



GRADUATION CELEBRATION

DATE: Monday, May 17, 2021

CEREMONY TIME: 3:00 pm

LOCATION: LJVM Coliseum

PARKING:

- [Parking Map](#)
- Parking lots will open 1 hour before the ceremony start time
- Graduates (if not riding with ceremony guests)
Park in the Mountain Dew Lot - enter from either University Parkway or Deacon Blvd
- Graduates arriving with their guests (including guest parking)
Park in the Pepsi Lot - enter from University Parkway

ARRIVAL:

- Graduates – Plan to arrive by 2:00 pm
- Guests - Doors to the coliseum open 30 minutes prior to the ceremony start

GRADUATES:

What to wear and bring

- Wear your cap, gown & hood.
- Consider carefully your choice of shoes. Stairs will be part of the processional, recessional, and entering and exiting the ceremony platform.
- You are encouraged to not bring a bag. All bags will be searched at entry.
- You may not bring in any food or drink. Bottled water will be provided for you at your seat.
- **Masks must be worn.** Solid-colored masks or masks with a Wake Forest themed print are preferred.

When to arrive and where to go

- **You need to arrive at 2:00 pm.**
- You will enter the coliseum through the Allegacy Room entrance (Mountain Dew Lot) where you will be directed to a backstage area of the concourse. This entrance is for graduates and faculty only. *Guests will enter the coliseum through the main entrance beginning at 2:30pm.*
- Tailgating is not allowed before or after the ceremony.

Check In

- Graduate School staff will check you in and hand you a numbered card with your name and degree. This card will be used to announce your name. **DO NOT LOSE THIS CARD!** You will hold onto it through the processional, while seated and then take the card to the platform.
- Line up in numerical order behind the degree sign corresponding to your name card.
- Procession will be in two lines so stay on the side designated for your degree group.
- Turn off your cell phone before you begin to process.

Processional and seating

- Faculty marshals will lead you onto the floor of the coliseum and direct you to your seat.
- Do not leave any empty seats between you and the next person.
- Remain standing until after the invocation.



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Instructions for Graduates

- When your degree is called, you will stand as a group. President Hatch will confer your degree and you will be seated.
- After the conferral of all degrees, you will again stand when your degree group is called.
- A faculty marshal will direct you to the platform. **Take your name card with you.**
- Just before crossing the platform, you will hand off the name card for your name to be read.
- You may then remove your mask if you choose to do so.
- As your name is called, you will cross the platform and receive a diploma cover.
- After exiting the platform, there will be a backdrop for a photo by a professional photographer.
- Immediately after your photo is taken, you will need to re-mask as you return to your seat.

Recessional

- Once the benediction has been given and the music begins, please stand.
- The platform party and faculty will exit first.
- Wait for the faculty marshal to direct you.
- You will join the faculty and graduate recessional leading out of the building. You must return to your vehicle in the Mountain Dew Lot or meet your parents/guests in the Pepsi Lot.
- All guests and graduates will be asked to not linger.

Scroll down to see information for your guests.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Information for Your Guests

- Tailgating is not currently allowed under Wake Forest Athletics policy. We ask that guests and graduates promptly depart the parking areas after the conclusion of their ceremony.
- No food or drink can be brought into the facilities, and concession stands will not be open. Guests may bring in one factory-sealed water bottle.
- Wake Forest is encouraging guests not to bring a bag. All bags will be searched before entering.
- Guests will enter the coliseum from the main doors at the front of the building.
- Guests with assigned seating in sections 103 - 108 should enter through the west lobby. Guests with assigned seating in sections 118 - 123 should enter through the east lobby. There will be signage.
- Please proceed directly to your seats, maintaining 6 feet of distance between you and other guests.
- Ticket holders must sit in their reserved seats and may not move seats to sit closer to or interact with attendees located in other seating clusters.
- Following the event, please promptly exit the LJM Coliseum, always maintaining 6' of social distance between you and the next ticket pair.
- Guests will not exit until all graduates and faculty have exited the building.
- After the ceremony, plan to meet your graduate at your car; do not gather in the concourse or immediately outside the venue so that social distance can be maintained.
- The Wake Forest Bookstore will be set up for sales (including flowers) outside the Coliseum. Any gifts for graduates should remain in vehicles.
- There will not be an opportunity to visit with graduates inside the Coliseum. All faculty, graduates, and guests will be directed to promptly exit the Coliseum at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Important Notes

- **Please do not bring extra guests to the venue to ask for an extra ticket.**
 - We will not have extra tickets available; two tickets is the limit for each graduate. Guests must sit in the seat indicated on their ticket. Ushers will be checking tickets to ensure guests are seated in the correct seats in an effort to comply with current COVID protocols.
 - **Guests may enter the ceremony at any point in time during the event. We cannot give away seats if someone has not arrived by the start of the event.**
 - Bringing people who do not have a ticket will slow down the process of admitting guests, and with so many ceremonies, it is important that all events start on time. People who arrive without a ticket will be asked to return to their vehicles.

Public Health Requirements

- Everyone attending commencement events is expected to self-monitor for any symptoms of illness and to not attend events if not feeling well. Guests who are currently in quarantine or isolation, who are awaiting the results of a COVID test, and/or who are experiencing [COVID symptoms](#), are not allowed to attend Commencement events in person.
- **Face masks are required at all events, both indoors and outdoors, and must be worn at all times, regardless of your vaccination status.** Please see [this website](#) for mask specifications; note that gaiters are not allowed.



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- Guests must maintain six feet of social distance from others (except for the other guest with whom they are attending the event), regardless of vaccination status. This applies to parking lots, lines to enter venues, restrooms, common spaces, etc.
- Guests must follow all posted signs and instructions.
- All COVID-19 requirements will be enforced at the discretion of Wake Forest staff, Wake Forest University Police Department, and the Winston-Salem Police Department. Wake Forest University reserves the right to remove or refuse entry to any person for any reason.