



Welcome, Family and Friends!

Commencement Ceremony Guest Information

UPDATED: February 10, 2022

Commencement represents one of your graduate's most memorable life experiences. It is our sincere hope that this information is helpful and ensures that the celebration of this important milestone is just as enjoyable and memorable for you.

James A. Rhodes Arena

Commencement ceremonies will be held at the James A. Rhodes Arena, 373 Carroll Street, Akron, 44325. All guests may enter the Arena through the main doors located along Carroll Street.

Parking

Guests are encouraged to park in the East Campus Parking Deck located at the intersection of Spicer and Carroll Streets. Surface lot parking is also available along Spicer and Carroll Streets. Vehicles with disability placards/plates will be able to park in Lot 2 and Lot 8, both accessible from Carroll St.

Ceremony Guest Seating

Graduates will have access to five (5) guest tickets each. Each guest must have a ticket to enter, including infants and children in laps. Doors will open one hour prior to the start of each ceremony. For the comfort and safety of all guests, please plan to remain seated until the conclusion of the commencement ceremony.

Please be aware that all seating in the venue is a combination of stadium seating and bleacher seating. None of the seats are padded, and many do not have seatbacks. All seating is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Accommodations for Guests with Special Needs

Guest requiring accessible seating should plan to arrive no later than one hour prior to the ceremony to ensure that their needs are comfortably accommodated. Ushers will be available to provide assistance.

Accessible seating is available to those guests that need it. Please note, however, that most seats in the venue require the ability to navigate some steps. Wheelchair spaces will be available.

A sign language interpreter signs each ceremony in the venue. Closed captioning is provided on the live webcast.

Photography

(www.gradimages.com • 800-261-2576)

Professional photographers from GradImages™ take photographs of each degree candidate on stage. Graduates can start planning their commencement photos by checking out the in-demand, Instagrammable locations on campus at www.uakron.edu/graduation/photos.

Live Webcast

Family and friends unable to attend in-person will be able to watch a live stream of the commencement ceremony online. Additional details will be posted at www.uakron.edu/registrar/graduation as they are finalized.