Frequently Asked Questions about NDLS Graduation

Do I need a ticket for the Prayer Service?
No, graduates do not need a ticket for the prayer service. Your guests do need a ticket.

How long is the Prayer Service?
The prayer service lasts approximately 30 minutes

Can I get extra brunch tickets?
Yes, you may purchase extra brunch tickets by contacting Denise Wager at dwager@nd.edu.

What is the dress code for Awards Day?
Professional attire is appropriate (not your graduation cap and gown).

Can I get extra tickets for Awards Day and the Prayer Service?
We do have a waiting list for extra tickets. If you have not already added your name to the list, please contact Denise Wager (dwager@nd.edu). Extra tickets are very limited, but we will try our best to accommodate as many students as possible.

How does the seating work for the brunch?
There will be open seating for the Law School brunch on Saturday, May 19. You may eat in any classroom, in the Commons, and in the Courtroom. Doors will open early for guests who need handicap assistance.

When is the class photo?
A class photo will be taken on the steps of the Main Building around 9:50 a.m.

Where is the Law School Diploma and Hooding Ceremony held?
The Law School Diploma and Hooding Ceremony is at the Reflecting Pool in front of the Hesburgh Library

Do my guests need tickets for the Law School Diploma and Hooding Ceremony?
No, the Law School Diploma and Hooding Ceremony is open seating and is unlimited with no tickets required.

Where is the Diploma and Hooding Ceremony held if there is inclement weather?
If there is inclement weather, Law School Diploma and Hooding Ceremony will be moved to the Joyce Center North Dome.

What is the proper dress for the weekend for graduates?
Your cap and gown are required for the Law School Prayer Service, the Law School Diploma and Hooding Ceremony, the University Commencement Mass (if attending), the University Commencement Ceremony (if attending). We ask that you dress comfortably. For women, this typically means a dress or a blouse and skirt that is shorter than the gown so it does not hang below the gown. Men generally choose to wear dress pants and shirt (tie optional).

Where can I see the whole schedule of events for the Law School Commencement?
A detailed schedule is located here.

What time do I line up for each event?
You will be receiving detailed information about the lineup times the week before Commencement. For planning purposes you will line up for the Prayer Service at 9:00 a.m., for the Hooding and Diploma Ceremony at 12 noon, for the Commencement Mass (if attending) at 4:30 p.m., and for the University Commencement Ceremony (if attending) around 8:45 a.m.

I am confused about the graduation hood, when do I wear it?
For the prayer service, you will wear your hood. Your tassel will be on the right. For the Diploma and Hooding Ceremony, you will not wear your hood. You will carry the hood over your right arm. Your tassel will be on the right.
You will receive more detailed information about your regalia the week before Commencement.

I have questions about the University Commencement Mass on Saturday evening and the University Commencement Ceremony on Sunday.

Please refer to the University Commencement website here and the Frequently Asked Questions Page here.

What other events are happening on campus during Commencement Weekend?

There are many events occurring across campus. Please see the schedule here.

What if I have guests who are unable to walk across campus?

A number of golf carts and a van will operate from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, and Saturday and from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday to provide assistance for those with mobility limitations. Shuttles will also be available for guests during the weekend. Contact NDSP (574-631-1500) for golf cart service during Commencement Weekend. Do not call the number until you need it, as it is a first-come, first-serve basis.

Some students have rented a wheelchair for a family member who has difficulty walking long distances on campus or for someone who might have difficulty walking after a long day. They reported using the wheelchair to travel about the campus such as the Joyce Center and the Grotto, securing the chair once they arrived at their destination. Rentals wheelchairs are available from local vendors.

Where should guests park?

We have been advised by the University that the following parking lots will be used for Commencement Weekend: Rugby and Wilson Lots (east of Grace Hall); Library Lot and Dunn Lot (east of Knott Hall and Hesburgh Library); Bulla Lot (corner of Bulla Road and Twyckenham Drive); Joyce Lots (south of the Joyce Center and Stadium); and Dorr and Lake Lots (west of the Rockne Memorial).

I have more questions, who do I contact?

If you have academic-related questions please contact Anne Hamilton, anne.c.hamilton.4@nd.edu. For questions about logistics, tickets, and anything else please contact Denise Wager, dwager@nd.edu.