

Queens Undergraduate Commencement Exercises Information

Things To-Do Today!

- Try on your cap and gown to make sure it fits and check that you have received the correct hood.
- Pick up your Commencement tickets and Mass tickets, as needed.
- Take a formal photograph in your attire with Grad Images® photographer.
- Pre-order your Commencement photos at www.gradimages.com.
- Pre-order your Commencement video at videos.evid.com/StJohnsUniversity.



Commencement Day To-Do List

- Eat breakfast before you arrive on campus; it will be a long day. Water will be provided to graduates.
- Wear comfortable shoes and clothing; bring sunscreen and sunglasses.
- Check for traffic delays and road closures on your route to St. John's.
- Come prepared for rain or shine; as needed, ponchos will be provided to graduates and guests. Umbrellas will not be permitted on stage.
- Leave your personal belongings at home; bags will not be permitted in seating area.
- Remember to bring your cap, gown and hood to campus with you; this will serve as your ticket to the Commencement Exercises.
- Prearrange a meeting place with your family or guests for after the Commencement Exercises and in case the Commencement is abbreviated.
- By 8 a.m., arrive to your school/college assembly area as indicated below and follow your dean's instructions:

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Marillac Hall, 2nd Floor

The School of Education

St. Albert Hall, 1st Floor

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

D'Angelo Center, 2nd Floor

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

D'Angelo Center, 1st Floor

College of Professional Studies

Marillac Hall, 3rd Floor

****Graduates must check in with their deans during this time in order to participate in the Ceremony.****

- By 8:45 a.m., guests should be seated on the Great Lawn; remind guests to bring their tickets and to come prepared for rain or shine.
- Remain seated for the duration of the Commencement Exercises; since all graduate names will be called, Commencement is expected to last approximately 2 ½ hours. You are asked to please show respect for your classmates and their families by remaining in place until the end of the Commencement Exercises.

Commencement Hosts and Public Safety

- St. John's University will have Public Safety Officers stationed around the campus to provide assistance to guests and graduates throughout the day. There will also be Commencement hosts, wearing a red St. John's shirt, located around campus to assist guests as needed.
- Officers will be assigned to all the entrance points to the Commencement site and bags and packages will be checked. Please only bring necessary items with you. Below is a list of items that are **NOT** allowed at the Commencement Exercises:
 - Backpacks
 - No handbags or tote bags bigger than 10"x10"x10"
 - Sealed packages of any kind
 - Bottles or cans (glass or metal)
 - Aerosol cans or noisemaking devices
 - Alcoholic beverages
 - Animals (unless a service animal)
 - Flags, banners, or signs
 - Any materials constituting unauthorized advertising or promotion
 - Laser pointing devices
 - Balloons
 - Strollers
 - Weapons
 - Umbrellas
 - Drones
 - Folding Chairs
- There is no standing room.

Commencement Livestream

- If your family cannot be present with you at the Commencement Exercises, they can view the ceremony live from www.stjohns.edu.

Commencement Tickets

- All guests are required to present a ticket to attend the Commencement Exercises. Children under the age of two do not require a ticket; however, they must be seated on an adult's lap.
- Seating for guests is on a first-come, first-serve basis. As the Commencement is heavily attended, we recommend that family members arrive early and are seated on the lawn at least one hour prior to the start of the procession or by 8:45 a.m. at the latest.
- Seats cannot be saved by any means other than someone sitting in the seat.
- Lost and/or stolen tickets should be reported to the Department of Public Safety. Tickets that have been reported as lost and/or stolen will be voided and guests with voided tickets will not be permitted to enter the Commencement Exercises. Lost and/or stolen tickets will not be replaced.
- The selling or buying of Commencement tickets is strictly prohibited. Please be cautious of offers to sell or buy Commencement tickets. Tickets hold no official resale value and may be an unauthorized copy, therefore deemed unusable and denied on Commencement day. Commencement tickets are solely for the purpose of allowing the relatives and friends of graduating students to attend the Commencement Exercises. Any students involved in the selling or buying of Commencement tickets will face disciplinary actions and may be prohibited from participating in Commencement activities.
- The Commencement Exercises will be simulcast if guests are unable to sit outside. Please ask any Public Safety Officer or University Host in a red St. John's shirt to direct you to the simulcast location. Seating is limited and requires a ticket to enter.

Guests with Special Needs

- Guests with special needs should proceed directly to Gate #1 located on Utopia Parkway; they will be directed to the appropriate parking area and seating section by Public Safety.
- Guests with special needs, along with one companion, will be directed to the appropriate seating area.
- Gate #1 is also a designated drop-off location for those guests who have difficulty walking.

Parking

- Due to the large number of guests attending the Commencement Exercises, there will be a shortage of parking on campus.
- Please allow yourself ample time to find parking and to walk to campus.
- We suggest graduates and guests carpool to campus and park in one of the parking lots on campus.
- If parking on neighborhood streets, be sure to follow local NYC parking regulations to avoid ticketing and towing.

Commencement Photography

- Grad Images® will be at the Commencement Exercises taking candid photographs of your special moment of recognition; be sure to complete the Grad Images® card you will receive at your assembly location. This card will serve to line-up students in alphabetical order and will need to be handed in as you approach the stage.

Inclement Weather

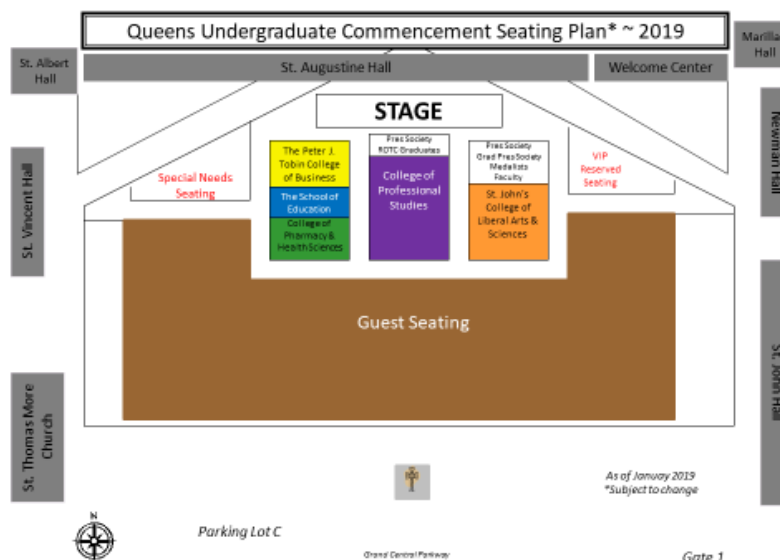
- The Commencement Exercises will be held on the Great Lawn, rain or shine.
- If it is raining or rain is in the forecast on Commencement day, graduates and guests should come prepared with the appropriate rain gear. Graduates and guests will receive a poncho if it is raining; guests are advised to also bring raincoats and something to cover the lawn chair. Graduates should note that umbrellas will not be permitted on stage.
- If the Commencement is underway and severe weather conditions exist, the Commencement Exercises may be abbreviated and the calling of student names and the greeting of deans on stage may be omitted from the program. If the Commencement is abbreviated, graduates and guests should follow instructions as announced and meet with family and guests in a prearranged meeting place.
- If the Commencement Exercises cannot be held on the Great Lawn due to extreme or dangerous weather, the Commencement may be cancelled. No indoor facility on campus can accommodate the graduating class and thousands of guests. Every reasonable effort will be made to hold the Commencement Exercises as planned.
- For the most up to date information regarding changes to the Commencement Exercises, please visit www.stjohns.edu. Graduates will receive a text message on the University's text messaging system if there is a change in the Commencement. If you haven't done so, please sign up for this service via UIS.

Don't Forget

- Read the 2019 Queens Undergraduate Commencement Exercises Student Information Book.
- Follow us on Twitter @StJohnsU.
- Log onto UIS to update your home address.
- Clear all holds from your account, don't forget library and parking fines.
- Stay connected to St. John's by joining the Alumni Online Community at <https://www.stjohns.edu/alumni-and-friends>.
- Diplomas will be available for pick up your dean's office beginning on Monday, July 8. Physician Assistant diplomas will be available beginning Monday, August 5. Be sure to call your dean's office beforehand as diploma availability is dependent upon the day the diploma was ordered.

If you or your guests need special accommodations during Commencement, please contact your dean's office.

Seating Plan for the Great Lawn (subject to change*)



For the most up to date Commencement information, visit www.stjohns.edu/commencement.