COMMENCEMENT GUIDE
Information and instructions for graduates, families and guests

Thursday, May 4, 2023
Friday, May 5, 2023
Wayne State Fieldhouse
1290 W. Warren Avenue, Detroit

wayne.edu/commencement
# CONTENTS

**CEREMONY SCHEDULE** ................................................................. 1
**ACADEMIC REGALIA** ................................................................. 2
**COMMENCEMENT EXTRAS** ....................................................... 3

Announcements, rings and diploma frames ........................................ 3
Honors collars and cords .................................................................. 3

**TICKETS AND SEATING** ............................................................. 4

Graduate Access Pass ...................................................................... 4
Guest tickets .................................................................................. 4

**WAYNE STATE FIELDHOUSE DIRECTIONS AND PARKING** ........ 5

Directions ..................................................................................... 5
Parking .......................................................................................... 5
Accessible parking ........................................................................ 5
Traffic ............................................................................................ 5

**GRADUATION DAY** .................................................................. 6

Arrival times and graduate entry ...................................................... 6
Name pronunciation card ................................................................ 6
Graduate seating ............................................................................ 6
Processional .................................................................................... 7
Physically challenged graduates ...................................................... 7

**GUEST INFORMATION** ............................................................. 8

Guest entry .................................................................................... 8
Prohibited items ............................................................................ 8
Guest seating ................................................................................ 8
Wheelchair/mobility-limitation seating ............................................ 9
Interpreting services ...................................................................... 9
Flowers .......................................................................................... 9
First aid ......................................................................................... 9
Program book distribution ............................................................... 10

**CEREMONY INFORMATION** .................................................... 11

Commencement etiquette ................................................................ 11
The ceremony ............................................................................... 11
Announcing of graduate names ..................................................... 11
Diploma march .............................................................................. 11
Graduate photographs ................................................................... 11
Recessional ................................................................................... 12
Meeting after the ceremony .......................................................... 12

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** .................................................. 13

Program book ............................................................................... 13
Distinction and honors .................................................................. 13
Web broadcast .............................................................................. 14
Degree status ................................................................................ 14
Financial obligations ..................................................................... 14
Duplicate copy of diploma ............................................................. 14
Lodging ......................................................................................... 15

**QUESTIONS** .......................................................................... 15

**CAMPUS MAP** ......................................................................... 16

**NOTES** ................................................................................... 17

**MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** ....................... 18
Graduates,

Congratulations on your graduation from Wayne State University! It’s almost time to celebrate your academic achievements with your family and guests at the May 2023 commencement ceremonies.

Commencement provides the university an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of its graduates and share in the excitement with faculty, administration, staff, fellow graduates, and family and guests.

Commencement is an exciting and memorable occasion for all our graduates, but it is also a solemn one. Leaving before the ceremony has ended is disrespectful to others. Graduates and their guests are expected to remain for the entire ceremony. The last graduate to cross the stage should expect to receive the same honor as the first, so please show consideration until the conclusion of the ceremony.

The information included here will assist you in preparing for your special day. This guide includes important instructions for you, your family and your guests. Please read the guide carefully to ensure your milestone event is a joyous and memorable one.

Congratulations, and best of luck on your future endeavors!

Office of University Commencement
CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Wayne State Fieldhouse
1290 W. Warren Avenue, Detroit

Doors to the Wayne State Fieldhouse will open 90 minutes before each ceremony. Ceremonies will last approximately 90 minutes.

THURSDAY, MAY 4
Ceremony I - 9 a.m.
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (sciences)
Degrees offered by the following departments and programs:
Applied mathematics, astronomy, audiology, biological sciences, biological sciences and urban sustainability, biochemistry and chemical biology, biomedical physics, chemistry, communication sciences and disorders, criminal justice, dietetics, economics, environmental science, geology, mathematical economics, mathematics, mathematical statistics, molecular biotechnology, neuroscience, nutrition and food science, physics, political science, public health, speech language pathology, statistics

Ceremony II - 2 p.m.
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (arts)
Degrees offered by the following departments and programs:
African American studies; anthropology and urban sustainability; Asian studies; classics; creative writing; employment and labor relations; English; gender, sexuality and women’s studies; general studies; German studies; global studies; history; industrial and organizational psychology; labor studies; language learning; linguistics; modern languages; Near Eastern languages; peace and conflict studies; philosophy; psychology; public affairs; Romance languages and literature; Slavic studies; sociology; urban planning; urban studies

Ceremony III - 7 p.m.
Mike Ilitch School of Business

FRIDAY, MAY 5
Ceremony IV - 10 a.m.
College of Nursing
School of Social Work

Ceremony V – 2:30 p.m.
College of Education
College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts
School of Information Sciences
School of Medicine (master’s)

Ceremony VI - 7 p.m.
College of Engineering
Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Ceremonies will last approximately 90 minutes.

Note: Walking in commencement does not constitute graduation or guarantee that you will receive your diploma. Check with your school or college advisor to confirm all degree requirements have been met.
All graduates must wear academic regalia for their ceremony. Oak Hall is the official university vendor for all caps and gowns. Caps and gowns may be purchased at the WSU Bookstore or at waynestate.shopoakhalli.com. Online orders must be placed by April 1.

**BACHELOR’S AND MASTER’S CANDIDATES**
The bachelor’s cap and gown is $68.98 plus tax. The master’s gown, cap and hood is $114.98 plus tax.

**DOCTORAL CANDIDATES**
Doctoral degree candidates (Pharm.D./Aud.D./DPT/DNP) wear doctoral regalia that may be purchased through the WSU Bookstore. The regalia includes doctoral black gown, doctoral hood and tam. The cost for doctoral regalia is $206.98 plus tax.

Regalia may be purchased at the WSU Bookstore during normal business hours: Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed Sunday. The bookstore accepts cash, check, credit card and OneCard. Call the bookstore at 313-577-2436 with any questions.
ANNOUNCEMENTS, RINGS AND DIPLOMA FRAMES
Announcements and class rings may be ordered from Herrf Jones (herffjones.com) or Jostens (jostens.com), the official university vendors for announcements and class rings. Please visit their websites for additional information. Diploma frames may also be purchased at the WSU Bookstore.

HONORS COLLARS AND CORDS
Students who qualify for departmental or university honors will receive a special gold collar to wear with their cap and gown. Students completing the graduation requirements for the Community of Scholars will receive a blue cord to wear with their cap and gown. The Irvin D. Reid Honors College will notify you if you have met the criteria to receive either distinction. Please contact the college at honors@wayne.edu if you have any questions. The Commencement Office does not issue honor collars or cords.
TICKETS AND SEATING

Graduate and guest tickets will be available through an online ticket ordering system. Eligible graduates will receive the ordering information and link in early April through their Wayne State email.

GRADUATE ACCESS PASS
All graduates participating in commencement are required to have a Graduate Access Pass for admission to Matthaei Physical Education Center and the Wayne State Fieldhouse.

GUEST TICKETS
Tickets are required for all guests attending commencement. Each eligible student may receive four (4) guest tickets. Additional tickets are not available. Tickets must be presented for entry to the fieldhouse. All guests must have a ticket, no matter the age. Guests will not be admitted without a ticket. Guest seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note: Strollers, car seats and infant carriers are not allowed in the fieldhouse.
DIRECTIONS
The Wayne State Fieldhouse is located at 1290 W. Warren Avenue, Detroit.

From the west – Take I-94 east. Exit at Trumbull Avenue. Continue straight on service drive, then right on Warren Avenue.

From the east – Take I-94 west. Exit at Woodward/Brush Avenues. Remain on Ford Service Drive to Woodward Avenue. Turn left on Woodward Avenue, going south to Warren Avenue. Turn right onto Warren Avenue. Continue west on Warren Avenue to Lodge Freeway (M-10) overpass.

From the north – Take I-75 south to Warren Avenue exit. Turn right onto Warren Avenue. Continue west on Warren Avenue to Lodge Freeway (M-10) overpass.

From the south – Take I-75 north to Lodge Freeway (M-10) north. Exit at Forest/Warren Avenues. Turn left onto Warren Avenue (second light). Cross over Lodge Freeway.

From Windsor – Start out going northeast on Fort Street West/M-3 toward St. Anne Street (1.2 miles). Turn left onto Lodge Freeway (M-10) north (1.5 miles). Exit at Forest/Warren Avenues. Turn left onto Warren Avenue (second light).

PARKING
Complimentary parking for graduates and guests will be available in Structure 2, located at 5150 John C. Lodge, and Lot 50, located at 1200 W. Warren Avenue.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING
A limited number of disabled parking spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis in Lot 50, located at 1200 W. Warren Avenue. A disabled license plate or hangtag is required to access these spaces.

TRAFFIC
Expect busier-than-usual conditions on the freeways and surface streets on campus before and after the ceremony. You are encouraged to arrive early to reduce traffic congestion.
ARRIVAL TIMES AND GRADUATE ENTRY
Graduates must arrive one hour before the ceremony start time and report to Matthaei Physical Education Center for assembly. Remember to bring your Graduate Access Pass. Guests should report to the fieldhouse for seating.

Graduates should arrive in their academic regalia (cap and gown). Be sure to wear the tassel you were issued with your cap and gown; tassels are color-coded to signify the college/school granting the degree. Tassels should be on the right side for graduates receiving bachelor’s degrees. Master’s and doctoral candidates should have their tassels on the left, signifying their previous degree or degrees.

Please dress appropriately and wear comfortable footwear. As a safety precaution, spiked or high-heeled shoes are not recommended, as you will be walking on cement and will need to ascend and descend stairs during the ceremony. Please note, there is a “no-bag” policy at the fieldhouse. Please leave coats, handbags and all valuables at home or with your guests.

NAME PRONUNCIATION CARD
Upon arrival to Matthaei Physical Education Center, graduates will need to complete a name pronunciation card, which they will hand to the name announcer during the diploma march. Instructions for phonetic descriptions will be listed on the card. You will then be directed to your college/school seating area.

GRADUATE SEATING
Graduates will be seated according to college, school and degree. There is no rehearsal prior to the ceremony. All graduates must be in their seats in the Matthaei Physical Education Center 30 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony to receive important instructions and directions. If you arrive late, you may not be seated with your school/college and may be seated in the overflow seating section of the fieldhouse. Please arrive on time.
PROCEDENTIAL
The processional to the Wayne State Fieldhouse will begin 15 minutes before the ceremony start time. Marshals will lead the processional and will direct graduates to their assigned seating in the fieldhouse.

The sequence of the processional is as follows: graduates; faculty members; and members of the platform party, including the Board of Governors, President M. Roy Wilson, university administration, deans and honored guests.

The ceremony will begin when everyone is seated. **Graduates are required to remain for the entire ceremony.**

PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED GRADUATES
If you will need assistance ascending and descending the stage during the ceremony, please contact the Office of University Commencement at 313-577-0300.
GUEST ENTRY

Guests will enter through the main entrance doors to the Wayne State Fieldhouse. Tickets will be scanned upon entry.

To ensure the highest level of safety and security, all guests are subject to a screening upon entering the fieldhouse; security measures include screening via walk-through metal detectors. There is a “no-bag” policy for the fieldhouse. Hand-held clutches and medical bags are allowed upon inspection.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

The following items are not permitted in the Wayne State Fieldhouse. This policy is strictly enforced.

- Weapons of any kind (including weapons accompanied by a valid CPL permit and pocket knives)
- Aerosol cans (hair spray, mace, pepper spray, etc.)
- All bags and purses
- Backpacks, luggage, grocery bags, large camera cases
- Balloons (air or helium)
- Balls (beach balls, footballs, baseballs, etc.)
- Banners
- Cameras with lenses longer than five inches
- Coolers of any kind, including small soft-pack coolers
- Food, beverages or liquid (cans, bottles or boxes)
- Laser pointers
- Noisemaking devices (balls, horns, kazoos, whistles, etc.)
- Strollers and infant/car seats or carriers
- Umbrellas
- Utility tools

The Wayne State Fieldhouse reserves the right to expand or modify the list of prohibited items at any time.

GUEST SEATING

Guests should enter the fieldhouse at the main entrance. Guests are admitted by ticket only. Guest seating is open and available on a first-
come, first-served basis. Seats may not be saved. Please have everyone in your party arrive at the same time. University staff will assist guests with seating. All guests should be seated 30 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. Guests and graduates are expected to remain for the entire ceremony. The main entrance doors will be closed when the processional begins and will reopen when graduates are seated.

**WHEELCHAIR/MOBILITY-LIMITATION SEATING**

The fieldhouse has limited wheelchair seating. Guests arriving in a wheelchair should ask a staff member for assistance to the special needs seating area.

Guests with mobility limitations or who have difficulty walking are encouraged to bring their own wheelchair. The university does not provide wheelchairs for guests.

Every effort will be made to try and seat guests together; however, disability seating is limited and, due to space constraints, an escort may not be able to accompany the guest to the special seating area.

**INTERPRETING SERVICES**

Sign language interpreters will be provided during the ceremonies. Interpreters will not be signing individual names during the diploma march.

**FLOWERS**

Commencement Flowers will have floral bouquets and gifts for your special graduate available for sale on the main concourse or outside the building. You may pre-order floral bouquets and a commemorative T-shirt at [thecommencementgroup.com/waynestate](http://thecommencementgroup.com/waynestate) for pickup on commencement day.

**FIRST AID**

First aid is available during all ceremonies. Please contact a staff member if assistance is needed.
GUEST INFORMATION

PROGRAM BOOK DISTRIBUTION
Program books will be available at seating entrances for guests. Graduates will receive a program book upon arrival.
COMMENCEMENT ETIQUETTE
Commencement is an exciting and memorable occasion for all of our graduates, but it is also a solemn one. Leaving before the ceremony has ended is disruptive and disrespectful to others. Graduates and their guests are expected to remain for the entire ceremony.

The last graduate to cross the stage should expect to receive the same honor as the first, so please show consideration for all graduates by remaining seated until the conclusion of the ceremony.

Please refrain from excessive talking, cheering, use of noisemakers and other distractions, as this takes away from the dignity of the ceremony. Cellphones, beepers and watches with alarms can also be distracting. Out of respect for all graduates and guests, please switch all of your electronic equipment to silent, vibrate or off.

THE CEREMONY
Each ceremony will feature greetings by university officials, a student speaker, the awarding of honorary degrees, conferral of degrees and the diploma march, during which the graduates’ names will be called.

ANNOUNCING OF GRADUATE NAMES
Graduates’ names will be announced during the diploma march. Name pronunciation cards will be given to each graduate upon arrival.

DIPLOMA MARCH
Each graduate is presented with a special diploma cover during the diploma march. Diplomas are mailed approximately four to six weeks after degrees have been certified.
CEREMONY INFORMATION

GRADUATE PHOTOGRAPHS
Grad Images is the official university commencement photographer. They will be at commencement to take graduate photos during the ceremony. You will receive information from them via email and by mail. Find out more about their services at gradimages.com.

RECESSSIONAL
Following the ceremonial recognition of the graduates, the platform party and faculty will leave the theatre during the recessional march. Graduates and guests should remain seated until they have exited the theatre. The commencement emcee will dismiss the graduates and guests.

MEETING AFTER THE CEREMONY
Please be sure to communicate with your guests where to meet after the ceremony. We highly recommend you choose to meet outside or at a location you are all familiar with.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PROGRAM BOOK
The graduate’s name will appear in the program book as it was typed or written on the degree application. There will be no program reprints to accommodate incorrect spelling or missing names because of late degree applications. Due to publication deadlines, names and honors added to or changed on the graduation list after March 10 will not appear in the program book.

Student names were submitted for the program book by their school or college. If a student’s name does not appear in the program book, they should contact their school or college degree coordinator or the Office of Records at 313-577-3531 to verify graduation eligibility.

DISTINCTION AND HONORS
Wayne State University bestows upon students completing the baccalaureate degree three separate designations for scholastic excellence reflected in the cumulative honor point average. Graduation with Distinction recognizes the top 20% of students in each college/school who have earned the highest honor point average: summa cum laude (top 5%), magna cum laude (next 5%) and cum laude (next 10%). To be eligible for consideration, students must have accumulated 56 or more hours in residence at Wayne State University. Graduation with Distinction will be noted in the program book as well as indicated on the student’s diploma and on the transcript. This practice is observed at the undergraduate level only. If you have any questions, please contact your academic advisor.

Students who have achieved distinction by completing the requirements for department and/or university honors are designated in the program book by (DH) for department honors and/or (UH) for university honors. Students graduating with honors conferred by departments, schools and colleges, and the Irvin D. Reid Honors College are eligible to wear a gold collar in recognition of their achievements. Students will be notified by the college or school if they have met the requirements.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WEB BROADCAST
For friends and family members who are unable to attend, livestreaming video will be available at wayne.edu/live for each ceremony.

DEGREE STATUS
Diplomas will be mailed following certification of your degree. If you have questions about the status of your diploma, please email the Office of the Registrar at graduation@wayne.edu.

Walking in commencement does not constitute graduation. Check with your school or college to confirm you have met all graduation requirements.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS
Your diploma or official transcript cannot be released if you have financial obligations to the university. For questions about financial matters, contact Student Accounts Receivable at 313-577-3653.

DUPLICATE COPY OF DIPLOMA
To order a duplicate copy of your diploma, please visit wayne.edu/registrar/pdfs/diploma-reorder.pdf.

You may also mail a written or typed request to:

Wayne State University
Office of the Registrar
Attention: Graduation
5057 Woodward Ave., fifth floor
Detroit, MI 48202

Include your name, address, phone number, WSU identification number or Social Security number, year graduated, type of degree (example: bachelor’s, master’s, Ph.D., Ed.D. or certificate), and a processing fee of $40 (payable by check or money order to Wayne State University). Credit cards are not accepted. Requests usually take five business days.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

LODGING
For lodging information for out-of-town guests, please contact the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-DETROIT (338-7648) or visitdetroit.com.

QUESTIONS
- For questions regarding degree applications or diploma status, contact your advisor or the Office of the Registrar at graduation@wayne.edu.
- For questions concerning academic status, contact your advisor in your college or school.
- For questions regarding caps and gowns, announcements, rings, or diploma frames, call the WSU Bookstore at 313-577-2436.
- For questions regarding the commencement ceremonies, call 313-577-0300 or visit wayne.edu/commencement.
MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Congratulations!

The Wayne State University Alumni Association is proud to welcome you to a community of more than 294,000 proud alumni.

alumni.wayne.edu  go.wayne.edu/give
Congratulations!
The Wayne State University Alumni Association is proud to welcome you to a community of more than 294,000 proud alumni.

Class of 2023
Wayne State University Board of Governors
Mark Gaffney, chair, Shirley Stancato, vice chair, Danielle Atkinson, Bryan C. Barnhill II, Michael Busuito, Marilyn Kelly, Anil Kumar, Terri Lynn Land, M. Roy Wilson, ex officio

STAY SOCIAL
wayne.edu/social
#MyWSUStory
Twitter @WayneState
Instagram @WayneState
Facebook @WayneStateUniversity