

Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony

Wednesday, May 31, 2023 | 9:00 a.m. | Prudential Center, Newark

IMPORTANT NOTES



ARRIVAL

Please calculate travel time at rush hour to be at Prudential by 8:00 a.m. for line up. The procession will begin at 8:40 a.m. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. **Graduates will enter at the M&M Tower on Lafayette Street. Guests will enter the Citizens Bank Tower on Edison Street.** Both entrances require screening, which may delay entry. Please leave personal belongings in your car.

Bring your GRADPASS with you to the ceremony. It is required for entry into the venue. You must also present it at the stage to be scanned to have your name announced. **PLEASE enter the Prudential Center wearing your cap and tassel, gown, and hood (regalia).** We have volunteers who can assist you as needed inside the robing areas.

BAG POLICY

The Prudential Center has a specific BAG POLICY. The only exceptions are:

- Bags up to 12" x 14" are permitted. Backpacks of any size are not permitted.
- Medical or childcare bags are allowed.
- Please wear your regalia to avoid any bags as you will need to keep all items with you at all times.

The following items are prohibited at the Prudential Center: alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, **BALLOONS**, signs, banners, beach balls, horns, noisemakers, laser pointers, flashlights, fireworks, selfie sticks, and outside food/beverages.

ROBING AREAS

The following are the robing areas by College:

1. College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences | **Loading Docks**
2. Cotsakos College of Business | **Box Office Lobby**
3. College of Education | **Locker Rooms**
4. College of Science and Health | **North Storage**

NOTE: Upon entering, follow signage and staff to the respective areas. No personal belongings should be left in the robing areas.

CEREMONY NAME READER CARDS

Graduates will process into the arena in four lines walking through faculty on both sides of the arena floor prior to entering the rows. Commencement Staff will support you through this process and every seat must be filled. When it is time to collect your diploma cover and proceed to the stage to be recognized, staff will lead you to either side of stage. **Please have your GRADPASS out and ready for scanning.** Your **GRADPASS** should be printed and not just on your phone. Photos will be taken at various points while you proceed to and from the stage.

As a reminder, **decorum at the ceremony and respect for your fellow graduates is important.** Your degree is not conferred by the President until after all students have been recognized on stage. You are expected to remain in the arena until the end of the ceremony. The recessional includes begins with the Platform Party, followed by the faculty and then new graduates. WP items will be provided upon exiting the arena as part of the recessional.

ACCESSIBLE ACCOMODATIONS

If a guest requires special accommodations, **please contact the Prudential Guest Services team** for assistance at **Guestservices@prucenter.com**. Any graduate who requires accommodations, please contact the Accessibility Resource Center at **arc@wpunj.edu**.

GRADUATE GIFTS and CONCESSION STANDS

There will be a vendor in the main concourse of the arena selling celebratory items such as: flowers, teddy bears, Commencement t-shirts, etc. Food and beverages will be available at concession stands in the arena.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please visit: **wpunj.edu/commencement**

Commencement emails and phones will not be checked after 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 30.

The ceremony beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by 12:00 p.m.

It will be livestreamed on the University's home page at **wpunj.edu**.