



SPRING COMMENCEMENT 2025


THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE



CONGRATULATIONS!

The University of Alabama in Huntsville is excited to honor our graduating students with a memorable commencement ceremony. You and your guests are cordially invited to join us on **Monday, May 5, 2025 at either the 10:00 a.m. ceremony or the 2:00 p.m. ceremony**, at the Von Braun Center in the Propst Arena for this important event!

LIVE STREAMING VIDEO OF THE CEREMONY

Join us online! A live streaming video of each ceremony will be broadcast from the Von Braun Center. Access the video via [UAH.EDU](https://uah.edu) on **May 5, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.!**



HELPFUL TIPS

Tickets are NOT required for the commencement ceremony. Guest seating at the VBC is first come first serve. Please do not save seats.

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COMMENCEMENT MARSHALL



Dear Almost Alumni,

This is such an exciting time for you!
As the great poet/philosopher
Dr. Seuss says,

"Congratulations! Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places! You're off
and away! You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes. You can
steer yourself any direction you choose.
You're on your own and you know what
you know. And YOU are the one who'll
decide where to go." On behalf of the
faculty, staff, and administration at The
University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH),
I would like to extend my congratulations
as you reach this significant milestone.
Though the journey may have had some
twists and turns, you have persevered
and are so close to the finish line.

We are so very proud of you and look forward to the accomplishments you will layer on top of what you have already achieved during your time here. We have seen you grow from that freshman with great potential to the accomplished person you are today. Many people played a part in getting you here, including your family, your high school and your childhood friends. As you navigated your college journey, you have been enriched by classes, classmates, professors and the organizations and activities in which you have been involved. All those late-night study sessions, trips, research projects, and other endeavors have helped you form some lifelong friendships and hone your career goals and aspirations.

We are excited to honor you with a meaningful commencement ceremony to help transition you to the next phase of your life. This guide should give you the resources you need to navigate the processes involved in commencement. I look forward to seeing you on the big day. We would also love to keep in touch with you as you take the UAH name out into the world on that great adventure called life.

Sincerely,

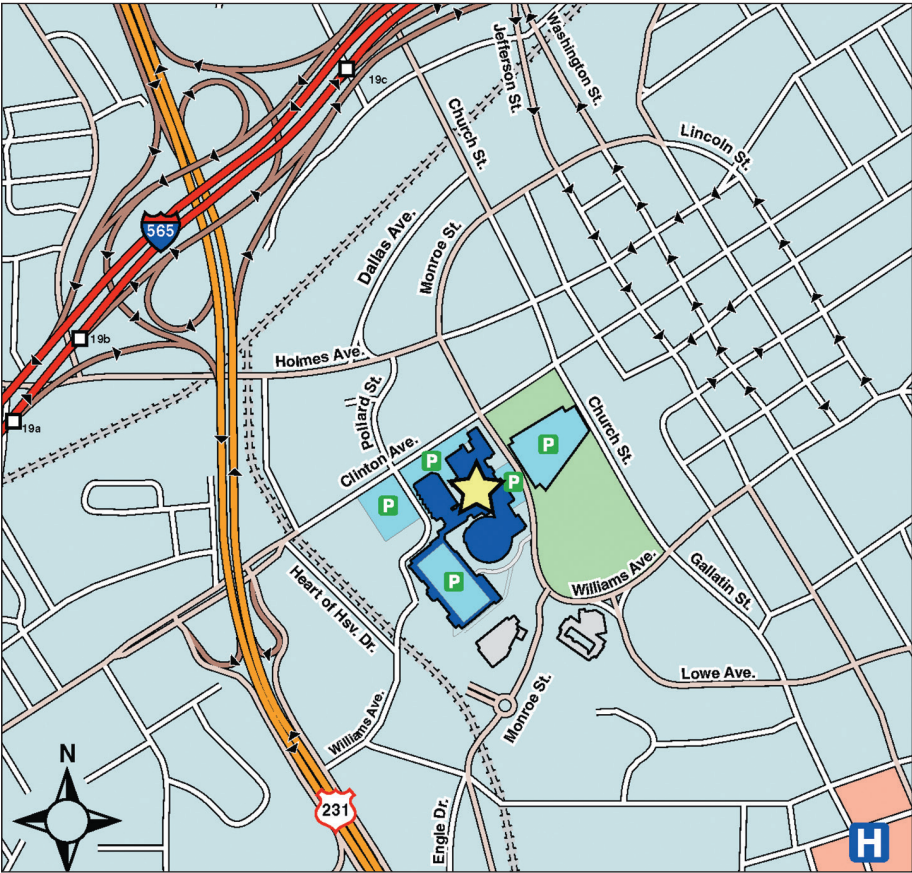
Rhonda Kay Gaede

Rhonda Gaede
Associate Provost for
Undergraduate Studies

COMMENCEMENT LOCATION

PARKING

The University of Alabama in Huntsville commencement ceremony will be held in downtown Huntsville at the **Von Braun Center in Propst Arena** on **Monday, May 5**.



INSIDE THE VON BRAUN CENTER

North Hall Parking Lot (P1), Cost \$15

Access to the North Hall parking lot is from Clinton Avenue.

South Hall Parking Garage (P2), Cost \$15

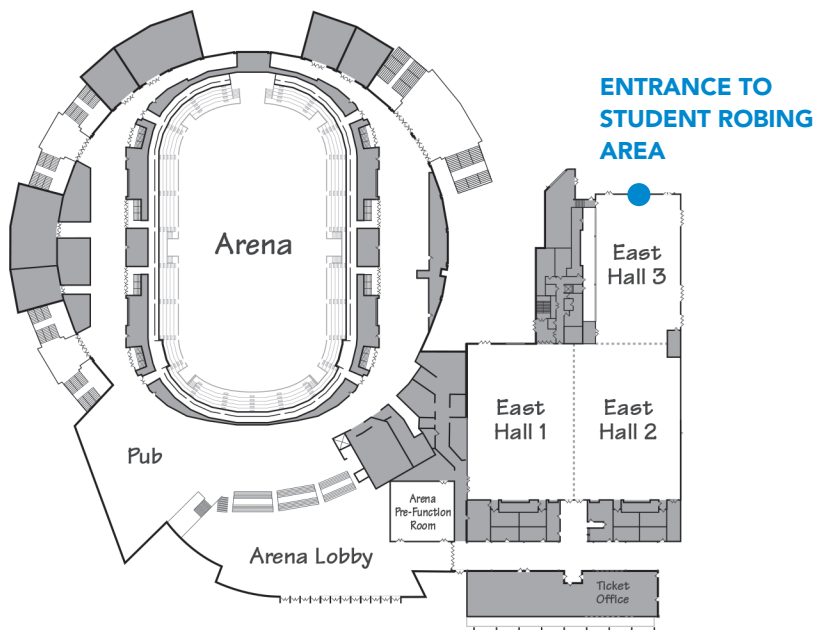
From Clinton Avenue, turn onto Pollard Street and follow the signs.

City of Huntsville Lot

- ▶ Parking Lot K (P5), Cost: \$15
- ▶ City Parking Garage (P4), Cost: \$5 Cash, Debit/Card

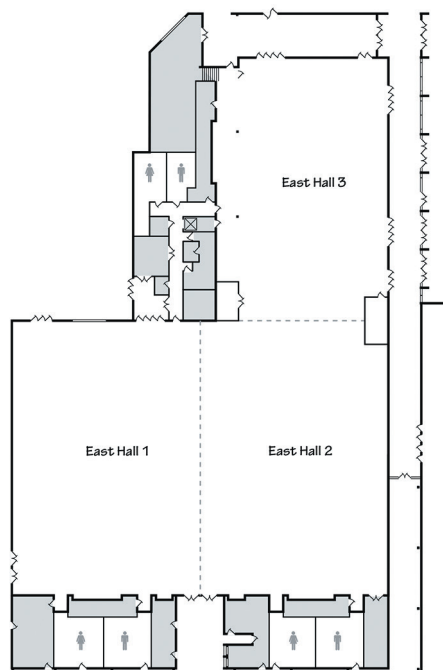


INSIDE THE VON BRAUN CENTER



HELPFUL TIP

A detailed view of the Arena layout is shown on page 18.



GUEST SEARCHES

All patrons entering the Propst Arena or Mark C. Smith Concert Hall during an event are subject to screening, which varies from event-to-event. Screenings range from visual inspection and bag search to screenings by a magnetometer (metal detector) and/or pat-down search conducted by security personnel. The purpose of the inspection is to detect prohibited items.

Doors typically open 1.5 hours before the event. Please arrive as close to that hour as you can. If you cannot make it to the venue before 30 minutes prior, expect a possible delay. We have increased our typical staffing level for events to get each and every person into the building in time. However, we cannot guarantee that will happen if the majority of the crowd arrives at the venue for entry close to the event start time.

To help everyone have a positive experience when coming to an event, we ask that you do the following:

- ▶ Bring only essential items needed for the event you are attending.
- ▶ Leave ALL weapons at home. Weapons may include firearms, pocketknives, pepper spray, stun gun/Taser, and wallet chains.
- ▶ No detachable lens cameras, iPad/smart pad or selfie-sticks will be permitted.

ITEMS NOT PERMITTED

The following items are not permitted in the Propst Arena or Mark C. Smith Concert Hall:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ▶ Backpacks / Suitcases | ▶ Strollers |
| ▶ Bags/purses larger than 12" x 12" x 6" | ▶ Any noise making devices, specifically air horns with sirens or whistles |
| ▶ Bottles or cans/Aerosol cans | ▶ Fireworks |
| ▶ Food and drink purchased outside of the Von Braun Center | ▶ Selfie sticks |
| ▶ Coolers | ▶ Cameras/GoPros/camera bags |
| ▶ Chains over 6" in length | ▶ Illegal drugs or alcohol |
| ▶ Laser pointers | ▶ Weapons or dangerous devices of any kind |
| ▶ Frisbees and/or beach balls | ▶ Professional recording devices |
| ▶ Jewelry or belts of any kind containing spikes or studs | ▶ Poles or sticks (including signs attached to poles) |
| ▶ Large umbrellas | ▶ Pets |

The Von Braun Center is committed to creating a safe, comfortable and enjoyable experience for all guests. All guests shall remain respectful and courteous to their fellow patrons and to comply with requests from VBC staff regarding policies, emergency response procedures and behavior which impacts the event experience of fellow spectators. The Von Braun Center values the support of all guests and reserves the right to eject any guest for any reason, including not treating other guests attending the event with dignity and respect.

GUEST SEARCHES

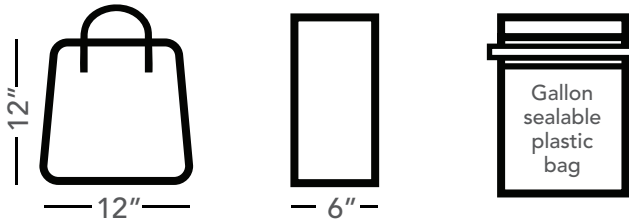
BAG POLICY

To provide a safer environment for the public and significantly expedite guest entry into Propost Arena, the VBC has created a Bag Policy that limits the size and type of bags that may be brought into the arena.

The VBC recommends leaving bags at home. However, if a bag is necessary, the bag must meet the following criteria:

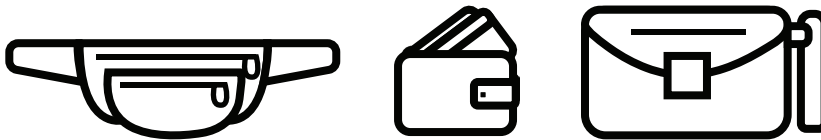
CLEAR BAGS

- ▶ Clear bags must be under 12"x 12" x 6" and made of CLEAR plastic, vinyl, or pvc.
- ▶ Bags may not have colored tinting, or obstructive patterns or attachments (buckles, grommets/hardware) that conceal any part of the clear bag. Simple logos are permitted.



NON-CLEAR BAGS

- ▶ Non-bags must be under 5"x 7". Any type of non-clear bag exceeding the approved size will NOT be permitted inside the arena.



EXCEPTIONS

- ▶ Exceptions may be made for medically necessary items only after proper inspection by security personnel.
- ▶ Medical bags or special medical equipment can be screened at any of entry points into the arena.
- ▶ Guests who have these items should alert security to check their bags and tag as a medical-approved bag.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:00 A.M. CEREMONY

TIME	ACTION ITEM	LOCATION
8:30 a.m.	Check in for students	East Hall 3
8:30 a.m.	Doors open for guests	Propst Arena
10:00 a.m.	Ceremony begins	Propst Arena

GRADUATES & GUESTS
ARE INVITED TO A

RECEPTION

IN THE VBC'S EAST HALL
IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH CEREMONY

2:00 P.M. CEREMONY

TIME	ACTION ITEM	LOCATION
1:00 p.m.	Check in for students	East Hall 3
1:00 p.m.	Doors open for guests	Propst Arena
2:00 p.m.	Ceremony begins	Propst Arena

STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

PRIOR TO THE CEREMONY

1. Complete the "Reserve Your Seat" questionnaire and submit your special comment, if so desired. The extended deadline is **March 26, 2025**.
2. Purchase academic regalia in the UAH Bookstore or online at uah.shopoakhalli.com. Don't forget to remove regalia from the packaging and let it hang so that wrinkles are removed prior to ceremony. The last day to purchase in-store is **May 2, 2025** and to purchase online is **March 26, 2025**. If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please call the UAH Bookstore at 256.824.6604. Congratulations!!
3. Order graduation announcements from Balfour by calling 1.888.225.3687, emailing CollegeGrad@balfour.com, or visiting balfour.com.
4. Are you a member of an honor society? Contact the Society Faculty Advisor about purchasing Honor Society cords for the ceremony. Honor Society honor cords must be purchased prior to the ceremony (approved list on pg. 15-16).
5. If you feel you will be unable to walk or stand for an extended period during the processional march, please contact the Disability Services Office, 256.824.1997, prior to **May 2, 2025**. In addition, you will need to alert the officials on site of your need for assistance.

DAY OF THE CEREMONY

1. The VBC has plenty of parking in designated areas for a fee. For more info, directions and parking information, see page 6 or vonbrauncenter.com/guest-services/directions
2. Arrive at the East Hall 3, for student line-up at least 1.5 hours early.
 - ▶ **10:00 a.m. Ceremony**
Please arrive no later than 9:00 a.m.
 - ▶ **2:00 p.m. Ceremony**
Please arrive no later than 1:30 p.m. (Notice: Downtown activities may impede traffic, so please arrive 15-20 minutes before doors open.)
3. Don't forget your regalia.
 - ▶ All footwear and trousers should be dark to complement the academic regalia. White or light colored shirts are also suggested.
 - ▶ The "ice rink" of the arena floor will be covered for this non-ice event, so please dress accordingly. (December ceremonies only)
4. Please give personal items, i.e. purse, coat, etc., to your family prior to entering the student robing area or lock them securely in your vehicle.

All purses and bags will be searched prior to check-in. To see complete list of prohibited items, see page 9.

The student robing area is not secured during the ceremony. If you must keep electronic devices with you, please silence them, so as to not disturb the ceremony.

STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

FOR THE ACTUAL CEREMONY

1. When you arrive at the student robing area you will be given a card with your name, college, degree and honor information - **DO NOT LOSE THIS CARD!** This card is your ticket to process across the stage. Also, please do not bend the card. It has been coded with your information (name, etc.,) so when you process across the stage all information will appear on the overhead screens. If your card has honors listed (summa, magna or cum laude) you will also be given a University Honor Cord.
2. You will be instructed to "find your college line." There will be staff on hand to assist you in finding the right college line for the processional.
3. You will process to the arena within each college/degree area.
4. As you march in the processional, keep your place in line.
5. When you have reached your appropriate seat, **REMAIN STANDING** until the entire processional party is in and the invocation is concluded.
6. Caps (Mortarboards and Tams) are to be worn at all times, with the exception that men will remove their caps during the national anthem and invocation. Dr. Gaede (Commencement Marshall) will announce the national anthem and introduce the minister. She will then state, "gentlemen please remove your caps". Please remain standing, men with caps removed, until the invocation is concluded and then be seated and replace caps.
7. You will stand next when directed to do so by Provost Puleo, who will recommend that degrees be conferred. President Karr will verbally confer your degree.
8. When Provost Puleo states, "Congratulations graduates, you may now turn your tassel" – you should change your tassel from the right to the left (undergraduate students only). This will indicate that your degree has been conferred. Then be seated.
9. Follow the instructions of the floor staff. The direction of the procession will be from the right side of stage.
10. All colleges will process to the stage. Remain in the correct marching order, remember to bring your card to the stage and follow any instructions given to you by staff.
11. All students will exit the stage by the left ramp.
12. After exiting the stage, follow directions to the photography area before returning to your seat. Each student will have a "posed photograph" taken once the degree has been conferred and the student has processed across the stage.
13. Pickup your complimentary gift from the Alumni Association and register for your Alumni Association Membership card
14. Return to your seat and celebrate with other candidates as they process across the stage.

GUEST INSTRUCTIONS

DAY OF THE CEREMONY

1. Guests should be directed to the Propst Arena; doors will open at 8:30 a.m. for the 10:00 a.m. ceremony and 1:00 p.m. for the 2:30 p.m. ceremony.
2. The Von Braun Center is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As new standards are introduced, VBC has implemented those changes or upgrades in a timely manner. However, due to a limited number of compliant seats in the arena, guests who are mobility impaired may not be able to sit with more than one or two family members in the designated ADA sections. Additional ADA seating will be available on the floor as well. The VBC does not provide wheelchairs.
3. The Commencement Committee has arranged to have GradImages at the ceremony to take high quality photographs of each candidate as they receive the diploma. Members of the audience are asked not to stand at the rail to take pictures since it may obscure the view of others.
4. To maintain the dignity and decorum of the Commencement ceremony, we ask that everyone remain through the entire ceremony.
5. Do you need information about the City of Huntsville? Contact the Dean of Student's Office at 256.824.6700 or Charger Union, Room 223, on the UAH campus for tourism packets.

GRADIMAGES

PHOTOGRAPHER

The Commencement Committee has arranged to have GradImages at the ceremony to take high-quality photographs of each candidate as they receive the diploma. Proofs will be sent to you within seven days after Commencement. There is no obligation to purchase the finished prints. Ordered prints will be delivered within thirty days of the deadline printed on order card. GradImages is the only photographer authorized by UAH to send photographs to the graduates.

gradimages.com/Preregistration



MEDALLION

Celebrate your graduate's accomplishment with an Alumni Association medallion that celebrates their academic achievement. When you or your student purchase a medallion for \$20.24, a portion of the purchase (\$9.45) will be designated to the Alumni Association Fund. This fund supports programming for both students and alumni. The purchase of a medallion may be your graduate's first gift to the UAH Foundation. To purchase a commemorative medallion, visit uah.estore.flywire.



LOWERS AND CLASS T-SHIRT

Make this special occasion memorable by pre-ordering flowers and a class T-shirt for your graduate. Commencement Flowers will be at the ceremony for you to pick-up orders or purchase flowers. For more information, please visit their website at thecommentgroup.com/alabamahuntsville.

HONORS

UNIVERSITY HONOR CORDS

For those undergraduates who are eligible, gold cords have been purchased by the University and will be available at the Von Braun Center during the robing process.

Notice: Honors indicated in the program are based on grades for semesters completed prior to the last semester. Actual honors for all completed work will be subsequently calculated and will appear on the official transcript and diploma.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Graduate students should not wear honor cords. The hood adorned with the college colors represents their academic accomplishments recognized by the university.

Graduation honors are not bestowed upon students receiving Masters or Doctoral degrees; therefore, graduate degree recipients do not receive or wear honor cords.

UNDERGRADUATES

Graduation with honors at the baccalaureate level requires a minimum of 60 semester hours at UAH. Honors will be determined by the grade-point average for the last 60 semester hours of coursework taken at UAH or the overall GPA for all coursework taken at UAH, whichever is higher. The academic terms containing the last 60 hours of coursework taken at UAH will be identified, and the GPA of all UAH courses taken during those terms to satisfy graduation requirements will be computed and the honors will be determined as follows:

- ▶ If the GPA computed as above is 3.90 or above, the student graduates summa cum laude.
- ▶ If the GPA computed as above is 3.70 or above (but below 3.90), the student graduates magna cum laude.
- ▶ If the GPA computed as above is 3.40 or above (but below 3.70), the student graduates cum laude.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

To receive updates before the event and to share selfies during the event!



facebook.com/UAHregistrar



#UAHgrad25

HONOR SOCIETIES



TO PURCHASE HONOR CORDS, STOLES, AND MEDALLIONS, CONTACT THE ADVISOR LISTED.

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Summa, Magna, and Cum Laude	Gold Cords (<i>distributed at ceremony</i>)	Amy Smith
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UAH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

	Medallion	Lisa Blackmon
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ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Alpha Kappa Delta (Sociology)	Teal cord	Bob Thomson
Alpha Psi Omega (Theatre)	Light blue and gold braided cords	David Harwell
Kappa Pi (Art)	Purple and gold cords	Jill Johnson
Lambda Pi Eta (Communication Arts)	Red and white cords	Xiaoti Fan
Phi Alpha Theta (History)	Madonna red and blue with multi-colored tassel at each end	Kelly Smith
Phi Sigma Iota (Foreign Languages)	Purple and white cords	Irena Buksa
Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy)	White and Purple cords	Nicholaos Jones
Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science)	Medallions red ribbons	Anne Marie Choup
Psi Chi (Psychology)	Silver and blue cords	Lisa Vangsness
Sigma Tau Delta (English)	Red and black braided cords, 2" medallion attached to red ribbon	Joe Conway

BUSINESS

Beta Gamma Sigma (Business)	Blue and gold cords with tassels, stoles, and medallion	Chris Allport
Society of Human Resource Management (Management)	Navy blue, light blue, and white cords	Ivey MacKenzie
DECA	Blue and white cords	Liwu Hsu

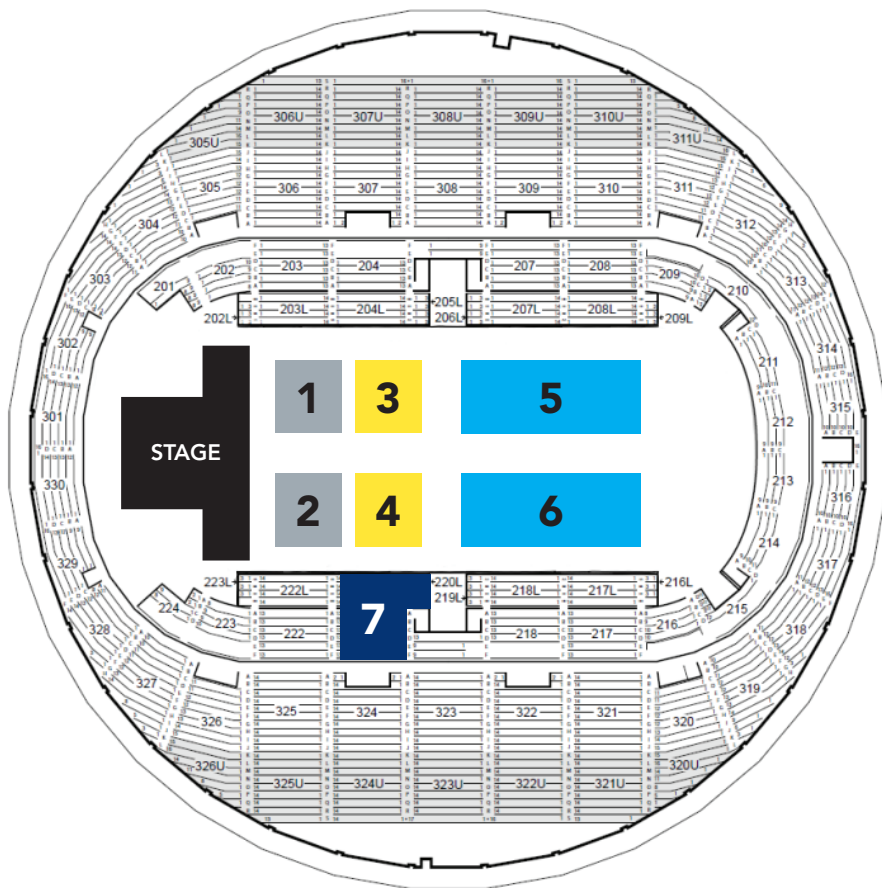
EDUCATION

Kappa Delta Pi (Education)	Purple and kelly green cords	Fran Hamilton
Kappa Omicron Nu	Burgundy and cream cords	David Kyle

HONOR SOCIETIES

ENGINEERING		
Alpha Pi Mu (Industrial and Systems Engineering)	White satin and gold stole	Howard Chen
Eta Kappa Nu (Electrical Engineering)	Gold braided cord with royal blue and scarlet tassels	
Omega Chi Epsilon (Chemical Engineering)	White satin collar (officers) / Maroon and white cord/rope (members)	Jeffrey Weimer
Pi Tau Sigma (Mechanical Engineering)	Teal and burgundy cords (<i>see national website</i>)	Babak Shotorban
Sigma Gamma Tau (Aerospace Engineering)	Stole with red shoulders and white satin tips	Chang Kwon Kang
Tau Beta Pi (Mechanical Engineering)	White satin collar embroidered with bent in orange	Sampson Gholston (ISE) Kim Xu (MAE)
NURSING		
AHEC (Undergrad & Grad)	Sage green and white cords	Karen Frith
Sigma Theta Tau	Purple and white cords	Kay Hargett
SCIENCE		
Kappa Delta Beta (BYS)	Red and green cords	Paul Wolf
Sigma Pi Sigma (Physics)	Green and ivory tassels and cords	Stephen Walker
UNIVERSITY HONOR SOCIETIES		
Alpha Epsilon Delta	Purple and pink cords	Amy Vaillancourt
Alpha Lambda Delta	Gold, red and white cords, medallions and/or stoles	shopald.org
Omicron Delta Kappa	White, black and blue twisted cords	Rita Ferguson
Phi Kappa Phi	Blue and gold cords with fringed tassels	John Saunders
Delta Epsilon Iota	Blue and gold cords with tassels	Candace Phillips
GREEK HONOR SOCIETY		
Order of Omega	Gold and white cording	Celia Venable
STUDENT LIFE		
Student Leader (President Award)	Blue and white stole	Nikki Goode
STUDENT GROUPS		
Athletes	Blue and White Stole with Charger logo	Jen Cole
U.S. Armed Forces Veterans	Red, White and Blue braided cords	Nick Anderson
College Ambassadors	Single blue and white cord	College Dean
First and Proud	Blue and green braided cord	Allyson Perry

CEREMONY FLOOR PLAN / 10:00 A.M.



- 1. Faculty
- 2. Faculty
- 3. **Doctoral and Masters:** Engineering PhD; Interdisciplinary PhD; College of Engineering
- 4. **Doctoral and Masters:** Nursing DNP; Nursing PhD; Colleges of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; Nursing
- 5. **Bachelors:** College of Engineering
- 6. **Bachelors:** Colleges of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; Nursing
- 7. **Reserved for University Use**

FLOOR PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON ATTENDEE RESPONSES.

- FLOOR PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON ATTENDEE RESPONSES.**

ABOUT YOUR DIPLOMA

WHEN DO I GET MY DIPLOMA?

Diplomas are ordered after all degrees have been awarded. Degrees are awarded once all grades have been turned into the Office of the Registrar. Please note it takes approximately 7 weeks to receive your diploma. An email will be sent to the student's UAH account once the diplomas have been ordered and then again after they have been mailed.

Diplomas will be sent via U.S. mail, so please make sure that your permanent mailing address is updated upon graduation.

INFORMATION STATED ON DIPLOMAS

- ▶ Student Name
- ▶ Graduation Date
- ▶ Degree
- ▶ Major (Bachelor's and Master's only)
- ▶ University Honors (Bachelor's only)

DIMENSIONS

- ▶ Doctoral diploma: 11" X 14"
- ▶ Master's and Bachelor's diplomas: 8.5" X 11"

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

1. Login to your MyUAH account
2. Select Personal Information and update addresses/phones
3. In the Type of Address to Insert drop down menu select Permanent Mailing Address and submit
4. Finally, update your address/phone and submit

PROOF OF GRADUATION

Order official transcripts early! Requests can be submitted online. If you submit a request early, please make sure to select Hold for Degree. Visit us at uah.edu/registrar.

HELPFUL TIPS

Let your friends, family, and guests know what area you are sitting in so they can snag a seat and get the best position to see you during commencement!

COMMENCEMENT CONTACTS

PROVOST OFFICE

Associate Provost

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Student Services Building, Room 303

Deanna Hughes
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Student Services Building, Room 303

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Registrar

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registrar@uah.edu
256.824.7777
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GRADUATE SCHOOL

Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Jon Hakkila
jon.hakkila@uah.edu
256.824.6339
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DEGREE AUDITORS

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Sciences, College of Nursing
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256.824.2752

Brittany Middleton
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256.824.6110

SPECIAL DISABILITY NEEDS

Disability Services
256.824.1997

UAH BOOKSTORE

256.824.6604
fax 256.824.6754
Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Located in Charger Union



COME CELEBRATE!

The University of Alabama in Huntsville invites you and your family to attend the UAH Commencement ceremony on **MONDAY, MAY 5** to celebrate your big achievement!

Inside this guide, you will find more information about:

- ▶ Schedule of events, including a reception
- ▶ Instructions for students and guests
- ▶ Parking and the floor plan of the arena
- ▶ Purchasing photographs and flowers
- ▶ Alumni Association
- ▶ Receiving your diploma

UAH Commencement Ceremony

MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

Von Braun Center's Propst Arena

700 Monroe Street SW, Huntsville, AL 35801

For any questions regarding Commencement, please visit our website at uah.edu/commencement or call the Registrar's Office at 256.824.7777.



Registrar's Office
301 Sparkman Drive
Student Services Building, Room 120
Huntsville, Alabama 35899