

Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. | Prudential Center, Newark

IMPORTANT NOTES



ARRIVAL

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

GRADUATES: Bring your STAGEASS with you to the ceremony. It is required for entry into the ceremony. You must 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. All bags are subject to security screening.
- Please wear your regalia to avoid bringing any extra bags as you will need to keep all items with you at all times.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

The Prudential Center prohibits: alcoholic beverages; illegal drugs; weapons; noisemakers such as horns; laser pointers; balloons; beach balls; frisbees; signs, banners, and flags that exceed 14" x 14"; selfie sticks; and outside food and beverages. No items shall be offensive, derogatory, political, or commercial in nature. Visit the Prudential Center website for a full list of prohibited items and entry policies at <https://www.prucenter.com/entry>.

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.

IMPORTANT CEREMONY INFORMATION

Graduates will process into the arena in two 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 STAGEPASS out and ready for scanning. Your STAGEPASS must be printed!** 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 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 Monday, May 19.

The ceremony **begins 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.