

SHRS SPRING COMMENCEMENT 2021
PETERSEN EVENTS CENTER
Sunday, May 2, 2021
10am - 12 pm

REGALIA IS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATES TO PARTICIPATE

- You will need to order and pay for Regalia to participate in Commencement.
- To have it shipped directly to you, you must order by April 9th.
 - [Click on this link to order](#) and have it shipped to you directly.
 - Then click on the link at the bottom of page labelled “[Let’s get started.](#)” I have **attached** a spreadsheet to your email invite that will help you in selecting the appropriate regalia for your degree.
 - For questions concerning shipments, contact Oak Hall at 800-456-7623 or webdept@oakhalli.com.
 - Bachelor Complete - \$55.00 (plus tax)
 - Master Complete - \$59.00 (plus tax)
 - Doctor Complete - \$72.00 (plus tax)
- If you **do not order using the link by April 9th**, you will be able to purchase regalia from the **University Store**. [Contact: pittuniversitystore.com](http://pittuniversitystore.com)
- We will **not** have extra regalia or components of regalia for you at Recognition Day. Please come prepared!
- Wear sensible shoes as you must go up and down steps to the stage.
- All students should wear their **tassels on the left side** of their mortarboard for this ceremony.

PARKING OPTIONS:

- The OC parking lot will be open on both days beginning at 8 a.m. and will be free for graduates and their guests. The TV Lot (connected to the OC lot) will be used as overflow if needed. [Maps | Parking, Transportation & Services | University of Pittsburgh](#)
- **When you RSVP**, there will be a section for the graduate to complete if the graduate or the guests require handicap parking. After we receive your RSVP a member of SHRS Student Services will be in touch with you so we can pass along specific directions.
- Shuttle service (disability access shuttles) will begin an hour before the ceremony and will continue running until one hour after the ceremony. It will run from the OC lot to the Petersen entrance on Allequippa Street in a continuous loop.

WHAT ACCOMMODATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES?

- The entrance for family members (CONCOURSE A) and the entrance for students (LOBBY) are both handicap accessible.
- Anyone who requires handicap parking will be directed to the BST Lot. (Person must have a handicap hang tag.)
- For graduates and their families who will be watching the ceremony online, open captioning will be automatically displayed during the broadcast.
- **If the Graduate or their guests require accessible seating you will indicate this when you RSVP.** After we receive your RSVP a member of SHRS Student Services will be in touch with you to confirm your needs.

TICKETS:

- Graduates do not need a ticket to enter the Petersen.
- Each graduate is allowed a maximum of (2) guests.
 - **There will be NO waitlist for additional tickets.**
- Tickets will be assigned and sent electronically to the graduate via their email, who is responsible for forwarding the electronic tickets to their guests. (A step-by-step guide on how to accept the tickets and how to transfer them to their guests will be included).
- Due to capacity limits, **everyone will need a ticket to enter the building. This includes children of any age.**
- **ASSIGNED SEATING:** All guests will be assigned a seat that will be socially distanced. Seats will be in groups of (2) only. Graduates & guests **MUST** sit in their assigned seats to remain socially distanced.

PROGRAMS:

- To eliminate the handing out of paper programs, SHRS will provide a SHRS Commencement Ceremony *day of* program for students and their families to access on their phone.
- The university will be printing an official commencement program, which will include all the graduates from the Oakland Campus. It will NOT be handed out during the ceremony, but a copy can be requested by each student on their RSVP to be mailed to them.

ARRIVING AT THE PETERSEN EVENTS CENTER

- **ALL GRADUATES are to arrive through the Petersen Events Center LOBBY LEVEL entrance only:**
- **Doors will open at 8:30am for graduates and graduates must be in the building no later than 9:00 am and in their seat by 9:45am.**
- Graduates are to arrive with their regalia and academic hood on except for those that would be hooded on stage. If you are in the Dr. of Audiology, Dr. of OT, Clinical Doctorate of OT or a PHD graduate, you will carry your hood, as you will be hooded on stage and will carry your hood over your arm to the stage.
- Face coverings are required for entry into the Petersen Events Center for graduates, and they must be worn for the duration of the event.
- Graduates are to socially distance at all times, hand sanitizing stations will be located in the lobby and throughout the Petersen Events Center.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** All graduates should refrain from bringing bags, backpacks, or purses with them to the ceremony. If you bring a purse, please always carry it with you and put it under your robe. There are no secure locations to place any personal items.
- Choose a meeting location for after the ceremony to meet up with your guests **outside** of the Petersen Events Center.

GRADUATE CHECK IN:

- Once the graduate arrives in the **LOBBY LEVEL entrance**, they will need to check in at the registration area in the lobby **to receive their name card.**
- After checking in, the graduate will proceed through Stairwell 1 or Stairwell 2 to the **EVENT LEVEL** and make their way onto the Petersen Events Center Floor. (The elevator next to Stairwell 1 can be utilized for graduates who need it to get to the **EVENT LEVEL.**) Again, all graduates must be in their seats 15 minutes before the start of the ceremony. Volunteers will be on site to assist as needed.

FAMILY AND GUESTS:

- **Doors to the Petersen Events Center will open to the public at 9am.**
- All family members and guests will enter the Petersen Events Center through either CONCOURSE A or CONCOURSE C. (Guests who enter through the LOBBY LEVEL entrance will be directed to the Concourse Level)
- All guests must have a ticket for admittance and will be required to sit in their assigned seat for social distancing purposes.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE CEREMONY FOR GRADUATES TO WALK ACROSS THE STAGE?

- All graduates should remain in their seats until staff move the students.
- Graduates will be led to the stage by staff and remain socially distanced from other graduates and follow the marks on the floor as directed.
- Name announcers (or deans, depending on what plans your school has) will read the graduates name and they will be congratulated verbally on the stage by your dean.
- Graduates will not be shaking hands with anyone on stage.
- It is important for graduates to move swiftly across the stage.
- After you exit the stage you will be handed, by a gloved SHRS member, a diploma cover and pin.
- A photographer will be taking individual photos of students and you will be provided a link to order those after the ceremony.

STUDENTS THAT ARE BEING HOODED ON STAGE (Clinical Doctorate in OT, Doctor of OT, Doctor of Audiology and PHD)

- You will carry your hood over your arm on the way to the stage
- You will hand your hood to the faculty member on stage that will be hooding you.
 - This faculty member will be fully vaccinated and wearing protective PPE.
- You will remain forward facing and squat down in front of the hooder.
- After you are hooded, you will need to refrain from hugging or shaking of hands and exit the stage.

EXITING THE PETERSEN EVENTS CENTER:

- Parents will be allowed to exit immediately after the ceremony, and students will be released by sections after the guests have exited to assist with social distancing.
- Graduates and guests should leave the building concluding the ceremony so that the Events Center staff can clean and prepare for the next ceremony.
- No loitering or picture taking after the ceremony will be permitted within the Petersen Event Center.
- Choose a meeting location for after the ceremony to meet up with your guests **outside** of the Petersen Events Center.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

- Alcoholic beverages and items that can interfere with the ceremony (beach balls, bullhorns, etc.) are not permitted in the Petersen Events Center and will be confiscated.
- Photo locations will be set up in the following areas around campus for memento photographs the weekend of commencement. (locations TBD)
- All commencement related info will be able to be found online at [Pitt's Commencement website](#) or the [SHRS website for Commencement](#).
- The concession stands located inside the Petersen Events Center will be open during each ceremony.

*This information is subject to change
Any questions regarding the SHRS Commencement Ceremony can be directed to:
[Kellie Beach](#), Director of Student Services and Registrar*