



## OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY SPRING 2020 GRADUATION FAQs for PARENTS

### Graduation Attire:

Your Academic Regalia is the appropriate attire for the occasion. This includes: a black academic gown, hood, and mortarboard with no personal accessories. Please refrain from posting any messages on your mortarboard. Student members of approved academic honorariums for Commencement may wear their insignia or honor cord of that academic honorary. *Flowers, personal jewelry, pins or cords from social fraternities or sororities are not to be worn on academic robes.* (See approved list below/Academic Honors). Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in students being removed from the Commencement line-up. Regalia (caps and gowns) may be ordered at [www.oakwood.shopoakhalli.com](http://www.oakwood.shopoakhalli.com). **Payments must be submitted by February 12, 2020.**

**What are the qualifications to graduate with honors?** In order to graduate with honors, students must meet the following GPA requirements:

Honor	GPA Requirement
Honorable Mention	Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25
Cum Laude	Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50
Magna Cum Laude	Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.75
Summa Cum Laude	Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.90

### What do the tassel colors mean?

Tassel Color	Meaning
Golden Yellow	Allied Health, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Mathematics & Computer Science
Drab	Business Information Systems & Adult and Continuing Education
Crimson	Communication & Arts
Light Blue	Education
White	Art, English, History & Political Science
Maroon	Family and Consumer Science and Dietetics
Silver	Silver – General Studies
Sage Green	Health and Physical Education
Pink	Music
Gold	Psychology
Scarlet	Theology and Religion
Citron	Social Work

### When are diplomas mailed?

Diplomas will be mailed out on **June 30, 2020**. Please call the Registrar's office for more information.

### Is there a limit to how many family members and guests can attend the Commencement service?

No, currently there are no tickets or limit to the number of family and guests attending Commencement. Guests are strongly encouraged to refrain from excessively loud forms of expression during the presentation of degrees in order to allow for the appropriate recognition of the other graduates and to maintain proper decorum. Cow bells, air horns, whistles, and other noisemakers are strictly prohibited. Due to lack of space in the East Hall, guests should go directly to the arena. The arena will open Saturday night at 6:00pm. Seating arrangements at the VBC is first come, first serve



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seating. ***There is no reserved seating in the VBC; seating accommodations will be made only for those persons with special disabilities. (See Special Disability Needs below).***

### **Special Disability Needs**

For special disability needs for Baccalaureate and Commencement, please contact Von Braun Center personnel: <http://www.vonbrauncenter.com/> or 256-533-1953

### **Approved Academic Honors**

Students graduating with university-wide and academic honors who are members of the following organizations may wear the cords, ribbons, etc., described below, on their robes at Commencement:

Approved Honors	Description
Honor Cords	Gold Cords: 3-Summa Cum Laude; 2-Magna Cum Laude; 1-Cum Laude
Honor Medallions	White, Blue, Green and Gold Ribbons
Academic Departments	Medallions and Cords
Officers Cords	TBD
Presidential Medallions	Blue Ribbon
Alpha Chi National University Honor Scholarship Society	Navy Blue and Green Cords
Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta) National Biological Honor Society	Green and Red Cords
Delta Mu Delta National Honor Society	Gold and Purple Cords
Kappa Delta Pi	-
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International	Purple and Gold Cords
Phi Alpha National Honor Society	-
The Official Class Kente Shawl	-

### **What are the locations for LINE UP for graduation?**

Arrive at the Monument to Service **one hour before** Consecration (OUC), Friday evening, May 8, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

Arrive at the Von Braun Center/East Hall **one hour before** Baccalaureate, Saturday morning, May 9, 2020, 10:45 a.m.

Arrive at the Von Braun Center/East Hall **one hour before** Commencement, Saturday evening, May 9, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

*Graduation attendants will be there to assist.*

The procession will begin prior to the start of the ceremony—Please be on time! The Marching Card indicates your number in line and there will be University staff to assist with the line-up. Your Marching Card is the key to receiving your diploma jacket. ***NO CARD, NO MARCHING and NO DIPLOMA JACKET.***

***The marching card is required at all three services (Consecration, Baccalaureate and Commencement).***

### **Driving Directions and Parking:**

Visit the Von Braun Center (VBC) website for driving directions, <http://www.vonbrauncenter.com/>. Parking is available in lots adjacent to the VBC (Nominal fees of: **City Parking Deck \$5**-Across from the VBC; **South Hall Parking \$10.00**; and **North Hall Parking \$10.00**).

### **Who is the official photographer for graduation?**

***Lifetouch Special Events*** - The Commencement Committee has arranged to have photographers at the ceremony to take high quality photographs as you receive your diploma. Proofs will be mailed to you within seven days after



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Commencement. There is no obligation to purchase the finished prints. If you order photographs, the prints will be delivered within 2-3 weeks. The Lifetouch Special Events photographer is the only photographer authorized by the University to sell photographs to the graduates. Photos will be online at [www.events.lifetouch.com](http://www.events.lifetouch.com) one week after the ceremony.