Everything You Need to Know About Norman Campus Graduation Ceremonies

Please familiarize yourself with the information below and share this with guests who will be attending with you.

Ceremony Dates and Times
Our in-person May 2021 Graduation Ceremonies for the Norman campus are slated from Friday, May 14, to Monday, May 17, in The Gaylord Family – Oklahoma Memorial Stadium. Visit ou.edu/commencement for a full schedule.

Tickets are Required for Entry
Tickets are required for all graduates, faculty, staff, and guests. Guest tickets are reserved. Graduate and guest tickets will be distributed to each graduate the week of May 10. Keep reading for information on how graduates will transfer their tickets to their guests.

- Graduate Tickets: Each graduate will receive a digital graduate ticket that will allow access to the field and reserved graduate sections.
- Guest Tickets: Guest tickets will be distributed to graduates. Once the digital tickets are received, graduates will transfer tickets digitally to their guests. Groups of guests will be socially distanced from other groups.

Visit link.ou.edu/gradtickets for instructions on how to transfer your tickets. Please familiarize yourself with the steps as soon as you receive your tickets.

Graduate Arrival Time and Entry
Stadium gates will open 1.5 hours prior to each ceremony.

- Graduates may enter any open gate and report to the field tunnels on the north end of the stadium, just inside Gates 5 and 7.
- There is no student procession, so graduates will report directly to their seats on the field and in reserved graduating seating sections that are accessed from the field. Graduates will be seated with members of their college and degree level, but graduate seating will not be assigned.
- Graduates will be placed in physically distanced seats.

Open Gates
Gates 2, 5, 7, and 12 will be open for graduates and guests. Visit ou.edu/commencement for a stadium diagram.

Parking
Complimentary parking will be available across campus on graduation dates. Visit ou.edu/commencement for a diagram of parking around the stadium.

Attire and Regalia
Ceremonies will be held outdoors in The Gaylord Family – Oklahoma Memorial Stadium. Since temperatures in May are unpredictable, game day attire (under their regalia) is suggested for graduates and guests.

- All graduates must wear a cap and gown.
- Graduates may purchase regalia by visiting the Jostens store on the Norman campus, located on the west side of The Gaylord Family – Oklahoma Memorial Stadium, from noon to 5 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

Graduate Arrival Time and Entry
Please be aware of, and make your guests aware of, security screenings, Clear Bag Policy (link.ou.edu/clearbag), and prohibited items (link.ou.edu/prohibiteditems).

- All guests and graduates will pass through a security screening before entry to the graduation venue.
- For quicker entry, guests and graduates are encouraged to not bring bags.
- Only clear bags can be brought into the graduation venue. Due to security requirements, strollers and car seats are not permitted.

Inclement Weather
- In the event of inclement weather, our first attempt will be to delay the ceremony later the same day.
- If that is not possible, we will hold a graduate-only ceremony in Lloyd Noble Center. Each graduate will still walk across the stage, but we will not be able to accommodate guests of graduates if we move the ceremony indoors to Lloyd Noble Center.
- All ceremonies — whether held in the stadium on in Lloyd Noble Center — will be livestreamed for those who are unable to attend, or who have health concerns and wish not to attend in person.

Mask Required
- Masks are required for all graduates and guests.
- Graduates may temporarily remove their mask as their name is announced. Graduates may also temporarily remove their mask as they pose for their “Green Screen Photo.” During the doctoral hooding process, both the hooding faculty member and graduate must wear a mask because physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Accessible Services
Services are available to those attending graduation ceremonies who may require specific accommodations based on accessibility needs.

- A wheelchair user and companion will be permitted in accessible seating sections, subject to availability.
- Patrons who do not require wheelchair-accessible seating but require other special accommodations may also exchange tickets for alternative locations that better accommodate their needs.

Email commencement@ou.edu by Monday, May 3, to request accessible services.

Accommodations for Guests Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- Sign language interpreting services for guests who are deaf or hard of hearing will be available. Email commencement@ou.edu to request seating in a designated area.
- Captioning will also be available on the north and south screens.