

Commencement/Hooding Ceremony FAQ'S

- **Will there be a masking policy in place at this event?**
OHSU respects all who choose to wear masks, at any time and in any setting. As we have seen over the last three years, the reasons to wear a mask may be very personal. We expect all OHSU members, patients and visitors to be respectful of this choice and each other. OHSU strongly recommends mask-wearing throughout our health system and in large gatherings.
- **Will there be a livestream of the event?** Yes! We will provide the links when they are available.
OHSU Convocation- TBA
School of Dentistry Hooding- TBA
- **Where do I leave my phone, purse, coat, backpack, umbrella, or other valuables?** These items **MUST** be left with family and/or friends before you enter the building and robing/staging area, as there will be no secure area in which to keep them during the ceremony. Anything left in the staging area will be removed prior to the end of the ceremony and OHSU cannot be responsible for the items. Cell phones should be turned off or set to silent/vibrate during the ceremony.
- **Where do we park?** Parking garages are located below [the Convention Center for](#) a fee. There are also [surface lots and street parking](#) as well as many public transportation options.
- **Can family/friends come to the robing/staging area and take pictures?** No. The robing/staging area is for students and participating faculty only.
- **When will the SoD Hooding Ceremony begin?** The Commencement Ceremony begins at 1 p.m. and we anticipate it lasting 1-1.5 hours. Once participants are lined up for Hooding, the Ceremony will *tentatively* begin at 3 p.m.
- **May my baby/child sit with me during the ceremony?** No, we are unable to allow babies and children in the processional. Please make arrangements with family or friends to tend to your baby/child.
- **What about children as guests?** Young or small children may have difficulties with the length of the ceremony. Please do not allow children to play in the aisles. If the child(ren) becomes fussy, please adjourn to the outer lobby so as not to disturb the ceremony.
- **What do I do with my hood?** The hood will be carried into Commencement on your right arm and will remain there for the duration of the ceremony. You will then carry it into the Hooding ceremony and hand it to the faculty member/mentor at the hooding station as you cross the stage.
- **What do I do with my regalia after the ceremony?** The regalia will be yours to keep.
- **What should I expect at the reception?** There will be a hosted reception following the Hooding ceremony for graduates and their families, planned for 4:30 p.m.
- **What about tickets for my family/friends?** No tickets are necessary but we ask that you limit your guest number to 12.

- **When should my family/friends arrive?** The doors to Commencement will open at 12:15 p.m. for immediate seating. Early admittance is not available.
- **Aisles:** Please keep all aisle ways clear at all times. No baby carriers, strollers, children or seating is allowed in these areas for safety reasons. Aisles are used during the ceremony by students, staff, and faculty. If you have guests with special needs, please let the Student Services team know.
- **Can OHSU recommend accommodation for those visiting to attend these events?** The following hotels are located near the convention center.
 - [Hyatt Regency Portland at the Convention Center](#)
 - [Directions from OCC](#)
 - [Embassy Suites Portland Downtown](#)
 - [Directions from OCC](#)
 - [Duniway Boutique Hotel](#)
 - [Directions from OCC](#)

If you have further questions about the OHSU Commencement & SOD Hooding Ceremony, please contact Jenna Wilkinson, wilkinje@ohsu.edu or Polina Pozdina, pozdinap@ohsu.edu.