



WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

SEATTLE, WA

JULY 24-25, 2026

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CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWL—TODAY YOU BECOME AN ALUMNI!

All of your hard work and sacrifices have paid off, graduate! You're joining more than **500,000** 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/alumnilearn.

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/nightowlnetwork.

STAY CONNECTED

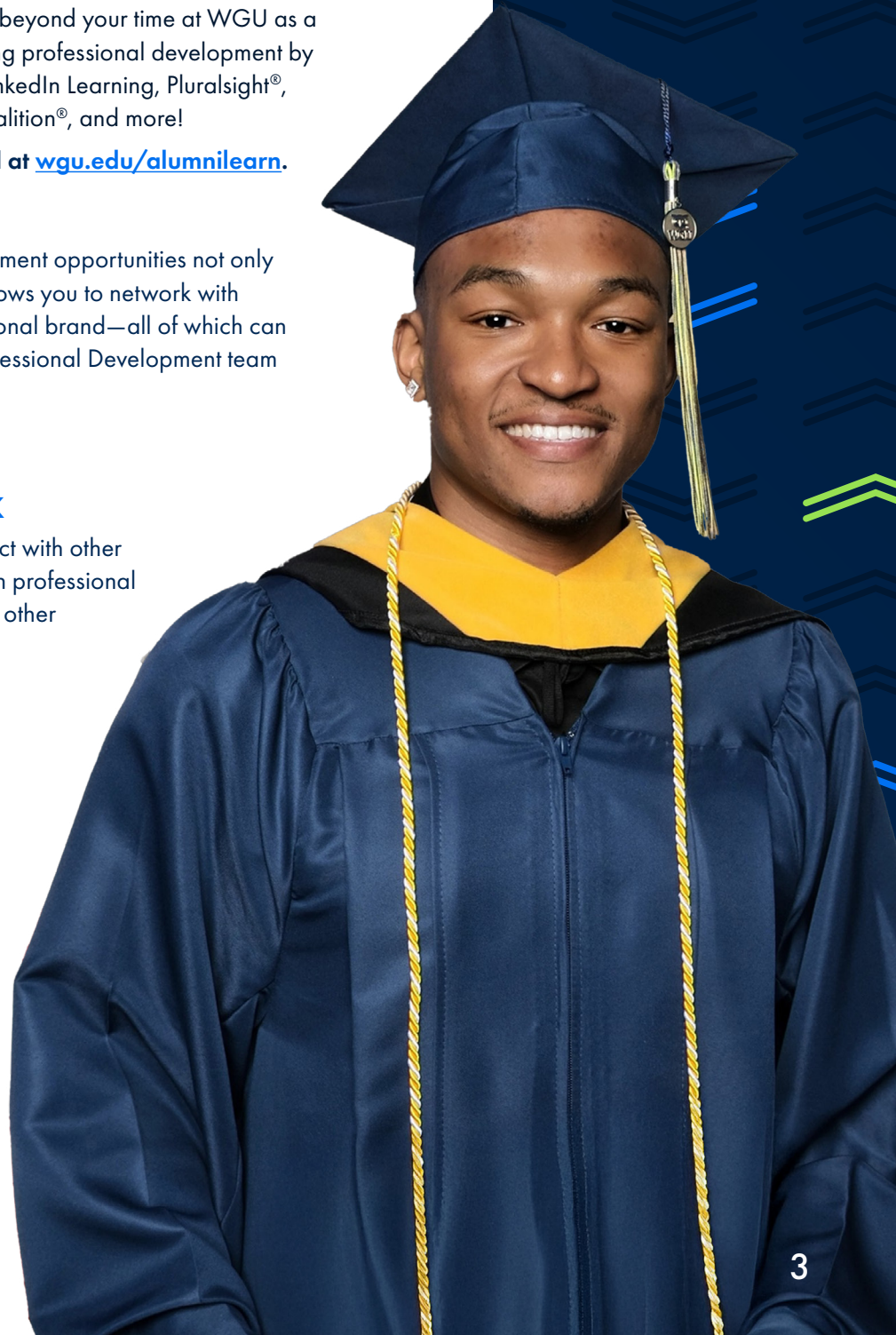
Visit our website to find other resources and ways to stay involved.

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



ALUMNI CELEBRATION

YOU'RE INVITED!

Friday, July 24, 2026

6:00–9:00 p.m.

THE MUSEUM OF FLIGHT

9404 E. Marginal Way South
Seattle, WA 98108

Kick off your commencement weekend with this exclusive alumni celebration in honor of our graduates!

All graduates attending the 2026 WGU Commencement in Seattle are invited to join us for the Alumni Celebration at The Museum of Flight.

This family-friendly, come-and-go event is free to attend, and we encourage graduates and guests to dress in business attire.

AT THE CELEBRATION, YOU CAN:

- Free professional portraits (graduates only): Elevate your LinkedIn profile with free professional portraits courtesy of WGU!
- Meet with local employers for career opportunities
- Reconnect with Alumni in your area
- Visit our affiliated partnership booths to receive career advice, purchase WGU swag, pick up your WGU Philanthropy Cord, and more.
- Take photos in our social photo booth and share using #WGUgrad
- Meet Sage the Night Owl
- Tour the various Museum of Flight exhibits
- Enjoy light appetizers, refreshments, and self-pay bars
- Hit the dance floor or play family-friendly games with a fun WGU twist
- Come for the networking, stay for the fun.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Alumni Celebration:
alumnievents@wgu.edu

Alumni Celebration ADA and accessibility:
alumnievents@wgu.edu

Commencement questions:
commencement@wgu.edu

Please note: 2026 Seattle graduates are allowed to bring up to four (4) total guests.



COMMENCEMENT IN SEATTLE

Leavitt School of Health, School of Education, School of Technology, & School of Business

CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA 334 1st Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109

Friday, July 24, 2026

Graduate Check-In and Pre-seating: **2:00 p.m.**

Commencement Ceremony: **3:00 p.m.**

After the Ceremony: Families will meet their graduates outside on the plaza.

Saturday, July 25, 2026

MORNING CEREMONY

Graduate Check-In and Pre-seating: **8:30 a.m.**

Commencement Ceremony: **9:30 a.m.**

After the Ceremony: Families will meet their graduates outside on the plaza.

AFTERNOON CEREMONY

Graduate Check-In and Pre-seating: **12:30 p.m.**

Commencement Ceremony: **1:30 p.m.**

After the Ceremony: Families will meet their graduates outside on the plaza.

GRADUATES MUST CHECK IN BEFORE THE CEREMONY.

Please have your Stage Pass pulled up on your phone screen to be scanned. We recommend all graduates leave any extra items behind with loved ones while the ceremony takes place. Having bags, keys, etc., during the graduation ceremony tends to get frustrating for graduates. Remember to attach the zipper pull that came with your regalia to your gown's zipper. This is particularly helpful for master's graduates, as it prevents your hood from pulling at your neck. To keep your hands free and personal items out of photos and videos, consider wearing bike shorts with pockets under dresses or skirts, using pockets in your attire, or bringing a venue-approved cross-body bag.

FRIDAY CEREMONY SCHEDULE

DATE: FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2026

LOCATION: Climate Pledge Arena
334 1st Ave N
Seattle, WA 98109

CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Graduate Check-In: **2:00 p.m.**
Graduate Pre-Seating: **2:00 p.m.**
Ceremony Start Time: **3:00 p.m.**

GRADUATE CHECK-IN: 2:00 p.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 Stage Pass, please visit the Help Desk.

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

GRADUATE PRE-SEATING: 2:00 p.m.

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

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY: 3:00 p.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

- Leavitt School of Health
- School of Education
- School of Technology
- School of Business

Note:

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

Graduates will receive their complimentary diploma cover after the conclusion of the ceremony.

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. Graduates are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes. Please have your Stage Pass pulled up on your phone screen to be scanned.

[Video: How to Wear Regalia](#)



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

SATURDAY MORNING CEREMONY SCHEDULE

DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026

LOCATION: Climate Pledge Arena
334 1st Ave N
Seattle, WA 98109

CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Graduate Check-In: **8:30 a.m.**
Graduate Pre-Seating: **8:30 a.m.**
Ceremony Start Time: **9:30 a.m.**

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 Stage Pass, 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 schools. 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

- Leavitt School of Health
- School of Education
- School of Technology
- School of Business

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[Video: How to Wear Regalia](#)



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

SATURDAY AFTERNOON CEREMONY SCHEDULE

DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026

LOCATION: Climate Pledge Arena
334 1st Ave N
Seattle, WA 98109

CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Graduate Check-In: **12:30 p.m.**
Graduate Pre-Seating: **12:30 p.m.**
Ceremony Start Time: **1:30 p.m.**

GRADUATE CHECK-IN: 12:30 p.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 Stage Pass, please visit the Help Desk.

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

GRADUATE PRE-SEATING: 12:30 p.m.

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

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY: 1:30 p.m.

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

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[Video: How to Wear Regalia](#)



Remember to follow signs at check-in!

DAY-OF ENTRY AND TICKET INFORMATION



Digital tickets for family and friends attending the WGU Commencement at Climate Pledge Arena will be required for entry. Please share these with your invited guests. They must present this digital ticket image at security to gain entry. Tickets are free, and seating is general admission, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

FAQ

- Guests must present this digital ticket image at security to gain entry to Climate Pledge Arena.
- Tickets are free, seating is general admission, available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Children do not need individual tickets.
- One digital ticket is required for the immediate group entering Climate Pledge Arena together, with verification by the ticket holder.
- Please show the digital ticket on your device at security entrance.
- Guests will be required to pass through a metal detector and follow the Bag Policy for Climate Pledge Arena.
- The official ticket will be emailed and available on the WGU Commencement app and WGU's Seattle Commencement Website closer to the event.
- WGU recommends 8 guests per graduate at commencement.



CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA POLICIES

GUEST SERVICES

Guest Services is available on the Main Concourse near Section 24, and in the Alaska Airlines Atrium on the Upper Concourse by the stairs and escalators on the West side.

EMT/FIRST AID

First Aid rooms are available on the Main and Upper Concourses. In the event of a medical emergency, please contact a Guest Services or Security team member for assistance. Trained Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) are available on site and can respond to any location in the arena.

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.

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.

PARKING

Garage and street parking are available near Seattle Center. Please note that there are other large events happening in Seattle this weekend, so allow time for parking and walking as necessary.

CONCESSIONS

Concession options will be available for guests. Outside food and beverage (including alcoholic beverages) are strictly prohibited. Reusable non-glass water bottles are permitted. Bottles must be no larger than 32 oz and must be empty upon entry. For this event, personal water bottles are not permitted on the floor.

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.

BAG POLICY

For the health and safety of all guests, and to expedite the entry process, Climate Pledge Arena requests that guests do not bring a bag to the arena.

If necessary, guests are permitted to bring a bag that fits within the following specifications:

- One clear bag that does not exceed 14"x14"x 6" in size
- Small clutches/purses/wallets that do not exceed 4 x 6 x 1.5 in size

Clear Bags larger than this will be inspected. Medical bags and diaper bags are permitted, though we encourage you bring only what is needed. All medical and diaper bags will be searched and examined.

Graduates and guests are encouraged not to bring bags with them to the events.

To keep your hands free and personal items out of photos and videos, consider wearing bike shorts with pockets under dresses or skirts, using pockets in your attire, or bringing a venue-approved cross-body bag.

NO SMOKING

Climate Pledge Arena is a smoke-free venue. Smoking is not permitted in the arena at any time. Additionally, electronic smoking devices are not permitted to be used on premises.

CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA POLICIES

MOTHER'S LOUNGE

Those who require a more private location in which to feed or pump may use the Virginia Mason Nursing Parents Room, located on the Southwest side of the Main Concourse, OR the Mamava Nursing Pod located on the Northeast side of the Main Concourse near Guest Services.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

During an event, guests can report lost items or turn in found items to our Guest Services desk locations on the Main Concourse near Section 24 or on the Upper Concourse in the SW corner of the Alaska Airlines Atrium. To inquire about a lost item after an event, guests must send all lost and found item details to lostandfound@climatepledgearena.com.

ACCESSIBILITY

Climate Pledge Arena is committed to full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and providing equal access to an enjoyable event experience for everyone in our community. Please review the Accessibility Guide for more information on accessible services, programs and policies for our guests with disabilities.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING & ACCESS MAP

We highly encourage ticketed guests to pre-purchase a parking pass for one of our garages [HERE](#). All parking garages on Climate Pledge Arena's campus have ADA accessible parking spaces. Please note, however, that specific spaces, including accessible parking spaces, cannot be reserved when purchasing your pass. Please contact the nearest on-site parking attendant upon arrival so that they may best assist you and accommodate your needs.

SENSORY INCLUSION

Complimentary sensory bags containing fidget tools and noise-canceling headphones, feeling thermometer cards and identification cards that allow arena team members

GRADUATES



There will be a metal detector—bring only your phone with you!



Please have your Stage Pass up on your phone screen.



Please do not bring any bags or purses with you to the ceremonies.



Graduates are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes.

to recognize that the individual has a sensory need, are available for checkout at all Guest Services desk locations.

Guests may also visit the Sensory Room located on the North East side of the PitchBook Suite Level for guests who may feel overstimulated or overwhelmed at our events.

RESTROOMS

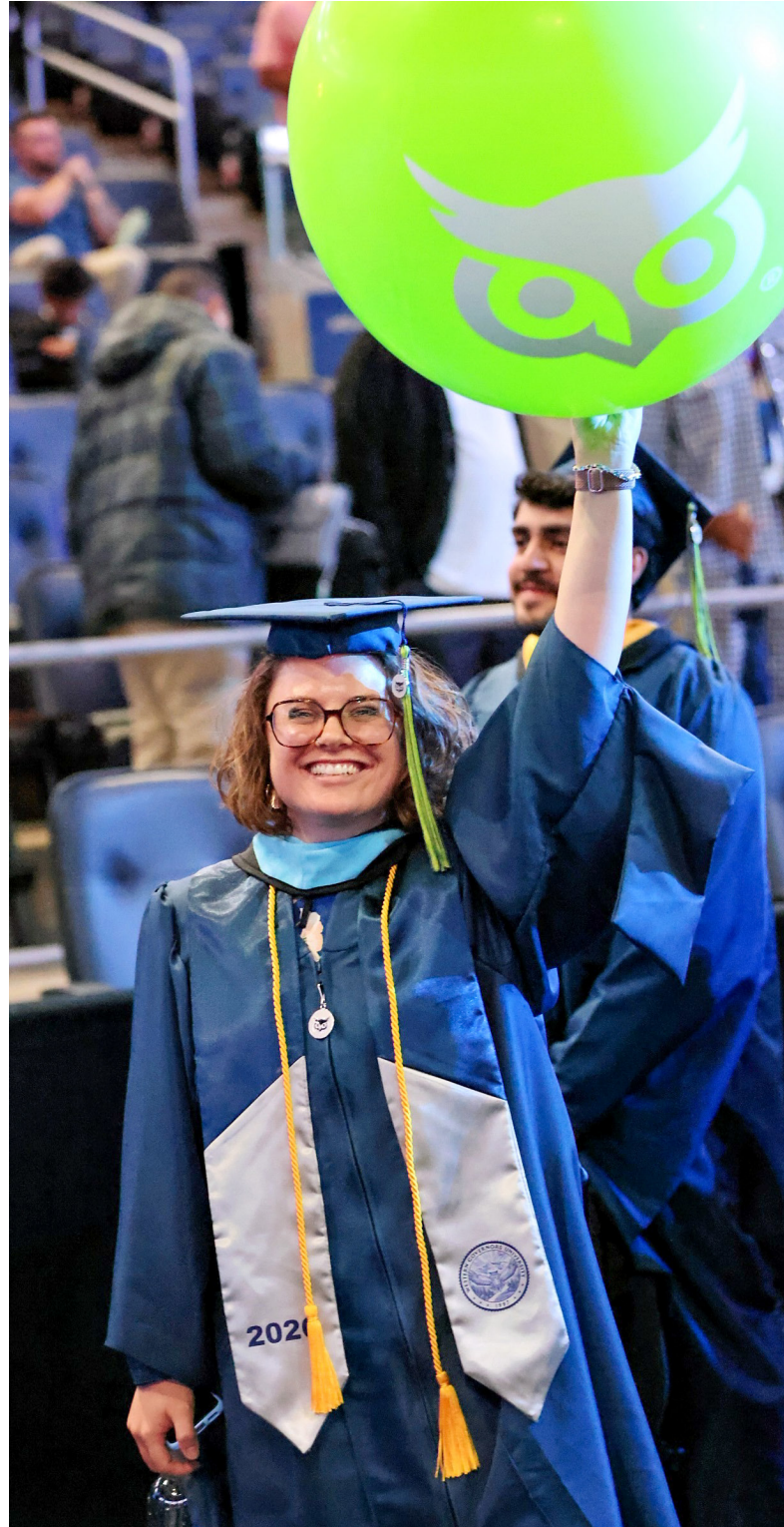
Restrooms can be found on each level of the arena. All-Gender & Family Restrooms are available on the Event Level, Main Concourse, Upper Concourse, and in the Space Needle Lounge. All restrooms are accessible and have changing tables.

CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA POLICIES

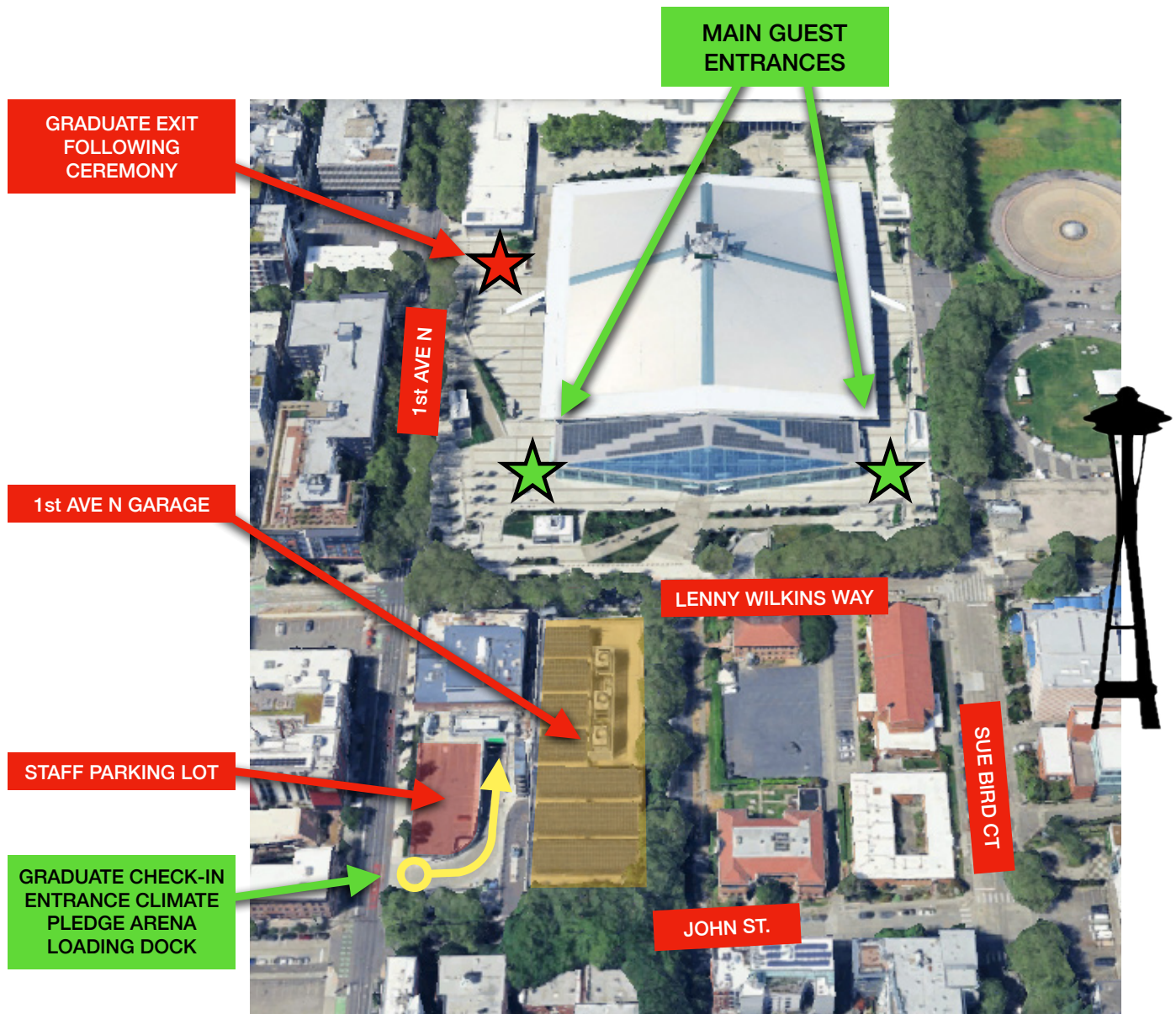
SERVICE ANIMALS

Trained service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) are welcome at Climate Pledge Arena. Service animals must remain on a leash or in a harness at all times, unless special circumstances exist, and are required to rest in the seating area of the guest with the disability, rather than the aisle.

Animal relief areas can be accessed by exiting through the Alaska Airlines Entry 8 on the Upper Concourse. Please see a Guest Services Representative for exit and re-entry.



CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA ENTRANCE & PARKING MAP



GRADUATE CHECK-IN: Please enter graduate check-in through the Climate Pledge Arena Loading Dock on 1st Ave. N near John Street. Proceed down the ramp to the dock. **Please wear comfortable shoes.**

GUESTS: Please enter the arena at main event entrances.

PARKING: The best option is to park in the 1st Ave. garage as noted on the map. Additional parking information is available on the WGU Commencement APP or the Climate Pledge Arena website.

STAFF PARKING: The Staff lot is reserved exclusively for WGU Staff and Ambassadors.

CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA GRADUATE CHECK-IN MAP



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. Your 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 gowns 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.

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 lay flat on the cap.

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.

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.

[Video: How to Wear 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.

WGU ACADEMIC CORDS AND HOODS

GRADUATE CORDS:

Graduates who have earned honor cords may pick them up from the affiliated partner tables during the Alumni Celebration on Friday night or during grad check-in on Saturday. Please reach out to the appropriate departments for more information about your cord eligibility.



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 STAGE PASS



The week of Commencement, you will be sent an email with a Stage 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 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 Stage Pass will be scanned before you cross the stage during the ceremony. Please have your Stage Pass ready to be scanned as you line up to cross the stage.

SAMPLE STAGE PASS



STAGE PASS:
Sage the Owl

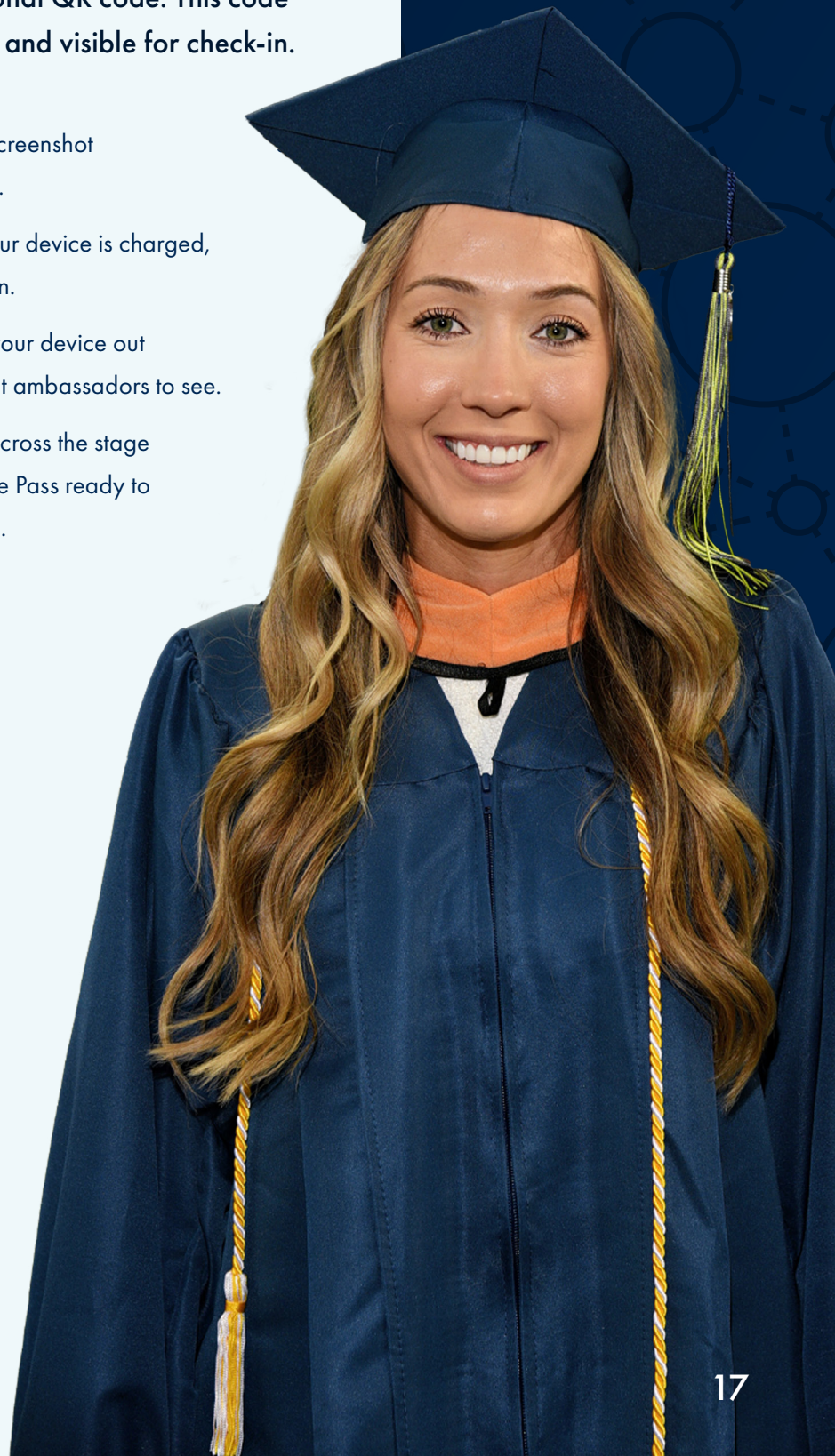
Your College Here
Degree: Nocturnal Studies

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 screenshot of this pass for easy access.



1281895494



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

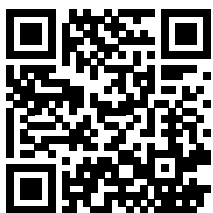
**Receive a WGU
philanthropy cord!**



Make a gift of \$25 or become a Sustaining Supporter with \$3/month to receive a commemorative Philanthropy Cord to wear at commencement.

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 fundraise.givesmart.com/f/269b/n?vid=1opwws

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.

ONLINE VIEWING

Family and guests who are unable to attend in person may view the ceremony online. To watch the ceremony live, please visit the [online link](#) on Friday, July 24 or Saturday July 25.

[Live Commencement](#)

JULY 24, 2026

AFTERNOON CEREMONY

Ceremony Start Time: 3:00 p.m. PDT

JULY 25, 2026

MORNING CEREMONY

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

AFTERNOON CEREMONY

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

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 are recorded at Commencement. This may include but is not 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.



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.