

1 How do I apply for graduation?

Visit http://www.pointpark.edu/About/AdminDepts/RegistrarsOffice/StudentResources/Graduation Applications are to be submitted to the Office of the Registrar no later than:

Fall: July 31

Spring: September 30 Summer: January 30

What do I need to do to ensure I graduate in April?

Make sure your graduation application is complete. Then, review your advising worksheet with your advisor to make sure you have met all necessary requirements.

What is the difference between the Commencement Ceremony and the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?

<u>Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony</u> – This ceremony is for individuals earning graduate-level degrees. The Dean of each graduate program will place the hood on those earning graduate-level degrees. This ceremony replaces the traditional commencement ceremony, which only undergraduates will attend.

<u>Commencement</u> – This ceremony is for individuals earning degrees at the undergraduate level. This ceremony is more traditional in nature, and the Dean of each program will present each graduate with a diploma cover.

Who is eligible to participate in the Commencement Ceremony?

All undergraduate degree candidates who received their degree as of Fall 2023, Spring 2024 or Summer 2024 are eligible to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

When will I receive my diploma?

Upon completion of all degree requirements, diplomas will be mailed to the address provided by the degree recipient in their graduation application within 4-6 weeks after graduation.

Am I required to attend Commencement?

All graduating undergraduate students are encouraged to attend, but attendance is not mandatory. The main objective of Commencement is to recognize those individuals who have dedicated their time and energy to achieving this award.

1 How long is the Commencement Ceremony?

The Commencement Ceremony should last approximately two (2) hours.



Will there be an opportunity to mingle with family, friends and professors?

Yes. There will be an opportunity to meet and greet with faculty immediately following the ceremony in the main entrance lobby at the HIGHMARK Gate. Please share this information with your family and friends.

Is the venue for the Commencement Ceremony accessible to the disabled?

Yes, all facilities in PPG Paints Arena are accessible to the disabled. Accessible seating is available on all seating levels. Volunteers will be available at the Check-in table to assist individuals in need. It is strongly recommended that individuals with physical limitations bring their own wheelchair.

Do I need to notify anyone if I plan to attend the Commencement Ceremony?

Yes, if you have sent in your application for graduation, received notification that you are eligible, and are planning to attend Commencement, you must RSVP by April 12, 2024 here:

https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/Submit/Start/8efd2078-d1f4-492d-a759-7462ec8e704b

Is there a rehearsal?

No, there will not be a rehearsal for this event.

How will I know what to do when I arrive at the Commencement Ceremony?

All students attending the ceremony should enter through the HIGHMARK gate at PPG Paints Arena. Doors open at 11:00am, and students must report to line-up no later than 12:00 pm. Further instructions will be given at that time. You will receive your calling card at graduation check-in!

Do I need to check in upon arrival at the PPG Paints Arena?

Students are to report to registration on the Main Floor of PPG Paints Arena and proceed to the Lower Level by 12:00 pm for line-up. A volunteer will direct you to the appropriate line. You <u>must</u> bring your <u>student calling card</u>.

Where may I find more information about Commencement Honors, such as "Summa Cum Laude", "Magna Cum Laude", "Cum Laude", etc.?

These terms are defined on page 56 of the undergraduate catalog under *Recognition of Academic Achievement*.

Where may my family and I park?

Parking will be available at the North/South Lot as well as the PPG Paints garage. Other surrounding lots may be available. Valid disabled parking place cards are required. Accessible space is limited and an early arrival is strongly recommended.



- What time will my family be able to enter PPG Paints Arena for the Commencement Ceremony? Seating will begin at 11:30am. Commencement Ceremony will begin promptly at 12:30 pm.
- Will there be vendors selling flowers?
 Yes. PPG Paints Arena will have a vendor selling flowers and gifts.
- How many family members and friends may attend?

 This free event is open to all family members and friends who would like to attend. Tickets are not required.
- Yes, children attend Commencement?
 Yes, children are welcome to attend the Ceremony; however, childcare is not available at the ceremony facilities. Children should be supervised and accompanied by family members during the ceremony.
- Where can I purchase my cap and gown?
 Caps and gowns (and hood if applicable) may be ordered at the Graduation Fair at Point Park University, February 20-21, 2024. If you are unable to attend the Graduation Fair, please visit the Point Park University Bookstore to order your cap and gown, or order online at http://www.pointpark.shopoakhalli.com.
 - If you would like to have your items shipped to the bookstore for pickup, you must order by March 17, 2024.
 - If you would like to have your items shipped directly to you, you must order by March 27, 2024.

Remember, it is <u>your</u> responsibility to bring your cap and gown with you to Commencement!

Must I wear a cap and gown?

Yes, participation in the Commencement Ceremony requires that you wear the traditional cap and gown, which are the only appropriate and acceptable academic attire for such an event. <u>The University will not provide robes for those who forget to bring their own.</u>

What should I wear to the Commencement Ceremony?

In order to honor the dignity of the ceremony and maintain a professional atmosphere, appropriate business or dress clothes and shoes are required.

On which side of my cap do I wear my tassel?

Before candidates receive their degrees, the tassel is worn on the right side of the cap. After conferral of the degree, the tassel is moved to the left side.

Can my family take pictures during the ceremony? Yes, it is encouraged.



Will I have my photograph taken by a professional photographer at the Commencement Ceremony?

Yes. GradTrak Graduate Images will be photographing each graduate as they cross the stage at the Ceremony. You will be contacted by GradTrak Graduate Images via mail/email directly. There is a no obligation to purchase any photographs.

- Where can I order graduation announcements, diploma frames, and/or class rings?

 These items can be ordered online at https://colleges.herffjones.com/college/pointpark/. Orders must be placed by May 10, 2024.
- I won't be attending Commencement. How will I get my diploma?

 All students who apply for graduation, regardless of attendance at the ceremony, will first be reviewed and verified as having fulfilled all requirements pertaining to their degree. Then, your diploma will be mailed to the address you provided in your graduation application. You can expect delivery 4-6 weeks after graduation.



I won't be attending Commencement. How will I get my diploma?

All students that apply for graduation regardless of attendance at the ceremony will be reviewed for earning graduation requirements. Diplomas will be sent to the permanent address of the graduating

student 4-6 weeks after graduation.