

## Day-of Instructions

1. **Arrive at 11:45 a.m.** at the west entrance of Matthew Knight Arena.

*Please note: a clear bag policy is in effect at Matthew Knight Arena. Guests are limited to one clear bag per person, along with a small clutch or purse for privacy or medical needs. [For additional details on the clear bag policy, visit the website here.](#)*

2. **Check in and pick up your name card.** Your name card is required to enter the line-up area and is your ticket to the stage. All graduates will have a card, whether you registered for the ceremony or not; however, if you did not confirm your information, some details may be inaccurate. Students are not required to sit in alphabetical order, so if you'd like to sit with someone, be sure they are immediately in front of or behind you when you line up before entering the auditorium.

*Please note: if you have more than one concentration, they will be displayed as you walk across the stage. Your card will only show your first concentration.*

3. **Complete the career survey** (if you haven't already) and drop it off at the checkpoint table prior to going downstairs to line up.
4. **Follow the cues of the staff.** They will guide you to your seats. Faculty will enter the arena first and graduates will follow.
5. **The name card is your ticket to the stage, so be sure to bring it with you when you approach the stage!** Your card will be scanned as you approach the stage, and your information will be projected on the screens. If you do lose your card, we will have blank cards at the stage which will display "Congratulations graduate" as you cross the stage.
6. **Return to your seat** for the remainder of the ceremony. At the end of the ceremony, you will be cued when it's time for your row to leave. Please wait for staff to cue you to exit.
7. **Graduates and their loved ones are invited to join us for a reception** in the Lillis Business Complex immediately after the ceremony (around 3:00 p.m.). Refreshments will be served.
8. If you wish to donate your regalia to a future graduate, you may leave it in one of the designated donation bins around campus.

**Please note that Commencement is a substance-free event:** to ensure a positive experience for graduates, their guests, and the university community, UO Commencement is a substance-free event except for formal receptions, where alcohol is served in OLCC-regulated locations. This includes all activities and applies to indoor and outdoor individual school/college/department ceremonies. Students found in possession of prohibited substances could be subject to sanctions, including but not limited to confiscation of the substance(s), being denied access to commencement activities, or notification to law enforcement of any illegal substances.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Do I need tickets for my guests?

No, we will have plenty of excellent seats in Matthew Knight Arena. There is no need to arrive excessively early, as there will be plenty of seating.

### Can my guests come with me into the line-up area?

Due to space limitations, we are not able to accommodate guests in the graduate assembly area. Only graduates and faculty are permitted in this area.

### Some of my guests are in wheelchairs. Where do they sit?

Matthew Knight Arena has accessible seating. Commencement staff will be available to direct guests to accessible seating areas. We ask all guests to be mindful of families that would like to sit together and leave the seats near the wheelchair area available for these families. If you have a large party, please limit the number sitting with your guest in the wheelchair area to one and have the rest of your group sit in the row right in front.

### Do we sit in alphabetical order?

No, you may sit with whomever you choose. While we try to keep people together, please be prepared that line breaks occasionally mean people get split up. We appreciate your flexibility as we attempt to get nearly 700 people seated quickly. If you'd like to sit with someone, be sure they are immediately in front of or behind you in the line.

### How long is the ceremony?

The ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. and ends around 3:00 pm.

### How do I find my guests after the ceremony?

We strongly urge you to identify a post-commencement meeting spot prior to the ceremony. Please keep in mind, guests and graduates will not be permitted to linger on the concourse outside of Matthew Knight Arena, as another ceremony immediately follows ours.

### When will I get my diploma?

Your diploma will be mailed to you from the Registrar's Office 4-6 weeks following commencement.

### My guests have difficulty walking long distances. How do they get from Matthew Knight Arena down to Lillis for the reception after the ceremony?

Golf carts and the ADA Access Shuttle will be available to transport people who need assistance. Guests are encouraged to inquire at the information booth at Matthew Knight Arena, the corner of 13th and University Streets, or "flag down" a golf cart. Commencement staff will also be available to assist in obtaining golf cart transportation.

### Where are my guests supposed to park?

All guests should plan to park at Autzen stadium and take the shuttle to campus. The shuttle will stop at Matthew Knight Arena. **There will be no public parking available on campus other than those with designated ADA placards/plates.** Additional [information about parking and transportation on campus during commencement](#) are available here.