

Commencement FAQ 2017

Congratulations on reaching this milestone in your academic career! By now, you should have received commencement information from the IUPUI Alumni Relations Office. Commencement information can also be found at <https://commencement.iupui.edu/>.

Contacts:

Questions about the IUPUI Main Graduation Ceremony at Lucas Oil Stadium or graduation apparel and announcements: Contact the Commencement Hotline at (317) 278-1700, or (866) 267-3104, or by email at commence@iupui.edu.

Questions about the School of Science Commencement Ceremony at the Indiana Convention Center Hall C:
Undergraduate Students: Contact Darryl Newsom at (317) 274-0684 or danewsom@iupui.edu.

Master and Doctoral Students: Contact Mary Harden at (317) 278-0214 or mharden@iupui.edu

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

I. COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Which graduating classes are invited to attend the Commencement ceremonies?

Students who graduated with a Baccalaureate or Graduate degree December 2016 and who will graduate with a Baccalaureate or Graduate degree May 2017 and August 2017 are invited to participate in the Commencement ceremonies.

How many Commencement ceremonies are there to attend?

Students may attend two Commencement ceremonies.

IUPUI Main Graduation Ceremony at the Lucas Oil Stadium – The IUPUI Main Graduation Commencement ceremony honors both Indiana University and Purdue University graduates. Students are acknowledged as a whole and with their school. Students are not individually recognized, except for Ph.D. students, who will cross the main stage. However, all students will walk across a small platform (not the main stage) and receive their diploma cover. Science students are invited to the Main Ceremony that will take place at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, May 14, 2017, at Lucas Oil Stadium. All students must report by 10:30 to line up. The robed procession will begin at noon, one hour prior to ceremony.

School of Science Commencement Ceremony – The School of Science Commencement Ceremony will be held on Sunday, May 14, 2017, at the Indiana Convention Center after the IUPUI Main Graduation Ceremony at Lucas Oil Stadium. The School ceremony is designed to individually recognize students who are graduating from the School of Science. Students walk across the stage as their names are announced. You are requested to check in at the registration table, which is located near Hall C and assemble no later than 4:00 p.m. immediately following the Main Ceremony. The Science processional will begin close to 4:15 with the program beginning at 4:30 p.m.

All students are individually recognized as they cross the stage. M.S. and Ph.D. students will be hooded at the School of Science ceremony by the student's academic department chairperson or faculty advisor/mentor.

At the check-in table, you will be handed a name card on which you can phonetically spell your name. You will hand your name card to the person at the podium as you cross the stage to be recognized; be certain to keep this card with you as you process to the stage.

Do I have to attend either the ‘main’ Commencement Ceremony or the School of Science ceremony?

No, you are not required to attend either one. You can choose either to participate or not participate in any of the graduation ceremonies. The ‘main’ ceremony is the official University ceremony, and it is there that degrees are conferred and diploma covers are presented. No diploma covers are presented at the School of Science ceremony. However, they will also be available from the School of Science Dean’s office once diplomas are available for pick up.

Do I have to RSVP for the ceremonies?

This year we are asking all students to respond ([RSVP click here](#)) to indicate whether they will attend the IUPUI main ceremony, or the School of Science ceremony, or both ceremonies, or neither ceremony. Please respond to the above link by April 3.

Is there a limit on the amount of guests that I can bring?

No, there is no limit for either ceremony. However, the School of Science Ceremony can become standing room only, so inform your guests to arrive early.

Who do I contact if my guest(s) or I need an interpreter for a hearing impairment or have a disability and need special seating arrangements?

IUPUI Main Ceremony: Contact the Commencement Hot Line at (317) 278-1700, or (866) 267-3104, or by email at commence@iupui.edu as soon as possible, but no later than May 1. The name of student and School (Science) with which student will be seated is requested.

School of Science Ceremony: Contact Betsy Cooney, emcooney@iupui.edu, by May 1.

II. COMMENCEMENT APPAREL and ANNOUNCEMENTS

How do I order my commencement announcements?

Announcement orders are placed through Herff Jones following the IUPUI Commencement website at <https://commencement.iupui.edu/rent-order/index.html>. When placing your order for announcements, you will be asked to select your school at IUPUI. All students will choose PU-School of Science (located at the bottom of the drop-down menu), EXCEPT Earth Sciences (Environmental Science, Geology and Applied Earth Science) students who will choose IU-School of Science.

Do I have to wear graduation apparel at the Commencement Ceremonies?

Undergraduate students

Yes, cap, gown, and tassel must be worn by all undergraduate students during the IUPUI Main Graduation Ceremony and the School of Science Graduation Ceremony.

M.S. Graduate students

Yes, cap, gown, tassel, and hood must be worn by M.S. students during the IUPUI Main Graduation Ceremony. At the School of Science Commencement Ceremony, cap, gown, and tassel must be worn. Students will carry their hood on stage, draped over left arm, in order for the department chairperson or faculty advisor/mentor to place the hood on the student. The button on the back of the hood should be unhooked so that it can be placed around the neck more easily.

Ph.D. Graduate students

Yes, cap, gown, and tassel must be worn by Ph.D. students during the IUPUI Main Graduation Ceremony and the School of Science Commencement Ceremony. Hoods will be carried on stage, draped over left arm, in order for dean, department chairperson or faculty advisor/mentor to place the hood on the student. As a reminder, Ph.D. students are hooded at both the IUPUI Main Graduation Ceremony and the School of Science Commencement Ceremony. The button on the back of the hood should be unhooked so that it can be placed around the neck more easily.

How do I order my graduation apparel?

Online graduation apparel orders must be placed through the IUPUI Commencement website at <https://commencement.iupui.edu/rent-order/index.html>. Apparel must be ordered from Herff-Jones. Final deadline to place an online order for apparel is April 7.

After April 7, apparel can ONLY be rented during cap and gown distribution located at the Indiana Convention Center [Level 1](#) rooms 142 and 143, May 13 and May 14. There will be an additional \$15 cost if you did not pre-order by the April 7 deadline.

When placing your order for graduation apparel, you will be asked to select your school at IUPUI. All students will choose PU-School of Science (located at the bottom of the drop-down menu), EXCEPT Environmental Science, Geology and Applied Earth Science students, who will choose IU-School of Science.

If you are unable to order your graduation apparel on line or it is past the deadline to order online, contact the Commencement hotline at (317) 278-1700, or (866) 267-3104, or by email at commence@iupui.edu.

How much does graduation apparel cost?

Prices will vary depending whether you are graduating with a baccalaureate or graduate degree. Prices are listed once you order through <https://commencement.iupui.edu/rent-order/index.html>.

What color should my tassel be for the School of Science?

The tassel color is golden yellow for undergrad and MS candidates. The tassel for Ph.D. students is royal blue. Please make sure that you have the right tassel color when you receive your graduation apparel. If you do not have the correct color, contact the Commencement Hotline at (317) 278-1700, or (866) 267-3104, or by email at commence@iupui.edu to exchange the tassel for the correct color. Undergraduate double degree students, where one degree is in another school, may have two tassels of different color.

How do I wear my tassel?

Students wear the tassel hanging from the right side of the cap, unless the student already holds a degree. Thus, if an undergrad student has already graduated with an Associates or Baccalaureate degree, the tassel will be worn on the left. All master and doctoral students wear the tassel on the left.

What is the tassel emblem associated with my tassel?

Each tassel has a small metal emblem attached at the top. One has the Purdue emblem; this is for all undergraduate, master, and doctoral students EXCEPT Environmental Science, Geology, and Applied Earth Science students who will have an IU trident seal on the emblem. Make certain you receive the correct emblem. If you do not receive the correct emblem, contact the Commencement Hotline at (317) 278-1700, or (866) 267-3104, or by email at commence@iupui.edu.

If picking up your apparel at cap and gown distribution on May 13 or May 14, verify you have the correct tassel, hood, and tassel emblem. If not, ask to exchange the item before leaving.

If your apparel was mailed to you, verify you have the correct tassel, hood, and tassel emblem. If something is not correct, go to cap and gown distribution on May 13 or May 14 and ask to exchange for the correct item.

What color should my hood be for the School of Science? (graduate students only)

M.S. Graduate students

The School of Science master of science hood color is black with golden yellow. When ordering your academic apparel, you will be asked to select your academic school. This selection will determine your hood color. All students will choose PU-School of Science (at the bottom of the drop down menu), EXCEPT Earth Science who will choose IU-School of Science.

Please make sure that you have confirmed the right hood color when you receive your graduation apparel. If you do not have the correct color, contact the Commencement Hotline at (317) 278-1700, or (866) 267-3104, or by email at commence@iupui.edu. You may also exchange at cap and gown distribution on May 13 or May 14, while supplies last.

Ph.D. Graduate students-Purdue University

The School of Science doctorate of philosophy hood color is black with royal blue. When ordering your academic apparel, you will be asked to select your academic school. This selection will determine your hood color. All students will choose PU-School of Science (at the bottom of the drop down menu), EXCEPT Earth Science who will choose IU-School of Science.

Ph.D. Graduate students-Indiana University

The IU hood color is crimson and cream (Geology and Applied Earth Science graduates only). When ordering your academic apparel, you will be asked to select your academic school. This selection will determine your hood color. All students will choose PU-School of Science (at the bottom of the drop down menu), EXCEPT Earth Science who will choose IU-School of Science.

Please make sure that you have confirmed the right hood color when you receive your graduation apparel. If you do not have the correct color, contact the Commencement Hotline at (317) 278-1700, or (866) 267-3104, or by email at commence@iupui.edu. You may also exchange at cap and gown distribution on May 13 or May 14, while supplies last.

Where do I pick up my graduation apparel, if not mailed to my home?

Graduation apparel for the 2017 IUPUI and Science Commencement ceremonies will be available for pick up at the Indiana Convention Center [Level 1](#) rooms 142 and 143, May 13 and May 14. If you are unable to pick up your own apparel, you may have someone do so for you.

You may also pay shipping charges with your cap and gown order to have it sent directly to you or to a relative, friend, etc. Only orders placed by April 7 can be shipped. Deliveries cannot be made to post office box number—only to a street address.

Are Science “Graduation with Distinction” Cords presented to students prior to the Commencement Ceremonies?

Yes, students who are receiving a Bachelor’s degree may be awarded a distinction honor cord; master and doctoral students do not receive honor cords. Students who are receiving an honor from the School of Science will be contacted and will be notified when cords are available to be picked up from the School of Science Dean’s Office, LD 222.

For students who are graduating in May 2017 or August 2017, *tentative* graduation honors: distinction (IU and Purdue graduates), high distinction (IU graduates only), and highest distinction (IU and Purdue graduates), are based on your most recent degree grade point average calculation. *Official* graduation honors for May 2017 or August 2017 will be awarded after final grades are posted and will be recorded on your diploma and transcript. Honors for December 2016 graduates have been determined and this information is posted on the student’s transcript and diploma.

If I receive “Graduation with Distinction” cords, how do I wear them?

If you are receiving a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree and received honor cords, the cords should be worn pinned to the left shoulder of your gown. The loop will drape over the outside of the sleeve with two cords hanging in front and two in back of the sleeve. Pins will be supplied with the cords.

Do I need to iron the gown and hood?

Yes! Please iron the gown and hood before you wear them! Removing the gown directly from the package means there will be lots of wrinkles and will result in an unprofessional appearance.

Where do I place my graduation apparel after the Ceremonies?

All gowns and graduate student hoods must be returned. You must leave your apparel in the boxes that are located at all exits before leaving the Indiana Convention Center. **REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR CAP AND TASSEL** and any recognition stole, distinction or honors cords, or medallion you may have earned.

III. DIPLOMAS and DIPLOMA COVERS

Do I receive my diploma at one of the Commencement Ceremonies?

No, diplomas are not distributed at either ceremony. You will be sent a letter in regular mail by the School of Science Dean’s Office once your diploma has arrived. At that time, you can choose to pick up your diploma in the School of Science Dean’s Office or have it mailed to you. The approximate diploma delivery schedules are: December graduates-mid-April; May graduates-mid-July; and August graduates-mid-October.

Where do I obtain a diploma cover?

Diploma covers are presented at the IUPUI “Main” ceremony at Lucas Oil Stadium. No diploma covers are presented at the School of Science ceremony. However, they will also be available from the School of Science Dean’s office once the diplomas are available for pick up.

How will my name appear in the commencement programs?

Your primary name that is listed in Student Information System (SIS) is the name that will appear in the Commencement Programs. If a change is needed, you must contact the Registrar’s for more information (<http://registrar.iupui.edu/name.html>.)

How will my name appear on my diploma?

Your primary name that is listed in Student Information System (SIS) is the name that will appear on your diploma. If a change is needed, you must contact the Office of the Registrar. Visit the Registrar’s website for more information (<http://registrar.iupui.edu/name.html>.)