POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony
FAQs

🎓 **What do I need to do to ensure that I graduate on time?**
Apply for graduation! Then, review your degree audit and degree requirements with your advisor.

🎓 **Why do I need to apply for graduation?**
Applying for graduation initiates an official degree audit by the Office of the University Registrar. The Registrar's Office determines your eligibility for degree conferral and issues your diploma once you've successfully met your degree requirements. Submitting the application also ensures that your name will appear in the printed Graduate Hooding program.

The application does NOT commit you to attending these ceremonies; rather, you'll inform us of your intent to walk in the appropriate ceremony via an RSVP link, which will be provided by mid-October. Remember: walking in a ceremony does not mean you've officially graduated. Failure to submit a graduation application to the University Registrar risks both not having your degree conferred and not receiving your diploma in a timely manner.

🎓 **How do I apply for graduation?**
Visit this website for application instructions and a link to the application in PointWeb:
http://www.pointpark.edu/About/AdminDepts/RegistrarsOffice/StudentResources/Graduation

For **Fall '24** degree conferral, apply by **July 31, 2024**.
For **Spring '25** degree conferral, apply by **September 30, 2024**.
For **Summer '25** degree conferral, apply by **January 30, 2025**.

🎓 **What is the difference between the Commencement Ceremony and the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?**

Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony – This ceremony is for individuals earning graduate-level degrees and is held twice each year: in December and in April. The Dean of each graduate program will place the hood on those earning such degrees. This ceremony replaces the traditional commencement ceremony that undergraduates attend.

Commencement – This ceremony is for individuals earning undergraduate-level degrees and is only held once a year, at the end of the Spring term. This ceremony is more traditional in nature, and the Dean of each program will present each graduate with a diploma cover.

🎓 **Who is eligible to participate in the December Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?**
All Graduate degree candidates who have completed their degree requirements by the end of the Fall 2024 term are welcome—and encouraged—to participate in the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony.

🎓 **When will I receive my diploma?**
At the end of the term in which you complete all your degree requirements, your degree will be conferred. Then, your diploma will be processed, printed, and shipped by the Michael Sutter Company. You can expect to receive your diploma about 4-6 weeks after the date of degree conferral. Visit https://www.pointpark.edu/about/admindepts/registrarsoffice/studentresources/diplomas for additional information.

🎓 **Am I required to attend the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?**
All Graduate Degree candidates are encouraged to attend, but attendance is not mandatory. The purpose of the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony is to recognize candidates for their achievement of earning an advanced degree.

🎓 **How long is the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?**
The December Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony should last approximately 90 minutes.

🎓 Is the venue for the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony accessible to people with disabilities?
Yes, all facilities in the Pittsburgh Playhouse are accessible. Accessible seating is available on all seating levels. It is strongly recommended that individuals with physical limitations bring their own wheelchair.

🎓 Do I need to notify anyone if I plan to attend the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?
Yes! If you have applied for graduation, are eligible for degree conferral, and are planning to attend the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony, you must RSVP online here: **https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/Submit/Start/727c0495-50ef-4ef7-98af-53a6b8cf85d0**. You will also receive the link by email.

🎓 Is there a rehearsal for the ceremony?
No, there will not be a rehearsal for this event. After you check in and receive your calling card, staff members will give you instructions for lining up, processing into the Playhouse, being seated, etc.

🎓 How will I know what to do when I arrive at the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?
Check in and obtain your calling card by 9:30 AM in the circulation desk/lobby area of the library in University Center. You may access the check-in area either through the Pittsburgh Playhouse (350 Forbes Ave.) or through the main doors of University Center (414 Wood St.). After receiving your calling card, report immediately to the line-up area, where you will be placed in line according to the number printed on your card.

🎓 Where can my invited guests and I park?
Parking will not be provided by the University. For parking information, visit https://www.pittsburghparking.com/Home or https://www.parkpgh.org/.

🎓 What time will my invited guests be able to enter the Pittsburgh Playhouse for the Graduate Degree Hooding Ceremony?
Doors will open at 9:00 AM. The ceremony will begin promptly at 10:00 AM.

🎓 How many family members and friends may attend?
Each graduate will be allotted a limited amount of tickets; the exact number will be determined and shared soon. Please continue to check the Hooding webpage and this FAQ document for updates regarding ticketing.