



WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT IN CINCINNATI

MAY 04, 2024

CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWL—TODAY YOU BECOME AN ALUMNI!

All of your hard work and sacrifices have paid off, graduate! You're joining more than **325,000** Night Owls who make up our alumni family. It's time to enjoy more benefits that come with your achievement.

COMMIT TO LIFELONG LEARNING

Professional and continuing education extend beyond your time at WGU as a graduate. We are here to support your ongoing professional development by offering access to premium services such as LinkedIn Learning, Pluralsight®, the Teaching Channel®, Nurses on Boards Coalition®, and more!

Keep learning at the forefront of your mind at wgu.edu/alumni/learn

PROGRESS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Taking time to engage in professional development opportunities not only keeps you cutting-edge in your field, it also allows you to network with other professionals and develop your professional brand—all of which can advance your career. WGU's Career and Professional Development team is here to help you thrive.

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

STAY CONNECTED

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

Join the community at wgu.edu/alumni

Learn more.

wgu.edu/alumni 866.225.5948



JUSTIN H.
M.S. Management and Leadership
WGU Graduate

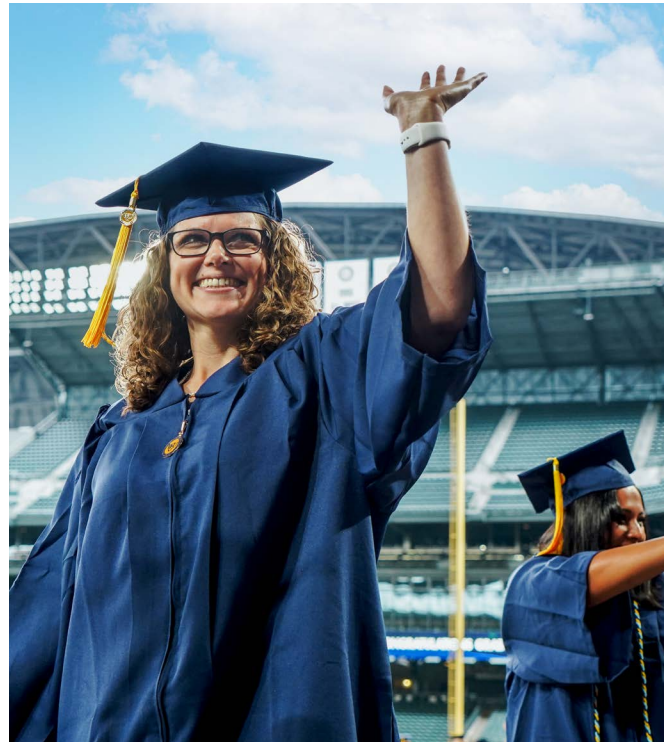
COMMENCEMENT AT FIFTH THIRD ARENA

ADDRESS: Fifth Third Arena
2700 O'Varsity Way Cincinnati, OH 45221

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024

Leavitt School of Health & School of Education
Check-in Time: 8:30 a.m. EDT
Ceremony Start Time: 9:30 a.m. EDT

School of Business & School of Technology
Check-in Time: 12:30 p.m. EDT
Ceremony Start Time: 1:30 p.m. EDT



GUEST SERVICES

Guest Services staff can be found throughout the arena concourse and will assist with a wide variety of services including help with questions, comments, feedback, finding lost items, and emergency situations.

EMT/FIRST AID

Emergency medical personnel are on duty at each event. Medical personnel can be contacted during an event by notifying the nearest event staff member, usher, or security guard and informing them of the situation and location of the incident. The first-aid center is located on the north side of the arena on the main-level concourse by the Armory Bar.

GUEST SEATING

Seating is first come, first served. Guests should be seated with their cell phones on silent before the ceremony begins. Guests should remain in their seats during the entire ceremony as a courtesy to graduates and other guests.

PARKING

Guest parking is available in the Calhoun, Corry, and Woodside Avenue Parking Garages. Please see map for further information.

COMMENCEMENT AT FIFTH THIRD ARENA

CONCESSIONS

Fifth Third Arena is entirely cashless. A variety of food items and Pepsi products are available from the concession stands located throughout Fifth Third Arena.

INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

For your child's comfort and as a courtesy to graduates and other guests, we encourage you to bring toys 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. 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.

LOST CHILDREN

Lost children/individuals should be taken to the nearest usher or security guard. If you become separated from your child or guests, please proceed to Guest Services for further assistance.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

Found items may be turned over to any Fifth Third Arena Staff Member or Police Officer, or at the Public Safety Office in Edwards Three. Inquiries about lost items should be directed to Fifth Third Arena Staff or Police Officers during the Event, or to the Public Safety Office at **513-556-4925**, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at any time thereafter.

STROLLERS

Baby strollers are NOT permitted in Fifth Third Arena seating areas. We encourage leaving these in your vehicle.

BAG POLICY

For all events at Fifth Third Arena, bags and purses can be no larger than 6 in. x 9 in. to be permitted and are subject to manual inspection - this includes clear bags. All other purses/bags/clutches will not be allowed into the venue. Backpacks of any size are not permitted.

View the Bag Policy here.

An exception will be made for medically necessary supplies in a bag appropriate to the size of the medical supplies.

Diaper/Infant bags are allowed and **must be clear and within size limits listed above.**

SMOKING

Fifth Third Arena and its surrounding grounds, is a no smoking/vaping facility. All guests are prohibited from smoking (including electronic cigarettes, vaporizers, marijuana, CBD, or similar products) inside and outside of the arena at any time.

Quteaus S.
MSML
WGU Graduate



ADA AND ACCESSIBILITY

ACCESSIBILITY

Guests may sit anywhere in the general admission area. Guests with accessibility needs will be met by Guest Relations at the accessibility drop-off location outside Fifth Third Arena on the southwest corner of the plaza.

WHEELCHAIRS

Guests in need of a wheelchair may request wheelchair assistance at the WGU Information Table, located inside the guest entrance. A limited number of wheelchairs are available for transporting guests to/from their seats. Wheelchairs cannot be left with the patron for the duration of the event. WGU Staff and ADA assistance teams will not be allowed to assist in transfers.



RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located throughout the arena, typically on the corners of both the main-level and upper-level concourses including eight new accessible family restrooms.

SENSORY ROOM

Guests who feel overstimulated or overwhelmed may visit our Sensory Room in the Fifth Third Vault, located on the east side of the main-level concourse.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING

Accessible parking is available in Calhoun Garage. A state-issued handicap pass is required.

SERVICE ANIMALS

Only certified service animals or service animals in-training for guests with disabilities are allowed in the arena. All service animals must always remain on a leash or in a harness.

ASL

American Sign Language interpreting is available onsite for each commencement ceremony. 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.

PARKING AND ENTRANCE MAP

WGU Commencement in Cincinnati Fifth Third Arena



Handicapped / Wheelchair Access



GUEST ENTRANCES
SOUTHWEST CORNER
EAST SIDE PLAZA

GRADUATE CHECK-IN
NE CORNER

COMMENCEMENT ETIQUETTE AND DECORUM

ABOUT

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, rewarding, and distraction-free ceremony that recognizes their hard work and the sacrifices they have made to reach this point. WGU believes that mutually respectful participation by graduates and their guests is the best way to accomplish this shared intention. In preparation for commencement, WGU has outlined a protocol. You and your guests' adherence 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 their gown rather than casual clothing. Master's degree graduates will need a hood specific to their degree. 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.

COMMENCEMENT ETIQUETTE

To promote a respectful, comfortable, and disturbance-free experience for our 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.
- Cheer respectfully and avoid disruptive outbursts to allow the families and guests of other graduates to hear their graduate's name when read.



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

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

MILITARY

Graduates who indicate active-duty military or veteran status on their ceremony RSVP form will receive military honor cords at the Graduate Check-in Area.

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.

WGU ACADEMIC CORDS AND HOODS

GRADUATE CORDS:



MILITARY
Red, white, and blue



SCHOLARSHIPS
Gold and white



PHILANTHROPY
Navy, gold and light blue



WOMEN IN TECH
Purple and white



NSLS
Black and silver

MASTER HOODS:



SALMON
Master of Science in Integrated
Healthcare Management



DRAB
School of Business



APRICOT
Nursing



SAGE
Master of Health Leadership



BRIGHT GOLD
School of Technology



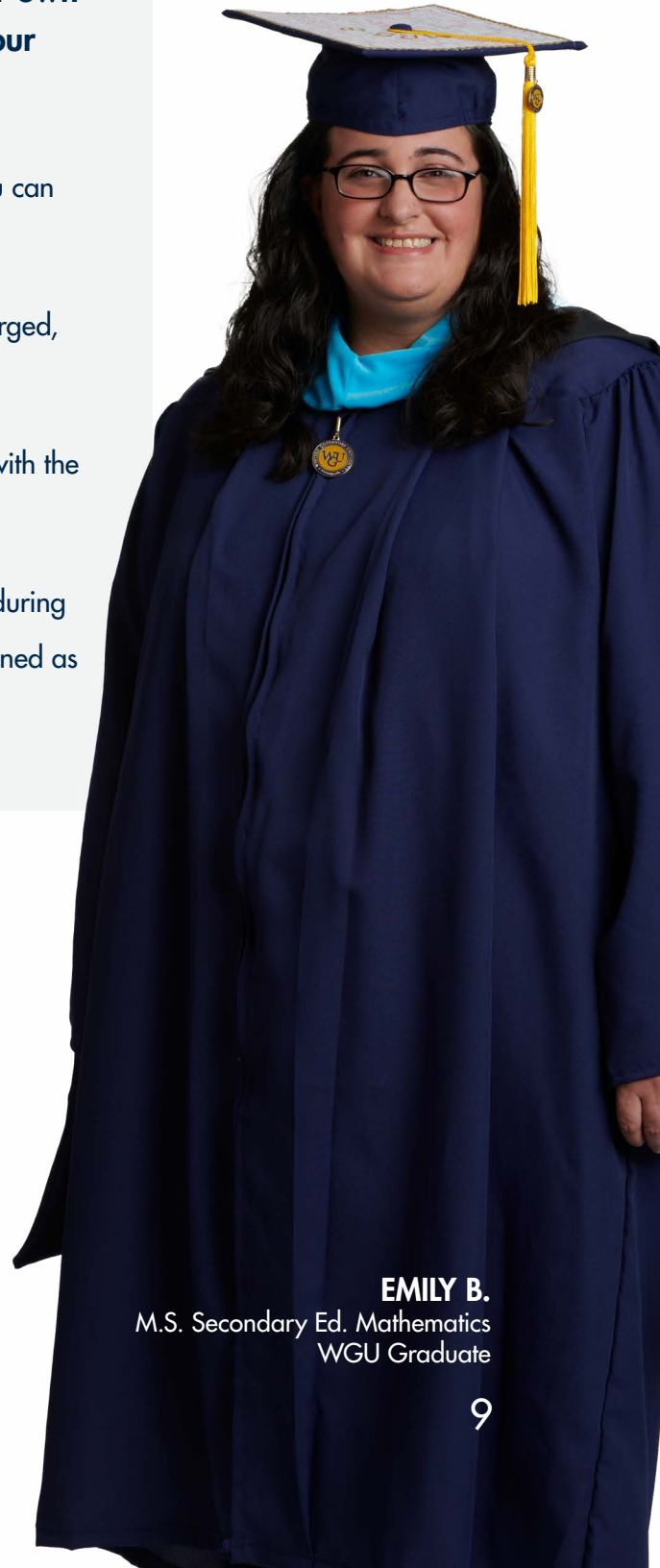
LIGHT BLUE
School of Education

GRADUATE CHECK-IN PROCEDURE



GRAD PASS

You will be sent an email with a Grad Pass with your own personal QR code. This code must be available on your device and visible for check-in.

1. Once you receive this email, please take a screenshot so you can easily find and access this QR code.
2. Please make sure your device is with you, your device is charged, and the display is set on the brightest position.
3. When you arrive for check-in, please have your device out with the screen visible for the commencement ambassadors to see.
4. Your Grad Pass will be scanned before you cross the stage during the ceremony. Please have your Grad Pass ready to be scanned as you line up to cross the stage.



SAMPLE


WGU  

GRAD PASS:
Sage the Owl

Your College Here
Degree: Nocturnal Studies

WGU Commencement
Location
Date
Address

Note: This pass is to be used by the graduate listed above, when crossing the stage. This is not a guest ticket. Please take a screen shot of this pass for easy access.


1281895494

EMILY B.
M.S. Secondary Ed. Mathematics
WGU Graduate

LEAVITT SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION CEREMONY SCHEDULE

DATE: **SATURDAY, MAY 4 2024**

Leavitt School of Health & School of Education

Check-in Time: 8:30 a.m. EDT

Ceremony Start Time: 9:30 a.m. EDT

GRADUATE CHECK-IN: 8:30 A.M.

At graduate check-in, you will have the opportunity to pick up your philanthropy, military, and/or scholarship cord. We will also have limited regalia available for purchase, and you can visit with our name readers to clarify pronunciation. If you notice that there are errors on your GradPass, please visit the Help Desk.

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

GRADUATE PRE-SEATING: 8:30 A.M.

After checking in, graduates will be guided directly to the arena floor where they will be seated with their colleges. Please follow the direction of the college marshals.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY: 9:30 A.M.

The ceremony will begin promptly. Please be in your seat and ready at this time. We look forward to celebrating you!

Conferral of Degree Order

Morning Ceremony:

- Leavitt School of Health
- School of Education

Afternoon Ceremony:

- School of Business
- School of Technology

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

BEFORE ARRIVING FOR COMMENCEMENT

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



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

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

AFTER THE CEREMONY

Families will meet their graduates outside on the plaza.

**Remember to follow
signs at check-in!**

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY CEREMONY SCHEDULE

DATE: **SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024**

School of Business & School of Technology

Check-in Time: 12:30 p.m. EDT

Ceremony Start Time: 1:30 p.m. EDT

BEFORE ARRIVING FOR COMMENCEMENT

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



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

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

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

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After checking in, graduates will be guided directly to the arena floor where they will be seated with their colleges. Please follow the direction of the college marshals.

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CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

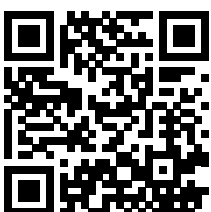


RECEIVE
A WGU
PHILANTHROPY
CORD

Donate \$25 or more to the WGU Fellow Night Owl Scholarship fund and receive a philanthropy cord.

You can help current WGU students cross the finish line to graduation too by purchasing a philanthropy cord to wear with your cap and gown. All proceeds support the WGU Fellow Night Owl Scholarship Fund.

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!



Scan the QR Code or visit wgu.edu/philanthropycords

Visit the WGU Advancement table at the Alumni Celebration or Commencement Check-in to pick up your philanthropy cord.

Have a question? Email advancement@wgu.edu

WEBCAST AND CONTACT INFO

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 4, 2024.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

During the WGU Commencement, The Grad Team 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, The 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 visit the [Commencement website](#).

Please [download](#) our Commencement App.

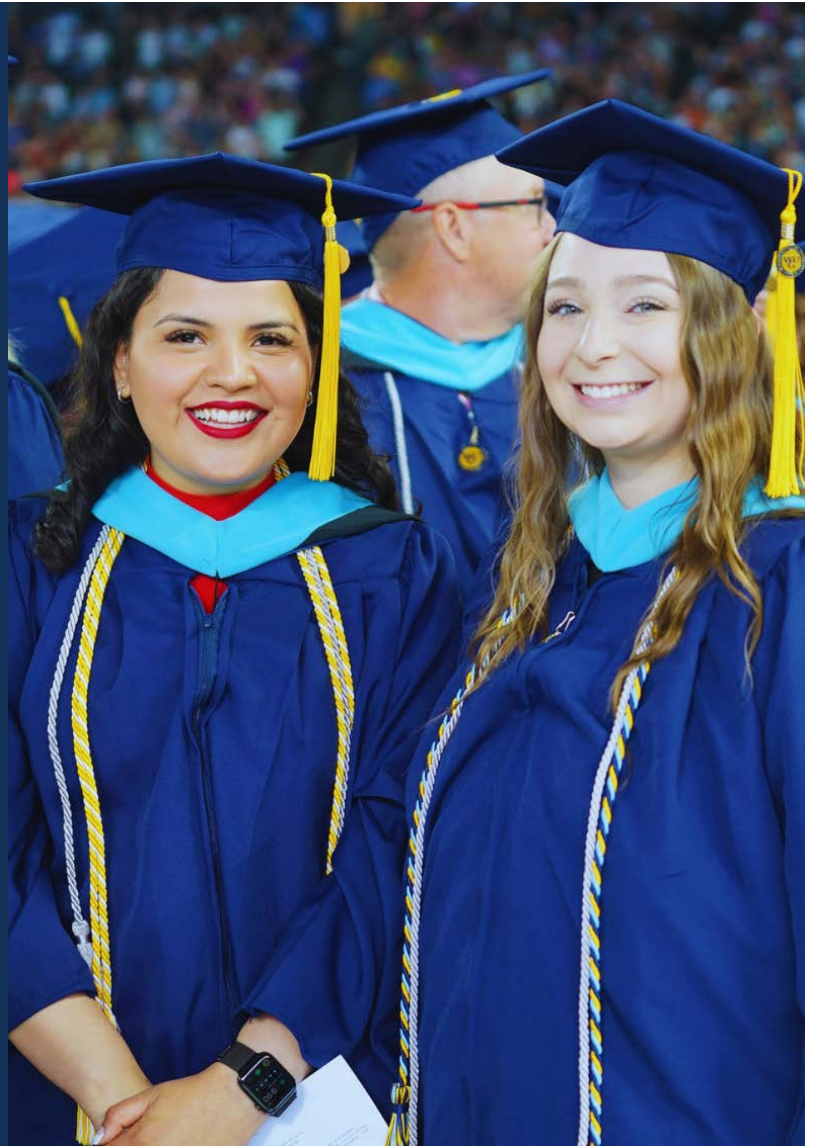


DAVID L.
M.S. Curriculum and Instruction
WGU Graduate

REFER YOUR FRIENDS TO WGU!

Share WGU with your friends and family by using your Refer-a-Friend link.

You'll earn 500 points in the Owl's Nest once they've completed their application!



Scan the QR Code or visit wgu.onl/wgufriends to share WGU with your friends and family.