



PROVIDENCE
COLLEGE



**PARENT AND FAMILY GUIDE TO
COMMENCEMENT**

**PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND
MAY 17-19, 2024**

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Congratulations on your graduate's upcoming commencement from Providence College!

We are sending you this Commencement Guide so that you will have time to prepare for the weekend's festivities. Included in this guide is a schedule of the Commencement Weekend activities, answers to frequently asked questions, and a list of phone numbers you may find helpful.

If we can be of any assistance to you as you prepare for this celebration, please call the Office of College Event Management and Planning at 401.865.2344 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or feel free to email us at colevent@providence.edu.

Also be sure to visit the College's website www.providence.edu/commencement for up-to-date notifications and information about Commencement.

Sincerely,



Deirdre A. Driscoll-Lemoine, MBA '98G, CMP
*Associate Vice President
Event Management & Planning
Providence College*



Tara Baxter, CMP
*Senior Director, College Events and
Conferences Services
Providence College*

Schedule of Events

Friday, May 17, 2024

ROTC Commissioning

2:00 p.m.

War Memorial Grotto

Contact Department of Military Science at 401.865.2471 for details

Graduate Programs and The School of Continuing Education Commencement Exercises

6:30 p.m.

Peterson Recreation Center

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. • Procession begins at 6:20 p.m.

Commencement Exercises begin at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 18, 2024

Academic Awards Ceremony

11:00 a.m. (*Doors open at 10:00 a.m.*)

Peterson Recreation Center

(enter via the Concannon Fitness Center)

Graduates receiving honors or awards are expected to attend the ceremony. Graduates should assemble in Mullaney Gymnasium by 10:15 a.m. Families are invited to attend, and tickets are not required. The ceremony is approximately one and one-half hours in length.

- **Academic attire (cap and gown) is required.**
- Please wear your cap with tassel hanging in front of the cap on the right side.
- The hood is not worn at this ceremony.
- Bring your cord (distributed at Cap & Gown Day) to the ceremony.
 - Academic Honors are as follows: Summa: 3.85, gold cord; Magna: 3.70, silver cord; Cum: 3.55 white cord. When instructed, place the cord around your neck with the knot at the back and tassels hanging down the front.

Commencement Mass

4:00 p.m. (*Doors open at 3:00 p.m.*)

Peterson Recreation Center

(enter via the Concannon Fitness Center)

All graduates are invited to attend with their guests. Tickets are not required.

Graduates should assemble in Mullaney Gymnasium by 3:00 p.m.

- **Academic attire is required for graduates; attire is carried: cap with tassel, gown, and honors cords, if applicable. The hood is not worn at this ceremony.**
- The procession will begin at 3:40 p.m.
- Late arriving guests will not be seated until after the processional is completed.
- An elevator is located in the lobby area of Peterson Recreation Center for guests with disabilities.
- Seating is limited in Peterson Recreation Center, but additional seating with a livestream of the event will be available in Mullaney Gymnasium.

- After Mass, students will process back to Mullaney Gymnasium in Alumni Hall before joining their families at the Family Reception on Slavin Center Lawn.
- Please designate a specific rendezvous site outdoors where your family can plan to meet after Mass.

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Commencement Exercises

11:00 a.m.

Doors open at 9:00 a.m. • Procession begins at 10:30 a.m.

Commencement Exercises begin at 11:00 a.m.

Amica Mutual Pavilion, Downtown Providence

Academic attire is required, wear cap with tassel, gown, hood, and honors cord, if applicable.

Helpful Commencement Information

When do students order and receive their Commencement tickets, caps, and gowns?

All seniors are required to order their cap and gown online between November 21, 2023, and March 1, 2024, from www.HerffJones.com/college/graduation. Emails will be sent to seniors, weekly beginning November 21, 2023, directing them to the website. Cap & Gown Day will be held on April 10, 2024, in Slavin Center, '64 Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Seniors will pick up their pre-ordered cap, gown, and honors cord (if applicable), as well as tickets to the Commencement exercises.

December 2024 Graduation Candidates

December 2024 candidates are included in all aspects of the May 2024 Commencement. Candidates for December 2024 graduation participate in the May 2024 graduation ceremonies. December candidates will be included in the official commencement program, where they will be recognized as December 2024 graduation candidates. All December 2024 candidates will have their names read at the ceremony and will be eligible to walk on stage with the other graduates.

Are there invitations or announcements to Commencement?

Personalized announcements for family and friends are available for purchase from Herff Jones at [College Graduation Products by Herff Jones](http://CollegeGraduationProductsbyHerffJones). Please note that announcements/invitations to Commencement **will not** serve as Commencement tickets.

Indebtedness to the College: What if there are unpaid bills?

Any student with an unpaid balance as of April 5, 2024, *will not be able to receive their cap and gown, or tickets to the Commencement exercises*, until the balance is paid in full. Account balances may be viewed online using your Cyberfriar login or by calling the Student Accounts office at 401.865.2284.

Day of Commencement:

Tickets:

Does each guest in my party need a ticket, and is there a limit to the number of guests?

Yes, every guest needs a ticket. Graduates will receive (6) guest tickets to Commencement. Graduates do not need a ticket for entry. Tickets will be distributed to the graduates at Cap & Gown Day on April 10, 2024.

Why is there a limit to Commencement tickets?

The technological projection requirements necessary to execute this ceremony at the Amica Mutual Pavilion result in a loss of approximately one-third of the arena seats. The screens ensure that all in the arena have an opportunity to get a close-up view of their graduate at the milestone moment when they approach the stage to receive their degree.

Will additional tickets be available?

Students who may require additional guest tickets are encouraged to check with classmates. Many families will not use all six guest tickets. If you do not require all six guest tickets, please return them to the Office of College Event Management and Planning, Harkins Hall 404. Any returned tickets will be made available after May 1, via an email lottery, only if tickets are available. Students will be notified via email that a limited number of tickets are available, and instructions on how to request additional tickets. If tickets are available, have your graduate submit a request to receive an additional ticket. We ask that **only** students submit requests and **only** student requests will be honored and fulfilled.

Will student transportation be provided to and from the Amica Mutual Pavilion?

While most graduates live off campus, there has been some inquiry regarding bus transport to the Amica Mutual Pavilion. A limited number of buses will be available for **student** transportation. The buses will depart from Concannon Circle promptly at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 19 for graduates. Registration is available April 10– May 1, 2024. Seating is limited and cannot be guaranteed unless your student has received an email confirmation. Graduates will need to present email confirmation upon arrival as this will be their ‘ticket’ to board the bus to the Amica Mutual Pavilion. The bus will be on the Sabin Street side of the Amica Mutual Pavilion for return after the ceremony.

Registration for the bus is **required** using the link <https://events.blackthorn.io/3iofXW6/3a6XUT6tR>

What is the timing of the ceremony?

- All doors at the Amica Mutual Pavilion open at 9:00 a.m.
- The procession begins at 10:30 a.m.
- The ceremony begins at 11:00 a.m.
- The sequence of the conferral of degrees is as follows: undergraduate B.A., B.S., and Honorary Degrees.
- The ceremony ends at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Where may I take photos during the ceremony?

Each graduate will be professionally photographed by GradImages. GradImages will send graduates a color digital image; orders may then be placed directly with GradImages.

Will refreshments be available?

Light refreshments (coffee, juice, breakfast, pastries, soda) will be available for purchase in the Amica Mutual Pavilion vending area prior to the ceremony. Please refrain from eating and/or drinking in the main arena during the ceremony.

Seating:

Commencement Seating

Apart from a few reserved sections, seating is unassigned. Seats will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Families should plan to arrive at the Amica Mutual Pavilion by 9:00 a.m. to obtain the best possible seating. Candidates for B.A. and B.S. degrees sit on both sides of the Amica Mutual Pavilion floor; you will not know until the morning of graduation on which side your student will be seated. Large video screens on either side of the stage will broadcast the entire ceremony.

Are there special arrangements for persons with special needs?

Guests with special needs may access the lobby by using the ramp located on the Hilton Providence side of the building (left of the main entrance). Once inside the lobby, proceed to the main concourse area towards Sections 101, 106, 110, 120, and 124 which are reserved for persons with disabilities.

Supplemental sections 104 and 126 have also been added. Members of the Friars Club (wearing white blazers and black slacks/skirts) will be posted at these sections to assist guests with special needs. Only one escort is permitted to remain with a special needs guest or guest seated in a wheelchair. Fire laws are strictly enforced and do not permit leaving wheelchairs in the aisles. A sign-language interpreter will sign the entire Commencement Exercise.

Where should we meet our graduate after the ceremony?

With thousands of people exiting the arena, plan to join your PC graduate outside the Amica Mutual Pavilion at a predetermined meeting spot.

Parking:

Providence College Security will direct you to parking for all on-campus events. Event parking for the commencement ceremony is available at various privately owned lots around the city, as well as in the garage adjacent to the Amica Mutual Pavilion. For a map of available parking locations, please visit:

<https://www.amicamutualpavilion.com/guest-services/directions-parking>

Amica Mutual Pavilion General Information

Security at the Amica Mutual Pavilion

All individuals will have to pass through metal detectors before entering the arena. Large bags of all kinds can be problematic, so we ask both graduates and guests alike to consider leaving bags at home or in your car (unless it is necessary for you to carry them with you).

Bags larger than 13 5/8" x 15 1/4" will not be permitted through the security zone. Under some circumstances, security personnel will deem it necessary to search a bag before allowing its owner admittance to an event. Clear bags or small wristlets (4x6) are **strongly encouraged** for all events as of 9/16/2021 at the AMP. Baggage such as bags, briefcases, backpacks, and luggage are prohibited. Guests entering the arena are subject to search at the discretion of Management. The arena does not provide storage for any confiscated baggage.

This is true of events at both the Amica Mutual Pavilion and Peterson Recreation Center on campus. We encourage individuals to take advantage of the doors opening at 9:00 a.m. to give you plenty of time to get to your seats.

All camera policies are event specific. Small, personal, digital point and shoot cameras are acceptable, however, cameras with professional lenses, or detachable flashes are prohibited from the Amica Mutual

Pavilion. Use of video cameras, audio recording devices and digital cameras in video mode are prohibited in the arena. The use of any of these items will result in disciplinary action and possible ejection from the arena.

Prohibited Items

Drugs, weapons of any kind, baggage, noisemakers, or laser pointers are prohibited at the arena. The Amica Mutual Pavilion has a no-smoking policy, and smoking is limited to outdoor spaces on the Providence College campus.

Visitors are not allowed to bring food or beverages into the Amica Mutual Pavilion.

All policies can be found here: <https://www.amicamutualpavilion.com/guest-services/building-policies>

General Information

Restaurant Reservations

We suggest either Saturday reservation after 6:00 p.m., (Mass ends at approximately 5:30 p.m.) or Sunday dinner reservations after 2:00 p.m. to allow time to exit the Amica Mutual Pavilion and the downtown city area. For more information, visit the Providence Warwick Convention and Visitor's Bureau website at <http://www.goprovidence.com/>

What about senior week activities?

Questions should be directed to the Student Activities-Involvement-Leadership, 401.865.2211.

What about hotel reservations?

Hotel information is available on either of these sites:

<https://commencement.providence.edu/>

<http://www.goprovidence.com/>

If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in this event, please contact the Central Reservations Manager at 401-865-1040; M-F 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., well in advance of this event.

IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

November 21: Opening Date for Cap and Gown Ordering from Herff Jones

March 1: Closing Date for Cap and Gown ordering from Herff Jones

April 10: Cap and Gown Day- All tickets, informational materials, graduate number in line for Commencement will be distributed. Those on financial hold will not be given graduation materials until the hold is removed. Graduates need to bring their PC ID.

May 13-17: Senior Week- Graduates can contact the Office of Student Activities with questions regarding activities.

May 17: 2 p.m. ROTC Commissioning, War Memorial Grotto

May 18: 11 a.m. Honors Awards Ceremony, Peterson Recreation Center
Doors open at 10:00 a.m., procession begins at 10:50 a.m.

May 18: 4 p.m. Commencement Mass, Peterson Recreation Center
Doors open at 3:00 p.m., procession begins at 3:40 p.m.

May 19: 11 a.m. Commencement, Amica Mutual Pavilion, Downtown Providence
Doors open at 9:00 a.m., procession begins at 10:30 a.m.

Important Phone Numbers

Important phone numbers you may need for questions related to:

Commencement Weekend

College Events, Office of College Event management and Planning
401.865.2344 or colevents@providence.edu

Office of the Registrar

Harkins Hall 310
401.865.1033 or records@providence.edu

Bookstore Items

Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Providence College
401.865.2181 or pcbook@providence.edu

Amica Mutual Pavilion

1 LaSalle Square, Providence, RI 02903
401.331.0700 or <https://www.amicamutualpavilion.com/>

Financial Obligations

Office of Student Accounts
401.865.2284

Herff Jones

Customer Service

1.800.837.4235 or www.Herffjones.com/college/graduation

Highway Construction

R.I. Department of Transportation

401.222.2450 or www.dot.ri.gov

On-Campus Housing

Office of Residence Life

401.865.2392

Photography – Commencement Day

GradImages

1.800.261.2576 or www.gradimages.com

Safety and Security at Providence College

The Office of Public Safety

401.865.2391

Senior Week Activities

Student Activities-Involvement-Leadership

401.865.2211

Veritas Yearbook

401.865.2605

[Media and Publications – Student Activities at Providence College](#)

For updates and current information on Providence College's 2024 Commencement weekend, check the website: <https://commencement.providence.edu/>



- 1 Anderson Stadium Garage
- 2 Concannon Parking
- 3 Fennell and Smith Center Lots
- 4 Glay Field Lot
- 5 Hickey/Sowa Lot
- 6 Lennon Field Parking Garage
- 7 Martin Hall Lot
- 8 Peterson Recreation Center
- 9 Ruane Center Lot
- 10 Schneider Arena Lot
- 11 Slavin Center
- 12 Slavin Lawn
- 13 War Memorial Grotto
- 14 Wardlaw Lot