



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY DAY OF EVENT DETAILS

May 18, 2025 | 4:00 p.m.

Carver-Hawkeye Arena
1 Elliott Drive
Iowa City, Iowa

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA • TIPPIE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

COMMENCEMENT DRESS

Graduates are required to wear the appropriate regalia - University of Iowa Masters Gown, MBA Masters Hood, Mortarboard Cap, and Black Tassel - during the ceremony.

Graduates are encouraged to press their masters gown with a cool iron or allow it to hang in order to remove wrinkles prior to the event. Flowers or other adornments may not be attached to gowns. The internal colors of the MBA hood should be folded out to show in the back when worn. (For illustrative purposes only, an example of how the hood should be draped is provided in the picture to the right.) Caps are to be worn with the mortarboard horizontal and the tassel on the left. Caps should be worn from the start of the ceremony until the ceremony ends.

When wearing a masters gown, your clothing underneath may be visible from above the neckline and/or below the hemline of the gown depending on the size and fit. It's recommended that individuals consider wearing khaki or dark colored dress shorts or pants*, a short sleeve shirt or polo, shallow scoop neck top or a skirt. A dress with a similar neckline and a hemline shorter than the gown is a good option as well. Dress footwear should be comfortable as there will be a good amount of walking, stairs, and standing throughout the event. Individuals are encouraged to try on their graduation day outfit with the gown (sitting and standing) to make sure they're comfortable with their outfit selection. *Carver-Hawkeye Arena is not air conditioned. The temperature in May can be difficult to predict and the facility can become very warm. It's recommended you consider temperature and personal comfort when selecting your graduation outfit.



ARRIVAL

On Sunday, May 18, graduates should arrive to Carver-Hawkeye Arena by 3:00 p.m. with appropriate regalia in hand. Graduates will enter the arena through the **east doors (this entrance is for graduates only)**, or the south and west doors can be utilized if entering with your guests. Then graduates should proceed down the arena stairs to the main floor to check-in (check-in tables are arranged alphabetical by last name).

[Detailed security information including allowed and prohibited items](#) can be found on the Carver-Hawkeye Arena venue page. **All graduates and guests will be expected to adhere to the Carver [clear bag policy](#) and all venue security policies.** Campus Safety officials will search all bags brought into the building.

Graduates arriving with a coat or purse should plan to leave these items with their guests. Graduates will be expected to open their robes when entering the arena.

We recommend bringing in one factory-sealed water bottle or an empty, reusable water bottle less than one gallon, as Carver-Hawkeye area can become warm due to not having air conditioning.

PARKING

Parking is free on the day of the event. Traffic congestion around Carver-Hawkeye Arena is expected during commencement, so please allow extra time for your travel and parking. [Parking lot information](#) and [accessible parking](#) details can be found on the Carver-Hawkeye Arena venue page.

Paid Parking: The new Hawkeye Parking Ramp, located on the west campus north of Kinnick Stadium, is now open for hourly paid parking.

CHECK-IN

After entering the arena, graduates should proceed down the arena stairs to the main floor. This is where the graduate check-in area is located, organized alphabetically by last name. Staff on the concourse and arena floor can help direct as needed.

At check-in, graduates will verify the phonetic spelling of their name and be given a name card with that verified spelling. You'll need to take this card with you when you go up to the stage.

In addition, graduates will confirm that they have all required regalia. If graduating "With Distinction", honor cords will be given at this time too. (Honors designation information is provided on a subsequent page.) Graduates who participated in a Global Learning Opportunity (GLO) or a CIMBA Italy course will receive study abroad cords at check-in as well.

After checking in, graduates may proceed to the graduate seating area on the main floor and sit down in their alphabetical section. **To ensure a timely start to the commencement ceremony, graduates should be in their regalia and in their seat no later than 15 minutes prior to the start time of the ceremony.**

Besides the name card, nothing should be carried on stage by graduates. Personal items should be left with guest(s) or secured in a vehicle as the graduate check-in area will not be secured during the ceremony.

Graduates may bring a factory-sealed bottle of water or an empty, reusable bottle under one gallon, to keep on the floor by their seat.

GUEST INFORMATION

The doors to Carver-Hawkeye Arena open one hour prior to the start of the ceremony. There are no tickets required, no limit to the number of guests, and no assigned seating for guests at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. It's encouraged that guests arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony in order to pass through [security](#) and find a seat.

Guests should enter through the south or west doors of the venue. (Graduates only may use the east doors for express entry, although it's not required. The north doors are not open to the public.)

Commencement ceremonies at Carver-Hawkeye Arena follow a [clear bag policy](#). Please review the full policy for a list of allowed and prohibited items.

Accessible seating is available on the upper concourse level, which is at ground level where you'll enter, in sections K – N. The Feller Club Room, equipped with large television screens, is also available to watch the ceremony. There is no public elevator usage available during commencement, so guests are encouraged to only go down into the arena bowl as far as they're able to get back up. [Detailed information on accessible seating and the elevator policy](#) can be found on the Carver-Hawkeye Arena venue page.

Concessions will be available during the ceremony, selling bottled non-alcoholic beverages with lids and packaged food items.

PERSONAL ITEMS/SECURITY FOR GRADUATES AND GUESTS

[Detailed security information including allowed and prohibited items](#) can be found on the Carver-Hawkeye Arena venue page. **All graduates and guests will be expected to adhere to the Carver [clear bag policy](#) and all venue security policies.** Campus Safety officials will search all bags brought into the building.

Graduates arriving with a coat or purse should plan to leave these items with their guests. Graduates will be expected to open their robes when entering the arena.

Guests are not allowed on the main arena floor at any time, before, during, or after the ceremony.

TEMPERATURE

The temperature in Carver-Hawkeye Arena in May can be difficult to predict. We recommend bringing in a factory-sealed water bottle or an empty, reusable water bottle less than one gallon and dressing in layers, as the facility can become very warm. Carver-Hawkeye Arena is not air conditioned.

CEREMONY ORDER OF EVENTS

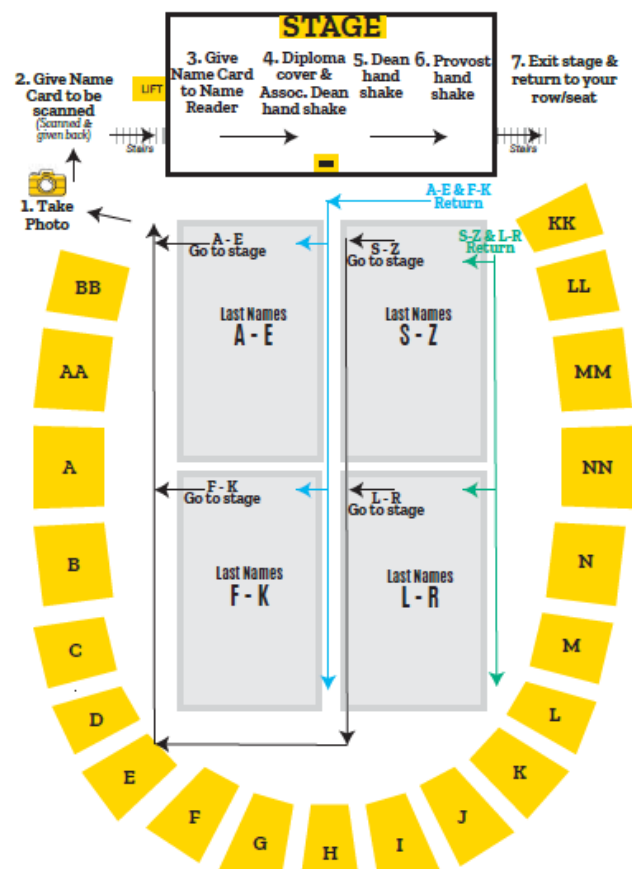
Promptly at 4:00 p.m., the program will start with a “Celebrating Iowa” video followed by the procession of platform officials. During the platform procession, those who are able will be asked to stand.

Once everyone has been instructed to be seated, the ceremony will begin with a welcome from Associate Dean Jennifer Blackhurst and congratulatory remarks by Dean Amy Kristof-Brown followed by the commencement address, conferral of degrees, presenting of graduates, and closing remarks.

For the presenting of graduates, graduates will be invited to the stage to be recognized individually. Graduates will be recognized in order of where they’re sitting within the alphabetical sections.

- Step 1: Take professional picture with diploma cover.
- Step 2: Give name card to the name scanner. (Your name card will be given back to you.)
- Step 3: Proceed on to stage (stairs or lift) and hand name card to the name reader at podium.
- Step 4: Receive diploma cover and shake hands with Associate Dean Blackhurst.
- Step 5: Proceed to Dean Kristof-Brown and shake hands.
- Step 6: Then shake hands with Provost Kregel.
- Step 7: Continue off stage to return to seat. (Assistants will be positioned to help guide graduates.)

After the closing remarks, platform officials will exit the stage. Once the platform officials have departed, assistants will dismiss graduates to proceed up the stairs to join their guests and other attendees on the arena concourse (the level where they entered the arena) for personal celebrations. Graduates and guests are respectfully requested to exit the arena within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the ceremony.



“WITH DISTINCTION” AND STUDY ABROAD CORDS

Iowa MBA candidates who have achieved at least a 3.80 cumulative program grade point average are awarded “With Distinction” honors. During the commencement ceremony, these individuals wear gold honor cords which are handed out to qualifying graduates during check-in on the day of the ceremony.

Due to required printing lead times for the commemorative Iowa MBA Commencement Ceremony Program and the timing of the event itself, “With Distinction” notations in this program are based on the cumulative program grade point average calculated at time of print submission deadline.

Final qualification for graduating “With Distinction” is based on cumulative program grade point average through the completion of degree. Thus, “With Distinction” designations reflected on official University of Iowa records may differ.

Iowa MBA candidates who participated in a Global Learning Opportunity (GLO) or a CIMBA Italy course during their time in the program will receive study abroad cords at check-in (if you haven’t already picked them up).

DIPLOMAS

University of Iowa graduates with no outstanding University charges receive one 8.5" x 11" diploma per degree earned.

Diplomas are mailed by the Office of the Registrar using the respective Diploma Mailing Address of each graduate. If a Diploma Mailing Address is not listed for a student, the diploma is mailed to the Residing Address listed in MyUI. This mailing process begins once final grades for the degree are processed. Students can expect to receive their diploma approximately eight weeks after their graduating session.

CERTIFICATES

A certified electronic and/or print version of certificate awards are available for purchase. Please wait to order certificates until after degrees have been conferred and after receiving a conferral email from Graduation Services. For more information, visit the [Office of the Registrar Diplomas](#) page.

CEREMONIAL PROGRAM

On the day of the ceremony, graduates participating in the Iowa MBA commencement event receive an Iowa MBA Commencement Ceremony Program commemorating the occasion.

Separate from this, the University of Iowa Commencement Program is a listing of degree candidates from each college. The most current and archived programs are available in PDF format on the [Commencement Programs](#) webpage. Names are listed based on graduation semester and sorted by degree type. *Summer and fall degree candidates are listed in the fall program for their graduating session while spring degree candidates only are listed in the spring program for their graduating session.*

Important points of note:

- Exclusion of a student name from the program may be due to a directory restriction on their academic record.
 - To check data restrictions settings in MyUI, visit the [Student Data Restriction](#) page.
- Applying for a degree after the degree application deadline may result in exclusion from this program.
- Inclusion in the University of Iowa commencement program is not tied to participation in a ceremony.
- Publishing names of degree candidates is not a verification of completion of degree requirements.
- All graduates are listed in the program according to time at which they earned or are expected to earn a degree.
- If you have additional questions about this program, please contact UI-commencement@uiowa.edu.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

These details and additional information can be found on the [MBA Commencement](#) webpage. Questions? Contact Ashley Meincke via email at ashley-meincke@uiowa.edu.

IOWA

Tippie College of Business