

2020 COMMENCEMENT FACTS

College of Engineering Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony

Tuesday, May 19, 2020 | 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
HEARST GREEK THEATRE

Commencement Day Schedule

2:00 p.m.

The Hearst Greek Theatre gates open to graduates and ticketed guests.

Students participating in the ceremony assemble at the Maxwell Family Field.

3:00 p.m. Sharp!

Procession begins.

Department Receptions

Department receptions for graduates and their guests will be held prior to the ceremony. Locations and times will be posted on department websites and printed in the program.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Commencement is a significant occasion, a milestone in your academic career. As you begin to think about graduating from Cal, and especially as your family and friends make plans for commencement, questions will arise. This fact sheet answers those questions most frequently asked.

Commencement Tickets: Commencement tickets will be distributed beginning Thursday, April 30, through Sunday, May 17, at the Zellerbach Hall ticket office. The ticket office is located at the northeast corner of **Zellerbach Hall** on the UC Berkeley campus. Box office hours are: Tues-Fri, Noon-5:30 p.m.; Sat & Sun, 1-5 p.m.; closed Mondays. Tickets will NOT be available for pickup at Zellerbach on Monday, May 18, or Tuesday, May 19. The box office at the Greek Theatre will open 1 hour prior to each ceremony on Tuesday, May 21, for ticket sales on a cash only basis and will call ticket pickup. Guest tickets are \$5 each; all ticket sales are final. Graduates must register to participate, but do not need to purchase a ticket. Graduates must be dressed in cap and gown for admission to the ceremony. Guest tickets are general admission, and seating is first-come, first-serve basis.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Degree candidates and guests requiring special assistance or wheelchair seating must request special seating arrangements at: engineering.berkeley.edu/commencement-seating. Space for wheelchair seating is available in the Greek Theatre, but should be requested in advance. ASL interpreters are available upon advance request.

How to Order Your Cap and Gown: Caps and gowns can be purchased from the Cal Student Store (2495 Bancroft Way). Call (510) 229-4703 for more information.

Your Diploma: Commemorative scrolls, not diplomas, are given out at commencement. Diplomas for undergraduate and graduate students will be mailed free of charge approximately four months after the end of the term to your diploma address.

You can update your diploma address in CalCentral: <https://calcentral.berkeley.edu/> under Profile > Contact Information > Address (click on Add) > Diploma Address. If you have any questions or need more information, please visit: <http://registrar.berkeley.edu/academic-records/transcripts-diplomas>.

Transportation to Commencement: Commencement Bear Transit Shuttle Service: Shuttles are a quick, easy and inexpensive way to commute to commencement. Shuttles are free for graduating seniors wearing cap/gown or with ID, as well as their families. Shuttles run approximately every 12-24 minutes, and all daytime shuttles are equipped with wheelchair lifts. We recommend you consider utilizing a shuttle when planning your transportation to commencement. From BART catch the eastbound Perimeter (P-Line) Bear Transit shuttle near the Downtown Berkeley BART station. Shuttles stop at Addison/Shattuck and Hearst/Euclid. Exit the shuttle at the Greek Theatre.

View the P-Line BearTransit page for the shuttle schedule and route map at: pt.berkeley.edu/around/beartransit/daytime.

Parking: During commencement, visitors may park in designated campus parking lots on a first-come, first-served basis, for \$10. **Parking is CREDIT CARD ONLY - no cash will be accepted.** You may also park in the surrounding city parking lots. Rates and hours vary.

Commencement parking is available in student 'S' permit areas for a \$10 fee. Please read parking signs carefully. Parking will be available in the following campus parking lots:

- Foothill Lot (Hearst at Highland Ave.)
- Lower Hearst Structure (Hearst at Scenic Ave.)

All designated disabled spaces and non-reserved spaces will be available at \$10 to disabled patrons with certified disabled placards or license plates on a first-come, first-served basis. There is a curbside drop-off area on Gayley Road just north of the Greek Theatre entrance for passengers with mobility challenges who prefer to minimize the travel distance to the Greek Theatre.

For further information on parking, please visit the Parking and Transportation website at: pt.berkeley.edu/spevents/commencement.

Flowers: Fresh flowers will be available for purchase at the Greek Theatre.

Pictures: The College has made arrangements with Grad Images to photograph every graduate at the moment the scroll is given. Guests are not permitted on or near the stage, and are not allowed to block aisles to take pictures. Information about ordering photos is posted on the Grad Images website at: gradimages.com.

Graduation Announcements: Personalized graduation announcements may be purchased at the Cal Student Store (2495 Bancroft Way). Call (510) 229-4703 for more information.

How to Wear Your Cap and Gown: Tassels: At Cal, baccalaureate candidates for the College of Engineering wear tassels on their caps. All candidates wear the tassel on the right side of the cap and will turn their tassel to the left when their degree level has been conferred. The cap is worn with the long point of the shell to the rear. Watch our “Regalia 101” video for more tips: <https://youtu.be/8qRso9EU6Tg>.

Under your gown: Although not required, many graduates choose to dress up on commencement day. When planning your outfit, bear in mind that you will be in a lot of photos, which will be looked back on for years to come. The event will be a combination of standing and sitting for a minimum of 2 hours; we suggest wearing comfortable shoes. As Berkeley mornings are often cool with fog giving way to afternoon sun, light layers are highly recommended.

Honors Cords: Summer and Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 B.S. and B.A. degree candidates who have an overall Berkeley GPA that ranks them in the top 20 percent of students will be eligible to purchase honors cords at the Cal Student Store for the 2020 commencement ceremony. For B.S. degree candidates the minimum overall GPA required for honors (as determined by the Office of the Registrar) for Fall 2019 or Spring 2020 is 3.803 and for Summer 2019 is 3.745. For ORMS-B.A. degree candidates the minimum overall GPA required for honors (as determined by the Office of the Registrar) for Fall 2019 or Spring 2020 is 3.757 and for Summer 2019 is 3.747. Due to pending grades, Summer and Fall 2020 B.S. and B.A. degree candidates are not eligible to purchase honors cords for the 2020 commencement ceremony. To confirm that your cumulative Berkeley GPA through the Fall 2020 semester meets the cutoff requirement, please visit bearfacts.berkeley.edu.

What to Do on Commencement Day: Assemble at the Maxwell Family Field lot on Stadium Rim Way, north of Memorial Stadium.

- Pick up your registration card from the check-in tents. Go to the tent that has the first letter of your last name.
- Line up in cap and gown on Maxwell Field (no guests are allowed in the graduate line-up area or backstage). Look for department name signs and get into the appropriate line according to your department. Staff marshals will be present to assist you.
- You will be given instructions as to where and how to be seated and when to approach the stage to receive your scroll.
- Please remain in the theatre until the ceremony ends.

Enjoy your special day and congratulations on your achievement!