

Commencement

Ceremonies 2024



UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 19, 2024

MassMutual Center

10:00 a.m.

GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 19, 2024

MassMutual Center

3:00 p.m.



Dear Graduates and Families,



As we look forward to Commencement, a hallmark of the academic journey, we recognize the transformation of our graduates, who are now both work-ready and world-ready. At Western New England University, not only do we commemorate their academic achievements but also the people that they have become.

We recognize the importance of this event and invite you celebrate our graduating students on Sunday, May 19.

It is an opportunity for parents, families, friends, faculty, and staff to reflect with pride upon the growth that has occurred in our students during their years at Western New England University.

I look forward to welcoming you to Commencement 2024.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name below it.

Robert E. Johnson, PhD

President, Western New England University



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

GradFest 2024

Wednesday, April 17, 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 18, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

St. Germain Campus Center Mall Area

Stop by to:

- Pick up your cap & gown if you ordered “ship to Bookstore”
- Enter to win raffle prizes, including VIP tickets to Commencement
- Discuss post-graduation opportunities with Graduate Studies and Career Center counselors

Saturday, May 18, 2024

College of Engineering Senior Awards Ceremony and Order of Engineering Induction

10:00 a.m. in the Anthony S. Caprio Alumni Healthful Living Center

College of Engineering seniors are honored for their work in departmental awards and partake in the Order of the Engineer, an association for graduate and professional engineers that emphasizes pride and responsibility.

Hooding Ceremonies

The hooding ceremony celebrates the completion of doctoral degree programs. The placement of the hood precedes the final step in the graduation process, which is the formal conferral of the doctoral degree by the college dean and the president of Western New England University. The placement of the hood by a faculty member of the discipline in which a student is graduating is a signifier of successfully completing the required course of study.

School of Law Hooding Ceremony

2:00 p.m. in the Anthony S. Caprio Alumni Healthful Living Center

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Hooding Ceremony

6:00 p.m. in the Anthony S. Caprio Alumni Healthful Living Center

COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Undergraduate Ceremony

8:00–9:00 a.m. Undergraduate check-in
MassMutual Center Exhibition Hall

9:00 a.m. Doors open for Undergraduate Commencement guests
MassMutual Center, Bruce Landon Way Entrance

10:00 a.m. Undergraduate Commencement
MassMutual Center (ticket required)

Graduate Ceremony

1:00–2:00 p.m. Graduate check-in
MassMutual Center Exhibition Hall

2:00 p.m. Doors open for Graduate Commencement guests
MassMutual Center, Bruce Landon Way Entrance

3:00 p.m. Graduate Commencement
MassMutual Center (ticket required)

Commencement Day Instructions for Students

- Undergraduate students should arrive at the MassMutual Center between 8:00-9:00 a.m. for robing and processional. Graduate students should arrive between 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- There is no secure storage for valuables.
- Students will enter the MassMutual Center Exhibition entrance at the corner of Main St. and Bruce Landon Way.
- Guests will enter the MassMutual Center at the main entrance on Bruce Landon Way.
- Students will check in and receive their name card and honors tassel (if graduating with honors) in the Exhibition Hall.
- Please remain on the arena floor until the recessional at the end of the ceremony and help assure the appropriate decorum.

Tickets

- Tickets for families, friends, and guests will be issued electronically from the MassMutual Center at the end of April.
- Each undergraduate will be provided with eight (8) guest tickets for Commencement.
- Each graduate & professional graduate will be provided with fifteen (15) guest tickets for Commencement.
- Students graduating do not need a ticket.

- Information will be provided in the MassMutual Center email on how to transfer the tickets to each of your guests.
- All guest seats are General Admission and free of charge.
- ALL TICKETS ARE ELECTRONIC. Guests must have an e-ticket to enter the center. Tickets will be scanned upon entrance.
- Each ticket has a distinct access code and may only be used once.
- Tickets are non-replaceable and do not have monetary value.
- WNE does not support or condone the selling of tickets.
- WNE is not responsible for lost, stolen, or destroyed guest tickets.
- Guests are prohibited from bringing balloons, food, or beverages into the MassMutual Center.

As a courtesy to all graduates and their families, please plan to remain throughout the entire Commencement proceedings, which generally run 2 1/2 hours.

Ordering Your Cap and Gown/Regalia

All graduating students must obtain University-approved regalia to participate in ceremonies during Commencement Weekend. Herff Jones, in conjunction with the WNE Bookstore, is the approved supplier for caps and gowns to graduates. All orders for regalia must be made online. It is highly recommended that all orders are placed as soon as possible to avoid processing and transit delays. Undergraduate students who qualify for honors will be given their honor cords at Commencement check-in.

Order your cap and gown by April 18 for the ship-to-home option to receive your regalia for Commencement Weekend. Regalia will not be available to order after April 18. Shipping fees apply.

For further information regarding regalia and announcements, contact the WNE Bookstore.

Commencement Week Bookstore Hours

The bookstore will be open Monday, May 13, through Saturday, May 18, from 9:00a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Financial Obligations

The deadline for settling all accounts at Enrollment Services in order to receive a digital and paper diploma after Commencement is Monday, May 20, 2024.

Ceremony Participation

All August 2023, December 2023, and May 2024 graduates are eligible to participate in the Commencement ceremony. Graduates are asked to notify Enrollment Services at 413-796-2080 immediately with changes in plans.

Graduates who will be within six credits of graduation as of May 19, 2024, may be eligible to participate in the Commencement ceremony. A Participation Request Form must be sent to the Dean's Office prior to April 30, 2024.

Diplomas and Honors

Graduates will receive a digital download of their official diploma within a few days of the ceremony, as well as a diploma cover on stage. Diplomas will be mailed to the graduates' address on file within five to six weeks.

Honors are awarded to undergraduate students for superior scholastic achievement. Students are awarded honors if, in addition to satisfying all other requirements for the degree, they have completed a minimum of 60 credit hours at the University and have earned the required grade point average. Honor cords are distributed at check-in.

Cum Laude requires a grade point average of at least 3.300.

Magna Cum Laude requires a grade point average of at least 3.600.

Summa Cum Laude requires a grade point average of at least 3.800.

Students who graduate with between 45 and 59 credit hours completed at the University and who have a grade point average in those courses of 3.50 or higher graduate "with Honors."

Any honors designation will be on the diploma, printed in the program, and announced.

Accessibility

MassMutual Center is committed to accommodating all guests.

Examples of accommodations include accessible seating, listening devices, and service animals.

Guests in need of accessible seating will use their general admission ticket. Upon arrival at the MassMutual Center, a member of the MMC staff will assist guests in need of accessible seating.

Limited complimentary accessible parking is available across from the MassMutual Center box office at the Bruce Landon Way surface lot (East Court Lot - 22 Bruce Landon Way). If you require accessible parking, a limited number of spaces will be available in this lot. You will be required to show your accessible vehicle hang tag.

Should the East Court Lot reach full capacity by your time of arrival and you still require accessible parking, city street accessible spaces will be available on a first-come, first-served basis on the corner of Bruce Landon Way and Dwight Street.

MassMutual Center offers convenient drop-off and pick-up areas for guests, taxis, and limousines located along Bruce Landon Way.

For more information regarding accessibility, please visit www.massmutualcenter.com/accessibility.

Transportation To and From the MassMutual Center

To ensure a smooth and stress-free experience for all our graduates, we will provide complimentary shuttle service to and from the event. Details will be released on the Commencement webpage closer to the event.

Directions

MassMutual Center is located in Springfield's downtown section, minutes from hotels, bus, and train stations. Patrons should enter MassMutual Center at the entrance on the corner of Dwight Street and Bruce Landon Way.

Parking

MassMutual Center does not own or operate any local parking facilities. The Civic Center Parking Garage is currently closed and under construction on Bruce Landon Way. Parking options are available with the Springfield Parking Authority along with MGM Springfield. Visit www.massmutualcenter.com/plan-your-visit/directions-parking for more information regarding directions and parking.

Photographs

Photographs will be taken of each graduate as they receive their diplomas.

As soon as Commencement photos are processed, graduates and their families will be able to view and purchase photos online.

Video Streaming

The Commencement ceremonies will be streamed live on the University website starting at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on May 19, 2024, at wne.edu/commencement.

Important Telephone Numbers

Blue and Gold Campus Bookstore 413-782-1284

College of Arts and Sciences 413-782-1279

College of Business 413-782-1231

College of Engineering 413-782-1272

College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences 413-796-2300

School of Law 413-782-1402

Enrollment Services 413-796-2080



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