



AUGUSTA
UNIVERSITY

1120 15th Street
Augusta, Georgia 30912

www.augusta.edu

May 2016 Graduation Newsletter

CEREMONY

Graduation will be held **Friday, May 13, 2016** at 2:00 pm at the James Brown Arena. **All graduating students must be at the arena no later than 1:00 pm.** Any changes to the scheduled time will be posted no less than 60 days prior to the event.

As part of the ceremony, each student will walk across the stage and be recognized. In order to accomplish this, each student is assigned to a specific section prior to entering the arena. Please locate the staging area for your degree in the exhibit hall and line-up accordingly.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Official Augusta University regalia is used by all participants in the Graduation Ceremony. Orders for regalia are limited to graduates participating in the May 2016 ceremony. All other orders will be cancelled. To receive your regalia, you will need to complete an online request form. The form can be found at:

<http://goo.gl/forms/t9L8B0niXk>

All regalia orders must be placed by March 13th. Students who wish to place orders after March 13th will need to visit the JagStore on the Summerville campus, in Washington Hall, to request their regalia. All orders placed after March 13th will be charged a rush fee and specific requests cannot be guaranteed (colors, sizes, etc.).

For Associate, Bachelor, Master, and Specialist graduates:

Regalia will be ordered online through Josten's. All items will be paid for at the time the order is placed and shipped directly to the student (address will be entered as part of the online ordering process). Students will need to use their GRU email address to complete their order.

Associate regalia are platinum. Bachelor and Master regalia are black. All Associate, Bachelor, Master, and Specialist graduates will keep their regalia at the conclusion of the event.

For Doctoral graduates:

Doctoral regalia packages are rental only and will be available for pick up at the Summerville Campus JagStore beginning Monday, May 2nd. For a \$12 shipping fee, your regalia can be shipped. Please contact the JagStore at ecantrel@gru.edu with your name, ship to address and phone number.

Doctoral students will return their regalia after graduation. The JagStore will have an area designated for returns at the lower level of the James Brown Arena immediately following the ceremony. If you do not return your rental at that time, you may do so at the JagStore on the Summerville campus, in Washington Hall. The return deadline is Wednesday, May 18th. A \$30 late fee will be charged for rentals returned after this date. Doctoral students may inquire about regalia purchases by contacting the JagStore at 706-737-1611.

GRADUATION ATTIRE

Recommended attire for Commencement includes dark shoes and clothes for ladies and dark pants and shoes for men. Women should not bring purses to the ceremony.

DIPLOMAS

Diplomas are produced by the Registrar's Office. The name on the diploma will be your legal name as listed on your academic records at Augusta University. If your legal name has changed, please provide documentation to the Registrar's Office.

Diplomas will reflect the name of the consolidated university. Any currently enrolled student who matriculated to Georgia Regents University, Georgia Health Sciences University, Augusta State University, or the Medical College of Georgia will be eligible to also receive one commemorative diploma. Only students earning multiple degree types will receive two diplomas. Multiple diplomas for double majors under the same degree type are not issued.

Diplomas will be available 6-8 weeks following Graduation. Diplomas will be mailed to the student's permanent address as listed in POUNCE.

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS

Undergraduate students graduating with honors will be designated in the commencement program. These honors are based on the cumulative grade point average at the end of fall semester. Some students, however, may also become eligible to graduate with honors after spring semester grades are compiled. (It is not possible to designate these students in the graduation program.) **Qualifying students may pick up their undergraduate honor cords from the Registrar's Office beginning Monday, April 25th, 2015.**

In order for a student who completes all coursework at Augusta University to be eligible for graduation with honors, the student's grade point average must meet one of the following requirements:

3.50 – cum laude 3.70 – magna cum laude 3.90 – summa cum laude

Students who transfer to Augusta University are eligible to graduate with honors only if the student's GPA for his/her entire university career meets one of the above requirements and the student has completed at least 60 hours of coursework at Augusta University for a bachelor's degree (30 hours at Augusta University for the associate's degree). The portion of the GPA earned at Augusta University must meet the above requirements in order to be considered for honors. The lower of the two grade point averages will determine honors designation. Honor designations are only awarded to students seeking undergraduate degrees.

GRADUATION AND CAREER FAIR

Augusta University will hold a Graduation and Career Fair on February 19th from 11:00am – 2:00pm in the Christenberry Fieldhouse. Josten's will be on-site during the Graduation fair as well as The Registrar, Financial Aid, Alumni Association, and Bookstore. For more information, visit: <http://www.augusta.edu/careerservices/job-fairs.php>

REHEARSAL

There will be no rehearsal for all graduating students. Directions will be given from the podium during the ceremony. Ushers will also direct students to and from the podium during the ceremony. Please be attentive!

MARCHING ORDER / NAME CARDS

Section line-up will be posted in the exhibit hall at the James Brown Arena. During the lineup for the ceremony, students will be given their name card. This card is to be given to the announcer on stage as the graduate steps onto the platform.

FACILITY REGULATIONS

Air horns, balloons, signs, confetti, and beach balls are prohibited by the James Brown Arena and will be confiscated if brought to the ceremony. The arena staff may ask individuals to leave the facility if this policy is violated.

GUESTS

Tickets **will be required** for guests attending the Commencement Ceremony. Each student will be able to claim up to six (6) tickets for their guests. Guests without tickets will be directed next door to the Bell Auditorium to view the ceremony on simulcast. Guest Tickets will be distributed the week of April 25th to students who have registered for Graduation.

Unclaimed tickets will be redistributed closer to the ceremony date. Full details for all ticket distribution will be available later this Spring and will be announced through Augusta University email.

All seating is general admission. Guests are not allowed on the arena floor before, during, or after the ceremony. The doors to arena will open approximately ninety minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. The event will also be webcast at www.gru.edu/stream

PARKING

The arena address is 601 7th St, Augusta, GA 30901. Graduation guests are encouraged to park in the main arena parking lots, the Bell Auditorium lot and on streets adjacent to the arena. Handicap parking spaces are reserved in the main arena parking lot across from the marquee on Seventh Street. A state handicap parking permit is required. **DO NOT** park in the U.S. Post Office parking lot, at 525 8th Street. It is a strictly enforced tow-away zone.

DISABILITY ACCESS

If your guest requires special accommodations for a disability, special seating is available on a limited first-come, first-served basis. Due to limited seating in the handicapped areas, a maximum of one person will be allowed to accompany the handicapped person in the designated seating area.

GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Additional graduation items may be ordered directly from the Jostens website at <http://www.jostens.com/apps/jcom/graduationannouncements.mvc?affiliateId=1039911>.

PHOTOGRAPHS

A still picture of each student receiving his/her diploma will be offered at no obligation to purchase. Order forms will be mailed to the student at the address on back of the name card (the same card given to students in the line-up). Please check the address for accuracy. An agreement to buy photographs is strictly between each student and the GradImages. Augusta University assumes no responsibility. For additional information, students may contact GradImages Customer Service at (1-800-261-2576) or via their website at www.gradimages.com

WEBCAST & VIDEO

Augusta University is proud to present the Commencement Ceremony as a live webcast. You can view the webcast at www.gru.edu/stream

The entire ceremony will be filmed. Students and families who want a record of the event should contact American Audio Visual at (1-706-868-5977) or visit them at 3621 Old Petersburg Rd, Martinez, GA 30907.

MANDATORY FINANCIAL AID EXIT COUNSELING

All graduates who received a Federal Stafford Loan(s) **are required** to complete mandatory Exit Counseling at http://www.nsls.ed.gov/nsls_SA/SaEcNavigate1.do. Graduates must complete the mandatory Exit Counseling requirement before a diploma can be issued.

For additional information regarding your Stafford Loan(s):

- You can obtain your total indebtedness at http://www.nsls.ed.gov/nsls_SA/.
- You can review repayment options at <http://www2.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/DirectLoan/RepayCalc/dlindex2.html>.
- You can calculate an estimated payment at <http://www2.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/DirectLoan/calc.html>.
- You can obtain information about loan consolidation at <https://loanconsolidation.ed.gov/AppEntry/apply-online/appindex.jsp>.
- You can contact your lender at <http://www.direct.ed.gov/callus.html>.
- If additional information is needed, you may contact the Office of Student Financial Aid at 706-737-1524.

RELATED GRADUATION EVENTS

Some colleges host hooding/pinning ceremonies prior to commencement. Such ceremonies are the responsibility of each individual college. Students requiring additional information should contact the appropriate college office.

- College of Allied Health hooding and honors ceremony on May 12th
- College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Reception and Honors Program on May 13th
- College of Business undergraduate Graduate Reception week of May 2nd
- School of Dentistry hooding on May 13th
- College of Education Graduate Celebration on May 12th
- Graduate School hooding on May 13th
- Medical College of Georgia hooding on May 12th
- College of Nursing pinning on May 13th
- College of Science and Mathematics reception on May 13th

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Additional information on any aspect of graduation may be obtained by calling the following offices:

JagStore, Summerville Campus	(706) 737-1611
Registrar	(706) 446-1430
Student Affairs	(706) 737-1411
Financial Aid	(706) 737-1524

Graduation FAIR

CHRISTENBERRY FIELDHOUSE

FEBRUARY 19
11AM - 2PM

do you
plan on
GRADUATING?

PARTICIPATING

departments
registrar
FINANCIAL AID

bursar
alumni
JOBSTORE

Career Services

THURSDAY 2-18

11AM - 2PM
K-12
EDUCATOR
EXPO

K-12 job fair featuring over 25 K12 school systems and employers seeking candidates for teaching, guidance and administrative openings for the next academic year.

FRIDAY 2-19

11AM - 2PM
EMPLOYER
EXPO

Features 70+ employers recruiting for part-time, full-time, summer internship, volunteer and graduate school recruitment.

★ EXTRA REASONS TO BE AT FRIDAY'S JOB FAIR! ★

PROFESSIONAL
ATTIRE

EXPECTED

*****AND*****
BRING YOUR

RESUME

FREE
PROFESSIONAL
HEADSHOTS

1st come
1st serve basis for

Students
& Alumni

2016
GRADUATES

A special section of the event will allow upcoming graduates to:

ORDER CAP & GOWN
Complete exit with
FINANCIAL AID

VERIFY OR PROCESS
GRADUATION APPLICATION

Much Much More!

