



## Graduate Commencement Ceremony Directions

Every graduate intending to participate in the Graduate Commencement Exercises on Thursday, May 18, 2023, must be in an assigned seat in the Rodgers Recreation Center by 2PM. If you are not in place by that time, your name will be pulled from the list, and will not be called during the ceremony.

**There can be no exceptions.**

Please allow yourself and your family plenty of time for traveling to the University, finding a parking place, preparing your attire for the procession, and locating your seat in the hall. Directions for the academic procession will be given at this time. Before leaving home, be certain that you have your cap, gown, tassel, academic hood.

1. Professional staff will direct you to your assigned seat in Rodgers Recreation Center.
2. Be certain you remain in your seat until the procession is formed.
3. Full academic regalia (including a cap) is required. Only University-recognized cords, stoles or pins may be worn on the outside of the gown.
4. Students being awarded graduate degrees should wear tassels over the **left** eye.
5. The order of the procession will be as follows:
  - Ph.D.
  - DNP
  - Master of Arts
  - Master of Science
  - Master of Business Administration
6. **Be certain to remain in the exact order in which you are placed for the procession.**
7. FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF THE CANDIDATE MARSHAL AT ALL TIMES.
8. Once the Marshals have led you to your seat, **remain standing**. The Master of Ceremonies will announce the time to sit.

All degree candidates will be led by the Marshals up the **center aisle** to the ramp on the **left**. Another Marshal will double check that you are in the right order. When directed, hand your card to the reader, then walk across the stage to The President. Receive the diploma with your **left** hand and accept her handshake with your **right** hand.

9. Continue to walk off the stage, descending the **right ramp**. It is important that everyone return by the **side aisle** to keep the center aisle open.
10. **As a courtesy to all graduates, we ask that you remain present for the entire ceremony.**
11. At the close of the ceremony, the Flag Bearers will lead the President's Party, the Faculty, and graduates out of the tent.