



Spring 2022 Commencement FAQ

Calendar of Events

Transition to Practice	Tuesday, May 24, 2022	
Commencement Rehearsal	Thursday, May 26, 2022	9:30am
Commencement	Thursday, May 26, 2022	2:00 pm

Transition to Practice

Details about the Bennett Career Services Center Transition to Practice event can be found on Salus CareerLink: https://salus-csm.symplicity.com/students/index.php?signin_tab=0&signin_tab=0.

This will be a live event with opportunities for those close to campus to meet with representatives in person on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. Presentations will be recorded and posted for those unable to attend.

Graduate Luncheon

In lieu of a luncheon, each graduate will receive a gift from the University on graduation day. Gifts will be mailed to those who are not attending the ceremony.

Graduate awards (depending on the size of the award) will either be placed under the diploma and distributed at the ceremony or mailed directly to the graduate following the ceremony.

Commencement

When and where is the Commencement Ceremony?

The Ceremony will be held at 2:00pm EST on Thursday, May 26, 2022 at the [Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts](#) in the Verizon Hall theater.

COVID Vaccination Requirements

All guests 5 years of age or older will be required to show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination for entry into all Kimmel Cultural Campus venues. Adults 18+ will be required to show photo identification with their vaccination proof.

- “Fully Vaccinated” means that a guest’s event is at least 14 days after their final COVID-19 vaccine dose.
- Valid proof of vaccination include: vaccination card, photo or digital copy of proof of vaccination.

- Proof of a negative COVID test will not be accepted.
- Unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children under 5 must be accompanied by a fully vaccinated adult.

Kimmel Definition of “Fully Vaccinated”

The Kimmel Center defines fully vaccinated as the initial series of shots (2 Moderna or Pfizer / 1 Johnson & Johnson).

If you or your guest(s) received a vaccine other than those described above, please contact the Registrar’s Office at registrar@salus.edu.

Mask Enforcement

All patrons over the age of 5 are required to wear masks inside the venue at all times (except when consuming food or beverage). Prolonged periods of mask removal are not permitted. This policy is in effect until at least May 31, 2022.

COVID Exemption Policy

Any individual (graduate or guest) 5 years or older entering the building who has not received the COVID vaccine (2 Moderna/2 Pfizer/1 Johnson or Johnson) must:

1. Request a medical or religious exemption by emailing Salus University (registrar@salus.edu) with the necessary documentation.
 - a. **Requests for medical exemptions** must be accompanied by documentation from the individual’s health care provider.
 - b. **Requests for a religious exemption** must specify the individuals sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance that prevents them from receiving the vaccine and be accompanied by a documentation from the individual’s religious officiant.
2. **Provide a negative COVID test within 72 hours of the event.** PCR or Third-Party Pharmacy tests only, no AT HOME testing kits will be accepted.

The deadline to submit your request is **12 noon on Monday, May 23, 2022.** **No exemptions will be granted on site on the day of the event.**

Will there be a required rehearsal for Commencement?

Yes, all graduates are required to attend rehearsal at the Kimmel Center on Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 9:30am EST. The rehearsal will last approximately 90 minutes and then the graduates will be expected to return for gowning at 1pm.

How long will the Commencement ceremony last?

The Commencement ceremony will last approximately 2 hours. We would suggest not making dinner plans prior to 5pm to allow for personal photos following the ceremony.

Is there a dress code for the ceremony?

We recommend dressing in professional attire (dress pants/shirt/tie/skirt/blouse/dress; no denim, shorts or athletic wear).

Regalia

The regalia does not need to be returned. The graduate will keep their regalia (cap/tam, gown, hood and tassel) as their personal property.

When and where will I receive my cap and gown for the ceremony?

Cap and gown distribution will occur at the Kimmel Center on Thursday, May 26, 2022, one hour prior to the ceremony.

When will I receive tickets for my guests?

Commencement tickets will be distributed immediately following the commencement rehearsal on May 26. Doors open for guests at 1:15pm, so you can arrange to meet your guests with their tickets before the graduate has to arrive for growing.

I won't see some of my guests before the ceremony, is there a Will Call booth?

Yes, you may leave tickets for your guests at the Salus University Information Table located in the lobby of the Kimmel Center.

How many guests may I invite?

Salus University allots up to 5 tickets per graduate for guests. We cannot take requests for additional tickets.

If you need additional tickets, we ask that you reach out to fellow graduates who are not using their full allotment.

Are there assigned seats and will my guests be seated together?

All students will receive their ticket allotment on a particular level/tier using a randomized process. The seats are not assigned, seating is general admission by level/tier. Guests may enter the theater beginning at 1:15pm EST.

Ushers will be available on each level/tier to answer any questions.

What should I do with my personal belongings (handbags, suit bags, luggage, etc.) during the ceremony?

We ask that you leave all personal belongings in a secure location to ensure the safety of those items (hotel room, trunk of vehicle or with a family member/friend).

Cellphones should be silenced for the ceremony.

Does the graduate need a ticket to enter the venue?

No. Ceremony participants do not need a ticket.

Do I need a ticket for an infant/toddler attending the ceremony?

Infants that are in their parents/guardians arms are permitted without a ticket. These infants will need to be held in their arms for the entire duration of the event.

Toddlers and young children require a ticket to enter.

Photographs

Professional photographs will be taken at key moments during the ceremony and will be available for the graduate to purchase. Photo proofs will be sent to your salus.edu email account within 10 days after the ceremony. If you do not receive an email, please contact the Registrar's Office at registrar@salus.edu

Guests with Special Needs

If any of your guests require special seating or assistance entering the venue and you did not indicate this on the Commencement Survey, please email the Registrar's Office at registrar@salus.edu.

How do I get to the Kimmel Center?

Please visit [Kimmel Center](#) website for information about parking, directions, and public transportation.

Where should I park and is there a fee?

There is a parking garage located at the Kimmel Center as well as several other parking garage locations within walking distance. Use the parking locator on the [Philadelphia Parking Authority's](#) website or visit the [Kimmel Center](#) website for information about parking, directions, and public transportation.

Will I have time to return to my apartment near campus between the rehearsal and the ceremony?

No. We highly recommend staying in Center City between the rehearsal and the ceremony.

Where should we eat after the ceremony?

Center City Philadelphia has plenty of dining options to suit different budgets, tastes, and group sizes. Please visit the [Official Visitor and Tourism Site for Philadelphia](#) or the [Kimmel Center](#) website for recommendations.

We highly recommend determining if reservations are needed in advance to accommodate your party.

What overnight accommodations are available near the Kimmel Center for out of town guests?

A variety of options are available at different prices. Visit the [Kimmel Center](#) website for information on overnight accommodations.

Still have questions? Contact the Registrar's Office at registrar@salus.edu.