



WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY®

**2022 WGU Commencement in
Philadelphia**

Saturday, May 21, 2022

#WGUgrad

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CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWL— YOU DID IT!



Welcome to the WGU Alumni Community! You're part of a family of more than **275,000** Night Owls, with special benefits that last well beyond your graduation.

BEING A GRADUATE HAS ITS BENEFITS

As a WGU graduate, you understand that learning is a lifelong pursuit. So do we. That's why we provide alumni like you with valuable benefits for continuing education. Enjoy free access to premium services like LinkedIn Learning, Pluralsight, edX, The Teaching Channel, Nurses on Boards Coalition, and more!

KEEP LEARNING at wgu.edu/alumnilearn

KEEP ADVANCING YOUR CAREER

As your focus shifts specifically to career advancement, so does the support from WGU. Our Career & Professional Development team is here to help you thrive throughout your career.

GET STARTED at wgu.edu/career-services

JOIN THE NIGHT OWL NETWORK

This exclusive network is a great way to connect with other alumni, find or become an industry mentor, join professional interest groups, discover innovative ideas from other experts in your field, or even find new jobs!

JOIN TODAY at wgu.edu/nightownetwork

AND THERE'S MORE

Visit our website to find other resources and ways to stay involved. Look for military alumni resources, explore discounts, see who's in the news, shop WGU merchandise, and keep an eye on other alumni events!

JOIN THE COMMUNITY at wgu.edu/alumni

WGU  **ALUMNI**

Learn more.
wgu.edu/alumni 866.225.5948

THE LIACOURAS CENTER

The Liacouras Center

1776 N Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19121

Schedule

Saturday, May 21, 2022

Master's Ceremony 9:30 am EDT

Bachelor's Ceremony 1:45 pm EDT

Tickets are not required for commencement.



Venue Questions

Guests are welcome to call The Liacouras Center directly at (215) 204-2400 with questions.

Guest Services

On commencement day, The Liacouras Center staff will be on hand to answer venue-related questions.

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

In the event of a serious emergency at The Liacouras, all event staff, event security, and Temple University Police Department are ready and available to assist guests, including guests with disabilities. Pertinent information regarding an emergency situation and evacuation procedures will be provided over the public address system and on the arena televisions and scoreboards.

EMT/First Aid

First Aid services are available during all events. Please see an usher for assistance.

Guest Seating

Seating is first come, first served. Guests should be seated with their cell phones on silent before the graduate procession begins. Guests should remain in their seats during the entire ceremony as a courtesy to graduates and other guests. The commencement venue allows photos and videos at the ceremony; however, we ask you to take photos from your seat rather than from the aisles due to fire and safety regulations and as a courtesy to other guests. WGU has hired a professional photographer for this event. Images of each graduate and the ceremony will be available online for purchase.

Important Reminders for Guests

No smoking or chewing tobacco is allowed within the venue.

The following items are PROHIBITED: Glow sticks, water guns, outside food and beverage, weapons or other threatening items, signs of any kind, illegal substances, backpacks/camelbacks, laser pointers, and selfie sticks. Facility security has the right to act in any manner necessary to ensure the safety of all attendees, as well as the dignity of the event.

Infants and Young Children

For your child's comfort and as a courtesy to graduates and other guests, we encourage you to bring toys, refreshments, or other items to keep your child quietly entertained during the ceremony. Please bring restless or crying infants and children to the concourse to avoid disrupting the ceremony/broadcast. You can continue to watch the ceremony on the concourse monitors. To promote safety in close quarters, no children will be allowed on stage or to sit with graduates. By observing these guidelines, we can have a safe, enjoyable, and memorable commencement.

Strollers

The Liacouras Center welcomes guests with strollers. Stroller use should not in any way inhibit fan movement or block any aisles. Strollers should be checked at the WGU Information Table.

Lost Guests/Children

Lost children and guests should be taken to the PNC desk in the Broad St. lobby. Please ask for assistance from the Guest Services supervisor.

Lost & Found Items

If you misplace an item or find something that belongs to another guest while at The Liacouras Center, please visit one of the Guest Services Booths. If you lost an item at an event, please click [here](#) to send an email and check on your lost belonging(s).

Mask Policy

In accordance with the updated guidance from the CDC and based on current COVID-19 transmission levels in the City of Philadelphia, face coverings will be optional at WGU events during Commencement Weekend. Individuals who would like to continue to wear a mask are encouraged to do so.

Bag Policy

All bags will be searched. Please limit your bags to small clutch-sized and/or plastic or clear bags to expedite entry. Backpacks and oversized bags are not permitted into the arena. For further details on the security policy of The Liacouras Center, please visit their [website](#).

COMMENCEMENT ETIQUETTE AND DECORUM

Commencement Weekend is a memorable experience for graduates and their loved ones to celebrate their academic achievement. We want our graduates to experience a joyful ceremony that recognizes their hard work and the sacrifices they have made to reach this point. WGU believes mutually respectful participation by graduates and their guests is the best way to set the stage. In preparation for commencement, WGU has outlined the following protocols. You and your guests' adherence to the following protocol will ensure a positive experience for all.

Academic Attire for Graduates

All graduating students wear approved academic attire that includes a cap, gown, and tassel. The official regalia color is navy.

We encourage all graduates to wear comfortable, yet professional, dress attire under your gown rather than casual clothing. Master's degree graduates will need a hood specific to their degree. WGU graduates affiliated with an academic honor society may wear society pins or honor cords on their gowns. With the exception of WGU Scholarship pins, leis and corsages, graduates should not wear other items or decoration on their academic regalia.



[Video: How to Wear Bachelor's Regalia](#)

[Video: How to Wear Master's Regalia](#)

Graduates who indicate active duty military or veteran status on their ceremony RSVP form will receive military honor cords at graduate check-in.

Commencement Etiquette

To promote a respectful, comfortable, and enjoyable experience for graduates and their guests, all attendees are asked to observe the following guidelines.

- Place your cell phone on vibrate or silent during the ceremony.
- Do not leave until the entire ceremony has ended.
- Keep cheering respectful and avoid disruptive outbursts to allow the families and guests of other graduates to hear their graduate's names when read.

WGU Commencement Decorum Policy

Please be advised any graduate or guest acting in a disruptive or disrespectful manner at WGU events, as determined by WGU in its sole discretion, may either not be allowed in the venue or may be escorted from the venue.

Take into consideration the following if decorating your cap for commencement: WGU does not allow content on caps that is considered, in WGU's sole discretion, obscene, vulgar, defamatory, hateful, inappropriate, profane or that might disregard another's copyright or third-party rights. All decorations must lie flat on the cap.

ADA & ACCESSIBILITY

Wheelchair Access & Escorts

The Liacouras Center is pleased to provide wheelchair assistance for mobility impaired guests. Wheelchair assistance is available to guests upon entry into the Center and is scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and may require a short wait time. Requests for wheelchair assistance can be made by asking a stadium staff member or by visiting WGU Information Table. If you need assistance after the ceremony, please indicate this to a team member as you are checking in and arrangements will be made for you.

Passenger Drop-Off Points

The drop-off for guests with wheelchairs or those who need mobility assistance is at the main entrance on Broad St.

Disabled Parking

Designated parking is available for guests with disabilities in The Liacouras Garage.

ASL

American Sign Language interpreting is available onsite for WGU Commencement. Please proceed to the WGU information table located on the main concourse, and you will be ushered to the reserved seating for ASL. The area is designated as reserved.

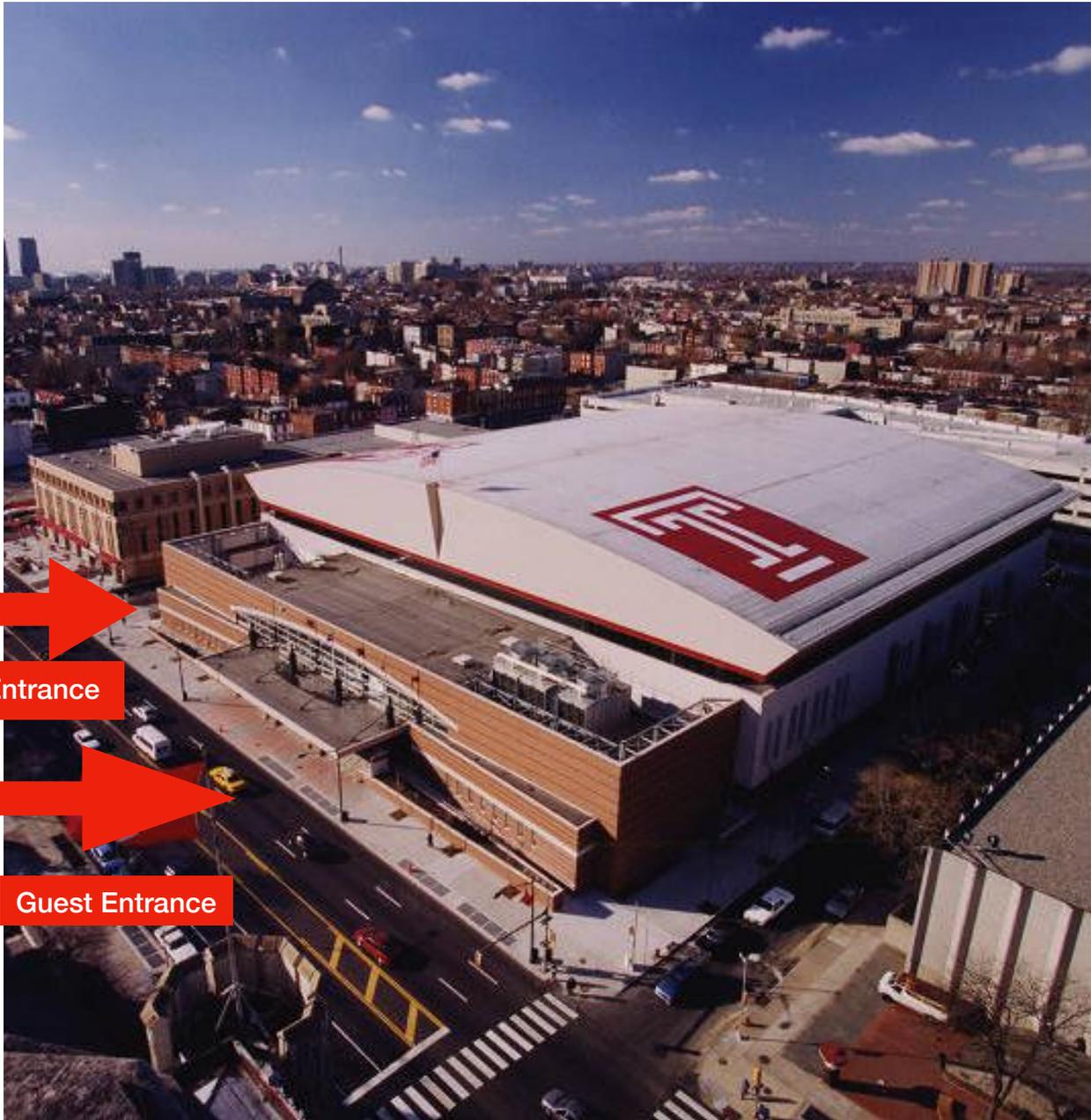
Restrooms

The Liacouras Center has accessible restroom facilities throughout the venue.

Service Animals

Trained guide dogs and service animals assisting guests are welcome at the Liacouras Center. All service animals must remain on a leash or in a harness at all times.

ARENA ENTRANCE MAP



Graduate Entrance

Guest Entrance

MASTER'S CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 21, 2022
8 am EDT Graduate Check-in
Follow signs to Graduate Check-in

BEFORE ARRIVING FOR COMMENCEMENT

All graduates participating in the commencement ceremony must arrive wearing full academic attire: cap with tassel, hood, and gown. Master's graduates please wear your hoods. No changing rooms on site.

[Video: How to Wear Master's Regalia](#)

8 am EDT Graduate Check-in

Note: Only graduates are permitted in the Graduate Check-in Area.

Please pick up your name reader card, listing your name and degree. Also located in the graduate check-in room: philanthropy cords, military cords, scholarship pins, WGU employee pins, limited regalia, and name readers.

9 am EDT Lineup by College, Arena Tunnel

Ceremony graduates must be checked in and in their lineup area by college by 9 am. Graduates will receive a brief orientation and then be ushered to the processional march entrance. Please follow the direction of the college marshals.

9:30 am EDT Commencement Processional March

The stage participants and WGU faculty will enter first. College marshals will lead graduates into the arena.

Conferral of Degree Order

Graduates are called to stage by college and not in alphabetical order.

College of Business

College of Health Professions

College of Information Technology

Teachers College

After the Ceremony

Families and guests: please plan to meet graduates outside at the main entrance. Graduates will exit through the loading dock area to the left of the main entrance.

BACHELOR'S CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 21, 2022
12:30 pm EDT Graduate Check-in
Follow signs to Graduate Check-in

BEFORE ARRIVING FOR COMMENCEMENT

All graduates participating in the commencement ceremony must arrive wearing full academic attire: cap with tassel, and gown. No changing rooms on site.

[Video: How to Wear Bachelor's Regalia](#)

12:30 pm EDT Graduate Check-in

Note: Only graduates are permitted in the Graduate Check-in Area.

Please pick up your name reader card, listing your name and degree. Also located in the graduate check-in room: philanthropy cords, military cords, scholarship pins, WGU employee pins, limited regalia, and name readers.

1:15 pm EDT Lineup by College, Arena Tunnel

Ceremony graduates must be checked in and in their lineup area by college by 1:15 pm. Graduates will receive a brief orientation and then be ushered to the processional march entrance. Please follow the direction of the college marshals.

1:45 pm EDT Commencement Processional March

The stage participants and WGU faculty will enter first. College marshals will lead graduates into the arena.

Conferral of Degree Order

Graduates are called to stage by college and not in alphabetical order.

College of Business

College of Health Professions

College of Information Technology

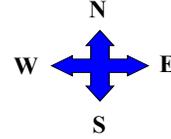
Teachers College

After the Ceremony

Families and guests: please plan to meet graduates outside at the main entrance.

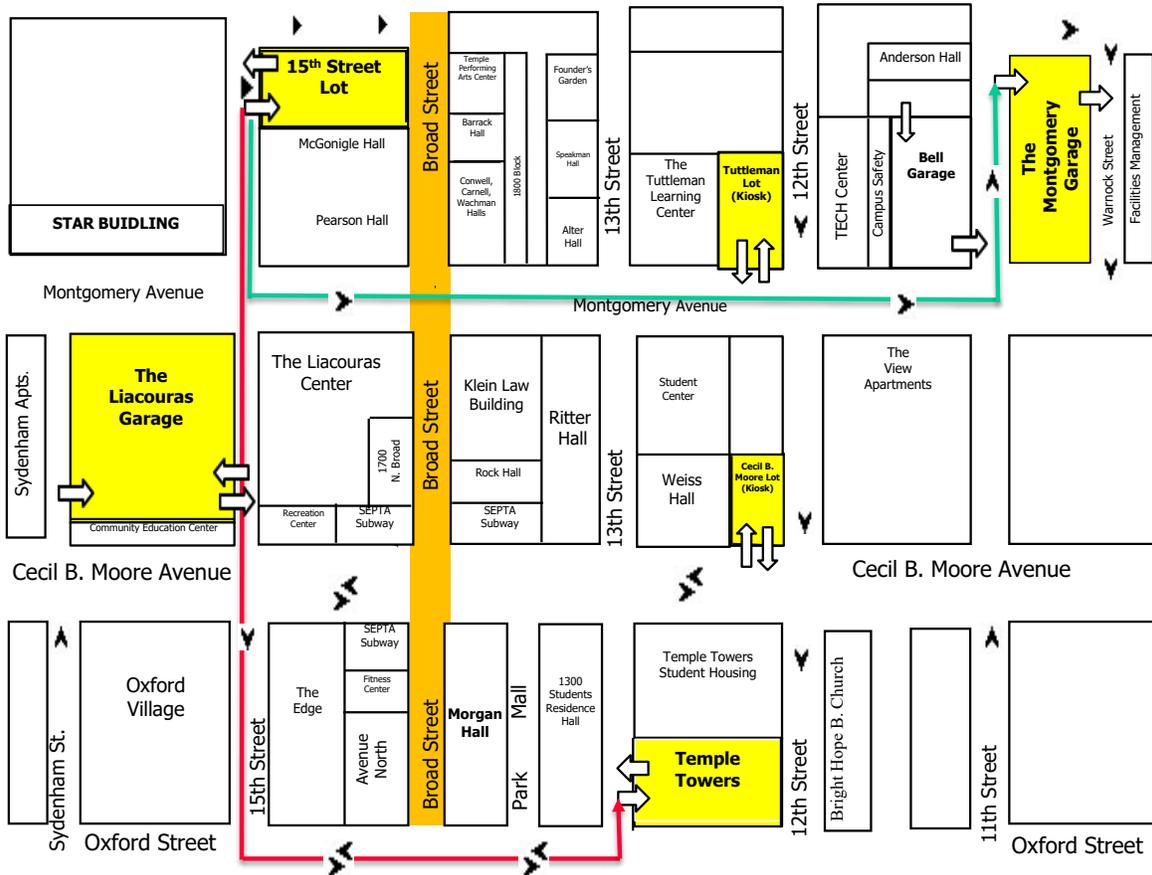
Graduates will exit through the loading dock area to the left of the main entrance.

PARKING



Main Campus

- All parking facilities accept cash and all major credit cards. Expect to pay about \$25 for parking.
- Additional overflow parking available at the following locations: Cecil B. Moore Lot, Tuttleman Lot, Temple Towers Lot and the Montgomery Garage



Temple Towers Lot

- Proceed straight on 15th Street
- Left Oxford Street
- Left on 13th Street
- Right into the Temple Towers Lot

Montgomery Garage

- Left on Montgomery Avenue
- Proceed straight on Montgomery Avenue (4 Blocks)
- Left on 11th Street
- Right into the Montgomery Garage

PHILANTHROPY CORD

SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW WGU NIGHT OWLS

**CONGRATS
GRADS!**

**DONATE TO THE WGU FELLOW
NIGHT OWL SCHOLARSHIP
FUND AND RECEIVE YOUR
PHILANTHROPY CORD.**

You can receive a blue and gold philanthropy cord to proudly wear with your cap and gown by making a gift to the WGU Fellow Night Owl Scholarship, a fund established to help current WGU students cross the finish line to graduation.



It's not too late to make a gift and receive your cord!

Donate today and visit the WGU Advancement table to pick up your cord when you arrive at commencement.

Scan the QR Code or visit wgu.edu/philanthropycords to give now.

WGU  | **ADVANCEMENT**

Learn more about WGU Advancement and how donors can make a difference at WGU by visiting wgu.edu/give.

COMMENCEMENT FLOWERS



CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENT WITH FLOWERS!

Pre-order online at the link below, or purchase bouquets onsite. Pre-ordered flowers will be available for pickup at the commencement flowers kiosk the day of commencement.

A percentage of each sale will be donated to the WGU Scholarship Fund.

<https://www.thecommencementgroup.com/wgumain/>



WGU

WEBCAST AND CONTACT

Webcast

Family and guests who are unable to attend in person may view the [ceremony online](#). To watch the ceremony live, please visit the following link on Saturday, May 21, 2022.

9:30 am EDT Master's Ceremony

1:45 pm EDT Bachelor's Ceremony

Click [here](#) to watch the ceremony online on commencement day.

Photography

During the WGU Commencement, The Grad Team Photography will be taking candid photos, speaker photos, and graduate portrait shots. There is no obligation to purchase.

How to access your commencement photos:

A week after commencement, Grad Team will post commencement photos online.

Visit thegradteam.com/events/wgu to view commencement photos.

Special Note:

A graduate's appearance and participation is recorded at commencement. This may include but not be limited to broadcast video, online web video, and photos in print materials. WGU may use some of these images for educational and informational purposes.

Contact

During commencement week, the most efficient way to reach the WGU Commencement Office is by sending an email to commencement@wgu.edu. You may also call 385-428-2085. Visit the Commencement [website](#) for more information.