

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation! Your cap/gown/tassel is included in your graduation fees. If you have not ordered your cap and gown, you may order it here – [www.herffjones.com/college/lander](http://www.herffjones.com/college/lander) .

The graduation ceremony will take place at the Finis Horne Arena on Tuesday, May 11th at either 9:00AM, 12:00PM or 3:00PM depending on your academic college.

Below is a checklist to help your day go smoothly.

**Students with financial obligations will not be able to participate in the commencement ceremony or receive their diploma.**

#### ❑ TICKETS

5 ceremony tickets will be available to each candidate for pickup from Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> in the Registrar's Office. Every guest must have a ticket to enter the arena (including small children). (Please email MaryKate Leggieri at [mleggieri@lander.edu](mailto:mleggieri@lander.edu) if you need your tickets mailed to you.)

#### ❑ LOOK THE PART

Men are asked to wear white shirts, dark ties, and dark shoes. Women are asked to wear dark shoes, dark clothes, and conservative jewelry. Please do not wear flip-flops or chew gum. Jeans are not permitted. All graduates must be in a Lander University issued cap and gown to participate in Commencement. The tassel should be on the right side of the cap prior to the ceremony; it will be moved to the left side during the ceremony as directed.

Please do not bring any personal belongings with you to the gym. We recommend that you leave these with family members or friends in the general admission area.

#### ❑ USE A CLEAR BAG

Lander University will be enforcing a clear bag policy for the commencement ceremony. Guests will be allowed to bring in one clear backpack or bag, subject to search. Clutches are not permitted inside of the arena for the commencement ceremony. Exceptions will be made for guests with medically necessary items.

#### ❑ MASKS/FACE COVERINGS

Masks or appropriate face coverings will be required in the arena for guests and graduates. Graduates are also required to wear masks in the PEES auxiliary gym.

Guests will be required to follow social distancing guidelines for entry, seating, and exit.

#### ❑ GUESTS ARRIVE ON CAMPUS

Parking is available in campus lots and is first come, first served. A Lander University map is available online. The arena doors will open at 8:00 a.m. for the 9:00 a.m. ceremony, at 11:00 a.m. for the 12:00 p.m. ceremony, and 2:00 p.m. for the 3:00 p.m. ceremony.

Guests will be directed to their seats per COVID regulations. Entrance to the arena will be closed 15 minutes before each ceremony.

Late arrivers will be asked to watch the ceremony in the Cultural Center Auditorium and tickets are not required.

Handicapped guests are encouraged to arrive early to be seated. These guests can be dropped off at the circular drive close to the arena entrance.

#### ❑ GRADUATES ARRIVE

Graduates of the College of Science & Mathematics and the College of Education will attend the 9:00 a.m. ceremony and should arrive in the PEES auxiliary gym at 7:45 a.m.. At approximately 8:30 a.m., special instructions and the formation of the procession line will begin.

Graduates of the College of Business and School of Nursing will attend the 12:00 p.m. ceremony and should arrive in the PEES auxiliary gym at 10:45 a.m. At approximately 11:30 a.m., special instructions and the formation of the procession line will begin.

Graduates of the College of Arts & Humanities, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, and Other (IDS majors) will attend the 3:00 p.m. ceremony and should arrive in the PEES auxiliary gym at 1:45 p.m. At approximately 2:30 p.m., special instructions and the formation of the procession line will begin.

Parents and guests will not be allowed to enter the PEES Complex. There will be tables set up where you will receive a name card and any honors regalia.

#### ❑ GET SNAPPED

Commencement photography is provided by [Grad Images](#). Photographers will be taking photographs during the ceremony. Grad Images will email graduates after the ceremony with information about how to obtain their photos.

#### ❑ KEEP WALKING

You will receive a diploma cover as you cross the stage.

Guests are asked to give a polite applause as each student crosses the stage, so all students' names can be heard. We ask that guests refrain from shouting out names or other forms of boisterous behavior until the end of the ceremony.

#### ❑ GET YOUR DIPLOMA AND CELEBRATE

Follow the marshals back to the PEES auxiliary gym to receive your diploma. **Graduates must pick up their own diploma** and if you do not attend graduation, it will be mailed to you.