Villaseñor
Financial Aid and Scholarship Office



Yvette Zúñiga
Office of Equity, Diversity
and Inclusion

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- Now, let's meet the Latinx Grad "*familia*" who volunteer year-long to coordinate Latinx Grad.
 - *Presenter reads the name, department and role (in alpha-order) for each team member (left-to-right). Members can wave at the audience to be recognized. Please do not have everyone introduce themselves –takes too long!*
1. **Elli Alaniz**, Financial Aid and Scholarship Office - coordinates our photos, ceremony slides, and historical records
 2. **Teresita Curiel**, Latinx Equity and Success – coordinates outreach, communications, and the application and eligibility verification processes
 3. **Almendra Lawrence**, University Communications – coordinates our publications, the program and our certificates
 4. **Marina Lomeli**, PATH Scholars – coordinates the Latinx Grad ceremony inside of Laxson Auditorium

5. **Chuy Rojas Rivas**, Student Life and Leadership – coordinates our event-day staff and student volunteers. Chuy serves as the contact for any non-graduating students or staff who want to volunteer to help us event day.
6. **Cecilia Santillan-Robles**, Early Outreach and Support Programs – coordinates our budget/financial matters
7. **Pepe Villaseñor**, Financial Aid and Scholarship Office – coordinates our Latinx Grad receptions
8. **Yvette Zúñiga**, Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion – assist with the Latinx ceremony, as well as serves as OEDI's liaison for all multicultural graduation celebrations
9. **In addition to this team**, we also have a number of students, volunteers, and collaborators who also play a critical role in making Latinx Grad a success. We would not be able to host Latinx Grad without their help!

Next slide. PEPE is up next...

Our E-Resources



www.csuchico.edu/latinxgrad



lgrad@csuchico.edu



[@ChicoLatinxGrad](https://www.instagram.com/ChicoLatinxGrad)



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Presenter: PEPE

- I'd like to share a little about the Latinx Grad **e-resources** that are available to you.
- Our **website** is always an important resource! It offers the most up-to-date information regarding Latinx Grad. Be sure to check out the "**Key Dates**" listing as well as the "**Frequently Asked Questions**" menu for important details and information.
- Also, be sure to keep an eye out for **email** communications from our "lgrad@csuchico.edu" account. Or, you can email us if you can't find the answers to your questions on our website or FAQ resource. Be sure to add our email to your "safe senders" list so our email communications don't end up in your spam or junk folder!
- Lastly, be sure to follow us on **Instagram**! @ChicoLatinxGrad

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History



The **Latinx Graduation Celebration (LGC)** was created to honor the achievement of Latinx graduates at Chico State, and the contributions their families and friends have made during their education. **Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlán (MEChA)** created this event in 1978 to encourage Latinos to pursue higher education. This diverse and intimate, English-Spanish bilingual ceremony has flourished, and now includes Latinx and non-Latinx students.

More recently, LGC is coordinated by a team of dedicated campus volunteers - professionals and students.

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Presenter: PEPE

- Before we start with information on this year's celebration, I'd like to share some background about Latinx Grad.
- The Latinx Graduation Celebration (LGC) was created to honor the achievement of Latinx graduates at Chico State, and the contributions their families and friends have made during their education. Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlán (MEChA) created this event in 1978 to encourage Latinos to pursue higher education. This diverse and intimate, English-Spanish bilingual ceremony has flourished, and now includes Latinx and non-Latinx students.
- Shout out to MEChA for starting this beautiful Chico State tradition, and thank you to all those who have been involved in the planning, or for facilitating the resources and funding for this event to happen annually!
- Currently, Latinx Grad is coordinated by a team of dedicated campus volunteers - professionals and students.

Next slide. MARINA is up next...

47th Annual Latinx Graduation Celebration

Date: Saturday, May 18, 2024

Event Times*: 12:30 pm & 3:00 pm

Location: Laxson Auditorium



Eligibility:

- 1) Undergraduate and graduate participants must have formally applied for graduation through the University and be eligible to participate in University Commencement exercises.
- 2) Participants must be graduating from the University in one of the following terms:
Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024 or Fall 2024

Application: Space is limited. Hence, there is an application process.

Fee: None. Multicultural graduation celebrations will be funded by the University.

* *Latinx Grad will NOT conflict with Commencement ceremonies.*

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Presenter: MARINA

- Now, to this year's details...
- The 47th Annual Latinx Graduation Celebration will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at 12:30 pm and 3:00 pm in Laxson Auditorium. In 2019, Latinx Grad moved to a two-event celebration in order to accommodate the growing interest in this special event.
- In order to be considered for this year's celebration, students must meet our eligibility requirements.
 1. Undergraduate and graduate participants must have formally applied for graduation through the University and be eligible to participate in University Commencement exercises.
 2. Participants must be graduating from the University in one of the following terms:
Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024 or Fall 2024
- Space is limited. So, we do have an application process that we will hear more about a bit later.
- In the past, LGC has been funded by fees to student participants. But, this year LGC is funded by the University. No fees!

- Please note that graduates can participate in Latinx Grad only once for the same degree.
- The good news is that Latinx Grad will not conflict with Commencement ceremonies. We encourage you to do both!
- Note that participants are required to wear regalia (cap and gowns) at Latinx Grad. Master's candidates should also have an academic hood. Be sure to check out the University Commencement website for information on ordering your regalia.

Next slide.

LGC Features

Watch recording of past LGC events
at <http://media.csuchico.edu>

Participants receive a commemorative honor cord, program and certificate.

The **LGC ceremony** includes:

- Processional with University Cabinet members, faculty and staff
- An emcee, a graduate speaker, a faculty or staff speaker, and a certificate presenter - nominated by participants.
- Presentation of LGC certificates
- Graduates may offer brief words of appreciation.
- A brief reception with light refreshments and DJ music follows the ceremony.



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- Some of you may be wondering: what happens at a Latinx Grad celebration? Well, here is what you can expect.
- First, participants can expect to receive a commemorative honor cord, program and certificate.
- **During the actual Latinx Grad ceremony, there is a**
 - Processional with University Cabinet members, faculty and staff
 - An emcee, a graduate speaker, a faculty or staff speaker, and a certificate presenter.
 - Presentation of Latinx Grad certificates
 - Graduates may offer brief words of appreciation. This is an great opportunity to address your guests, but it is optional.
- Note that the emcee, speakers, and certificate presenter are nominated by YOU – the participants – on the Google form provided when you reserve your spot in Latinx Grad. Hence, we encourage you to consider which Spanish-proficient Chico State faculty or staff members you may want in these roles. You can nominate yourself or a participating graduate for the graduate speaker role. The parameters of the graduate student speech will

be provided later.

- At the conclusion of each Latinx Grad ceremony, we will host a brief reception on Ayers Hall lawn with light refreshments and DJ music for you and your guests. Please be sure to join us. This is a good place to meet up with your family and guests.
- If you'd like to see more, we encourage you to view a video of the 2023 Latinx Grad ceremonies on Chico State's media archive site. <http://media.csuchico.edu>

Next slide. YVETTE is up next...

LGC Features (cont'd)

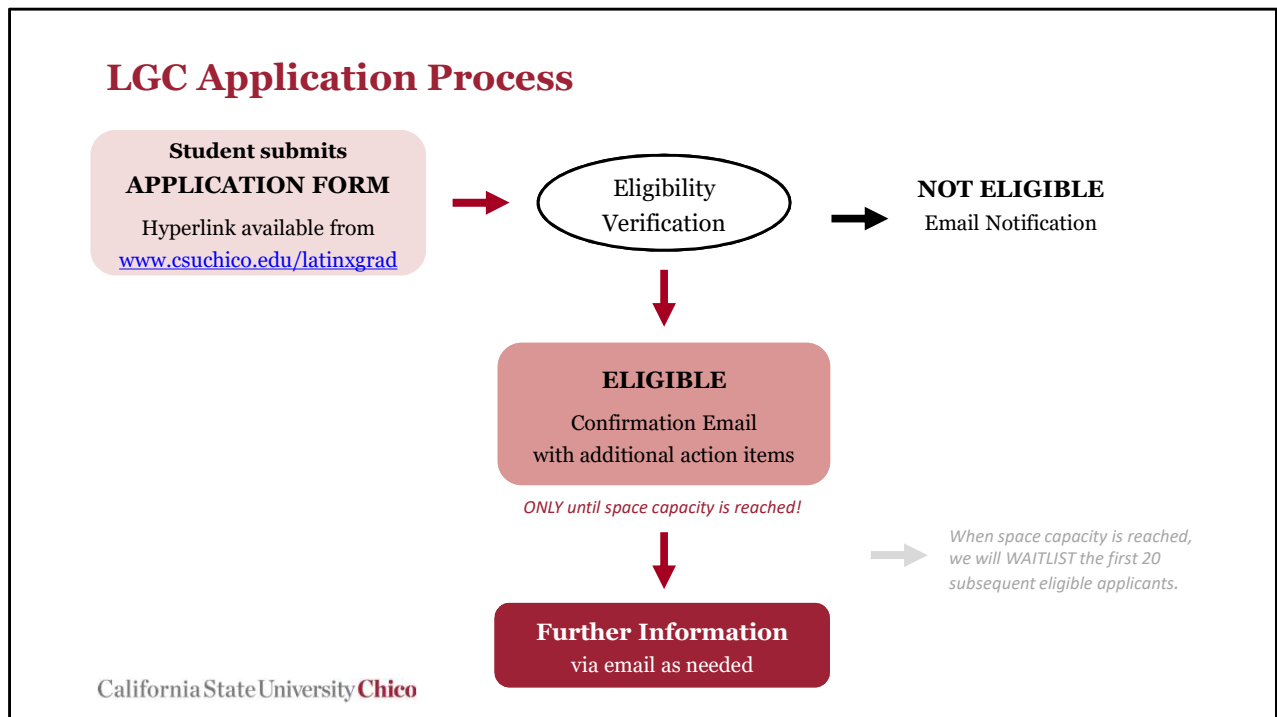


- Two events have been scheduled to accommodate more graduates and guests.
- Participants will be assigned to one event by their respective College.
- The number of guest tickets each participant will receive, and to which LGC event they have been assigned, will be determined after the LGC application processes close and will be dependent on the total number of completed LGC applications received.
- Later in the semester, a participant may request additional guest tickets, but there is no guarantee that more will be available.

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Presenter: YVETTE

- To continue with more details, recall that two events have been scheduled to accommodate more graduates and guests.
- Just like official Commencement exercises, participants will be assigned to one Latinx Grad event by their respective academic College and major. Our aim is to balance the two Latinx Grad ceremonies as best we can.
- The number of guest tickets each participant will receive and to which LGC event they have been assigned will be determined AFTER the application process close and will be dependent on the total number of participants. Participating graduates will not need a ticket for themselves.
- In the recent past, participants have received up to 8 guest tickets, but again, the number of guest ticket allocated this year, will depend on the number of participants. We will communicate more about guest tickets at our meeting in April. NEXT SLIDE



Presenter: YVETTE

- Let's review the LGC application process with a bit more detail.
- **The Latinx Grad Application will open on Tuesday, March 26, at 10:00 PM.**
- We will publish the hyperlink to the online application form on our website.
- **IMPORTANT!** Space will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis for ELIGIBLE applicants only until our capacity is reached. Past Latinx Grad events have filled fast, so we encourage you to act early!
- Please know that you will NOT receive a form submission receipt from Latinx Grad directly, but rather immediately after you submit the form, you will see an automated pop-up notice of your submission. This is proof of your form submission. Feel free to print or screen capture for your records.
- After you submit an Latinx Grad 2024 Application, our team will then VERIFY that you meet the established Latinx Grad eligibility criteria.
- We try to perform this eligibility verification on a regular basis, but it is not an automated

process, so it may be a few days or 1 week before you hear back from us. We appreciate your patience as we conduct this process.

- There are two possible outcomes from the verification process.
 - If you are deemed INELIGIBLE, then you will receive an email notification stating the reason for the ineligibility. The most common reason students are deemed ineligible is that they had not applied to graduate with the University. If your eligibility changes after we communicate our determination, it is your responsibility to let us know of a change and request a re-evaluation of your application.
 - However, the majority of applicants are deemed ELIGIBLE. Eligible applicants will receive an email confirmation from Latinx Grad notifying them that their space has been reserved. In this confirmation email, you will find further important information – be sure to review carefully. From this point forward, we invite you to continue checking your Chico State email for further information or instructions..
- If for any reason you change your mind about participating in Latinx Grad after your space has been reserved, please let us know immediately, so we can make room for another participants. Just send us an email to lgrad@csuchico.edu.
- **You may be wondering if Latinx Grad will implement a “waitlist.”** We have not done this in the past, but for this year, we will try it out. Once we reach our space capacity, we will then proceed to “waitlist” we will proceed to waitlist the first 20 subsequent eligible applications received – at this point we will close the application altogether. Should anyone participant cancel their spot, we will then proceed to our waitlist in order of application date. Waitlisted applications will be notified via email of their waitlist status and rank order.
- Remember that all this information will be accessible on our website.

Next slide. ELLI is up next...

LGC 2024 Key Dates

Informational Webinar	Thursday, March 14
Application opens	Tuesday, March 26
For Participants Only:	
Headshot Photo Sessions (sign-up required)	April 4, 12 & 18
Nominations due	Friday, April 12
Participant Mandatory Meeting	Thursday, April 18
Participant Rehearsal	Tuesday, May 7
Accommodation for Guests requests due	Tuesday, May 7
Latinx Graduation Celebration	Saturday, May 18

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- Now, let's review the key dates for Latinx Grad.
- Remember that all this information will be accessible on our website!

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Frequently Asked Questions

- Will I receive a special stole?
- How many guest tickets will I receive?
- Will I be able to request more guest tickets?
- How long is the LGC ceremony?
- Can I switch to the other LGC ceremony?
- Will the event be recorded or livestreamed?



Visit the Latinx Grad website for more FAQs and updated information!

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At this time, we would like to cover some commonly asked questions. If you have questions, please enter them into the Zoom Q&A area.

- **Will I receive a special stole?**
Participants will receive a commemorative honor cord, not a stole or sash. Graduates that have previously served on an Latinx Grad planning team will receive a special stole for their past service.
- **How many guest tickets will I receive?**
At this time, it is unknown how many guest tickets a LGC participant will receive for Laxson Auditorium. This number will depend on the total number of participating graduates which we will not know until the LGC application closes. We will be able to let you know more precisely at our April meeting. Just to give you a general idea...in the recent past, each participant has provided up to 8 guest tickets. Children, 2 years and older, will require their own ticket/seat. Participating graduates will not need a ticket for themselves.
- **Will I be able to request more guest tickets?**
At this time, this is unknown. However, if there are any extras tickets will communicate

a way to request more at our April meeting. Yet, there is no guarantee that any additional tickets will be available.

- **How long is the LGC ceremony?**

Typically the LGC ceremony runs approximately 1.5 hours in duration. Note that a brief reception follows each ceremony on Ayers Hall lawn, too. Be sure to join us at the reception! This is a great meet-up location for your guest, too, given the large crowds in front of Laxson after the event.

- **Can I switch to the other LGC ceremony?**

It is our aim to maintain a balance in the number of participants for the two LGC ceremonies. Only under a verifiable, unique and extenuating circumstance will a participant receive approval for a request to switch out of their assigned ceremony and into the other. Email us if you have such a mitigating situation AFTER our April meeting. *(Provide an example of an extenuating reason and a counter-example: You have an immediate family member in the other ceremony. A counter-example is requesting a change because your best friend or roommate is in the other ceremony or I have to get ready for a grad party.)*

- **Will the event be recorded or livestreamed?**

We are working with the University on alternative ways to watch Latinx Grad. At this time, we cannot confirm details but will keep everyone posted as details become available. However, it is our hope that the event will be recorded and livestreamed via the internet.

- **Be sure to visit our website for additional FAQs and updated information!**

- Now, we will respond to your questions in the Q&A.

Next slide. CHUY is up next.

Commencement - Important Dates and Announcements

March 1: Deadline to apply to graduate if you want to be in the Commencement program and T-Shirt

March 6: Kick-off to Commencement season begins at GradFest! Register to walk in your ceremony

March 6 - May 9: Cap and Gown Pre-Orders

April 17: Deadline to register to walk at commencement

April 23: Senior Send-Off and Regalia Available for Pick-Up

May 6: Walk-in rental and purchases for cap and gown

May 8: Digital GradPasses will be distributed



Don't
Forget!

www.csuchico.edu/commencement

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- We know that this is a busy time for you, so please be reminded that the Commencement Office has their own set of deadlines.
- These dates include how to register to participate in Commencement exercises, as well as, the time frame to reserve your cap and gown (also known as regalia).
- Please visit the Commencement website for more information.

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Thank You ~ Gracias

We look forward to celebrating with you, your familias and guests!



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Thank you for attending! We look forward to celebrating with you, your familias and guests!

Recall that the online Latinx Grad Application opens on March 26! Spaces will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis for eligible applicants only!

Have a good evening.