

11 a.m. version

Dear Class of 2021 Member:

Thank you for registering for your commencement ceremony this weekend. You have signed up for Saturday, May 15 at 11 a.m.

Here are some instructions and information to help you know what to expect. These details should help make your event run smoothly this weekend.

What to Wear: Class members should wear their caps and gowns, with gowns zipped up and with tassels on the right. Shoes that are comfortable to walk in are recommended since the courtyard is uneven in places.

Arrival and Parking: Please arrive using the main campus entrance on Hillsborough Street no later than 10:30 a.m. to check in. You will need to download the [Campus Clear App](#) and to use the app to enter your information prior to arrival. Parking for graduates is in the Harris and Martin Parking Lots

Guests: Guests should also enter from the main campus entrance and should also park in the Harris and Martin Parking Lots. They should enter the courtyard on the Brewer and Jones Auditorium side. A downloadable campus map is available at meredith.edu/about/campus-map. Please remind your guests to complete the AR form that was sent with their registration confirmation prior to the ceremony. This form is required for entrance to campus. Guests also need to download the [Campus Clear App](#) and use the app to enter their information prior to arrival.

Check in: You will check in on the Vann side of Johnson Hall and receive your lineup card. Class members do not have to sit in alphabetical order this year, so if you want to sit with a friend, please try to arrive at check in together. Once you check in you will be directed to your seat.

What to Expect During the Ceremony: While some elements are different this year, Meredith College wants to provide your class with as many commencement traditions as possible. President Jo Allen, '80, Chaplain Stacy Pardue, and Class President Lindsey Lewis, '21, will speak.

Provost Matthew Poslusny will announce graduate names as he does each year. When this portion of the ceremony begins, graduates will be led to the stage by College marshals.

- Remember to take your lineup card with you to the computer station next to the stage. Then you will pick up your diploma cover and wait until your name is read.
- Photo Specialties will take photos of each graduate during the Commencement ceremony at two places:
 - First, you will go to the mark on the patio so that Photo Specialties can take two pictures with you near President Allen in your mask.
 - Then, you will go down two steps and proceed to a backdrop that Photo Specialties has set up where you will be able to have them take a photo with your diploma without a mask.
 - Graduates will receive an email from Photo Specialties after Commencement with a link to access their photos.
- After you put your mask back on, you will return to your seat.

For undergraduates, the ceremony will include the traditional turning of the tassels AND of the Meredith Onyx.

Pronunciation Hotline: To use the Provost's Office name pronunciation hotline for your class, dial (919) 760-2021 and leave a message stating the correct pronunciation of your first, middle, and last names. Please make sure to speak slowly and clearly, and leave a call back number for verification and questions. The name pronunciation hotline will be open until noon on Friday, May 14.

Live Stream: For family and friends who cannot attend, Meredith's commencement ceremonies will be available for online viewing via a live stream at youtube.com/MeredithCollegeLive.

Rain Plan: In case of inclement weather, members of the graduating classes will be directed to Jones Auditorium. Because of capacity limitations, guests will be directed to alternate viewing locations around campus to watch the event via **live stream**. Emails with specific instructions in the event of inclement weather will be sent as soon as possible to those registered to attend. Announcements will also be posted online at meredith.edu/commencement and on meredith.edu.

Campus Store: For the convenience of graduates and their families, Meredith's Campus Store will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We look forward to celebrating commencement with you and your classmates.

Sincerely,

Meredith College Commencement Planning Committee