

The Commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at:

Minneapolis Convention Center
 1301 2nd Avenue South
 Minneapolis, MN 55403

Ceremony Information

In an effort to provide a better commencement experience for all graduates and their guests, we have split Commencement into two ceremonies: Green and Red. The tickets each graduate receives will correspond with the ticket color for each ceremony.

Green Ceremony begins at 10am	Red Ceremony begins at 2pm
Participants include the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral graduates from the following colleges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College of Management • College of Liberal Arts • College of Sciences • School of Urban Education 	Participants include the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral graduates from the following colleges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College of Community Studies and Public Affairs • College of Individualized Studies • College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Arrival Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduates must arrive between 9:15am and 9:45am for processional line up. • Doors to the auditorium open at 9:15am. All guest seating is general admission. • Guests must be seated by 9:45am. • The processional of graduates will start at 10am and the recessional will end at 11:30am. • Late arrivals will be seated after the processional. 	Arrival Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduates must arrive between 1:15pm and 1:45pm for processional lineup. • Doors to the auditorium open at 1:15pm. All guest seating is general admission. • Guests must be seated by 1:45pm. • The processional of graduates will start at 2pm and the recessional will end at 3:30pm. • Late arrivals will be seated after the processional.

Graduate Line Up

Graduates will line up in the basement of the Minneapolis Convention Center and will line up according to their degree. Graduates may line up in any order within their college.

We ask that families and guests remain upstairs in the auditorium. If a graduate has children or minors with them, we ask that they work to secure childcare for their children during the ceremony.

Each graduate will receive a name card with their guest tickets in the mail. If you do not receive a name card, these will be available in the Graduate Line Up room. This name card is handed to the speaker on stage, who will read your name as you walk across the stage.

- **Doctoral and Masters** graduates will line up by the degree name posted on the wall.
- **Bachelor's** graduates will line up with the college they are receiving their degree from.
 - If you are not sure which college you are receiving your degree from, contact your academic advisor and review the Commencement Survey on D2L Brightspace.

Regalia and Tassels

Regalia (caps, gowns, tassels, stoles, honor cords, invitations, etc.) can be purchased at

- **Grad Expo**
- **Saturday, February 23**
9:00am-1:30pm
New Main Great Hall on the St. Paul Campus.

If a student does not purchase their regalia at Grad Expo, they can access it at herffjones.com or at the Commencement Ceremony. Herff Jones will have a limited number of regalia available and take cash and check the day of Commencement.

Tassels should be worn as follows:

- Doctoral and Masters graduates: Left shoulder side
- Undergraduate graduates: Right shoulder side

Processional

A university staff member will lead graduates into the auditorium at the beginning of the ceremony. Graduates will follow the person in front of them in a single line. Once in the auditorium, additional staff members will help direct graduates into the proper row to be seated.

During the processional, we ask that guests stay in their seats. We also ask guests to keep walkways clear in case of emergency. This allows for a smooth and safe ceremony for all participants.

Presentation of Graduates

After the ceremony speakers (Outstanding Student Award Recipient, Alumni Association, MN State Board Member, and Student Senate), the graduates will be invited to process across the stage by university staff members. Masters and Doctoral graduates will process first and then the undergraduate graduates. Each college will be escorted to the stage according to their seating in the auditorium. The process for the presentation goes as follows:

1. Step on stage and hand name card to the namecard reader
2. Process across the stage to the dean and academic vice president, who will hand you a medallion. You may shake hands, but that is optional.
3. Receive congratulations from the University President. A professional photographer has been retained to take your photo with the University President. Please pause when the

University President congratulates you to ensure a quality photo opportunity. This service is provided to assure a quality photo for this momentous occasion.

4. After proceeding across the stage, return to your row.
5. Remain standing (if able) until all those in your college or school have returned to their seats. All graduates in the college will sit down at the dean's direction.

Conferring of degrees

The University President confers degrees at the end of the ceremony. Graduates are expected to stay until the end of the ceremony.

Recessional

Once the degrees have been conferred by the University President, the recessional will begin. A university staff member will lead graduates out of the auditorium, signifying the end of the ceremony.

There will be banners with each college or school displayed in the Minneapolis Convention Center lobby for graduates to connect with their guests and take photos with their peers.

During the recessional, we ask that guests stay in their seats until the last graduate has left the auditorium. We also ask guests to keep walkways clear in case of emergency. This allows for a smooth and safe ceremony for all participants.

Questions

For questions regarding Commencement, contact Student Life and Leadership Development at: student.life@metrostate.edu