

# FAQs About Parade Entries

44th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival – Saturday, March 14, 2026

## I submitted my application — why haven't I heard back?

If it's been more than **3 days** since you applied and you haven't received a confirmation email:

- **Check your spam/junk folder.**
- If you still don't see anything, email the Entries Team at:  
**IrishCongressParadeEntries@gmail.com**

*Note: If your email address was entered incorrectly on the JotForm application, you will not receive a response.*

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## What time do I need to check in and be in position for the parade?

You will receive your **zone assignment and check-in time** once the parade lineup is finalized (typically 1 week before the parade). However, here are general timing guidelines:

### General Parade Day Info:

- **Entries Booth Opens:** 7:00 AM
- **Last Check-In Time:** 9:45 AM
- **Booth Closes:** 10:00 AM sharp

### Staging Group Check-In Times:

- **Zones 1–4:** 7:30 AM – 8:45 AM
- **Zones 5–6:** 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

### Note for School Bands and Equestrian Groups:

You **must arrive before 8:30 AM** due to special staging in the **Marston Loop** (Balboa Dr.).

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## When will the Final Entries List and Parade Lineup be released?

- **Final Accepted Entries List:** Posted one week after the application deadline (**February 17**).
- **Parade Lineup:** Released via email and on the ICSC website **one week before the parade** to allow for any final route adjustments.

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## **Where can I park, and are parking passes available?**

- **Parking passes are not issued** to general parade entries.
- Passes are reserved for **Dignitaries** or entries with special permission from the Entry Committee Chair.
- General parking is available **on nearby streets or public lots** outside the parade route.
  - Parking & Shuttle Map: [stpatsparade.org/parade-location--route.html](http://stpatsparade.org/parade-location--route.html)
- **Free trolley shuttles** are available from Balboa Park parking areas.
  - Shuttle Info: [stpatsparade.org/parking--shuttle-routes.html](http://stpatsparade.org/parking--shuttle-routes.html)

### **Street Closures (6 AM – 3 PM):**

Hawthorne to Upas (between 5th & 6th Ave) + Balboa Dr. and surrounding cross streets.

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## **Where do buses and trailers park (e.g., for school groups or equestrian entries)?**

We reserve space in the **Marston Loop (Balboa Dr.)** in Balboa Park.

- Specific instructions will be sent to bus and trailer groups in **late February to early March**.
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## **Can I request to be near another entry?**

Yes, you may submit a request, but we **cannot guarantee placement together**.

We do our best to accommodate pairing and proximity where logistically possible.

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## **Can I request a specific spot or placement in the lineup?**

You may make a special request, but final placement depends on:

- Group type (e.g., animals, bands, vehicles)
- Safety/staging logistics
- Spacing needs

Example: We try to avoid placing walking groups directly behind horses or loud vehicles, but **last-minute changes** (such as cancellations) may alter final positions.

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## **Where do I check in on Parade Day?**

Check-in is located at the **Entries Table at 6th Ave & Juniper St.**

- One representative from your group must check in and collect your **Entry Number.**
- This number must be **clearly visible on the FRONT** of your lead vehicle or lead marcher.
  - Bring **tape, string, or safety pins** to attach your number.
  - Maps and staging help will be available at check-in.

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## **Can I drop off parade participants?**

Yes.

The best drop-off areas are:

- **Corner of 5th Ave & Fir St** (parade closure border)
- **4th Avenue** as an alternate

Let event personnel know you are **dropping off parade participants** so they can assist.

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## **How do I know my group's parade number or staging location?**

Please **do not contact the Entries Team** for individual numbers.

Your **group leader or contact person** will receive all information directly and is responsible for sharing it with the rest of the group.

Help us stay organized by going through your group coordinator first!