



University of Findlay®

Graduation Guide



Saturday, May 2, 2026

Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex

Congratulations



Dear Oilers,

Congratulations on making it to the finish line! You have worked hard for your degree, and your moment of celebration is right around the corner.

This Graduation Guide has been designed to be a helpful resource as you prepare for graduation day and beyond. In it you will find answers to your questions about commencement wear, protocols, and those last-minute to-dos that must be addressed prior to walking across the stage.

Earning a college degree is an important life milestone. On behalf of the administration, faculty, and staff, I want to express my thanks to you for choosing to further your education at the University of Findlay. We are proud of your accomplishments and are excited to celebrate with you on graduation day. We also look forward to welcoming you into our far-reaching network of Oiler alums.

May your graduation day be a joyous one!

With Oiler pride,
Christine Denecker, PhD
Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs



Timeline of Events

November 12, 2025 10:00 AM-3:00 PM	Graduation Countdown for December Graduates Verify the spelling of your name for your diploma and the program and order regalia. Ruscilli Family Bookstore
February 4, 2026 10:00 AM-3:00 PM	Graduation Countdown for May Graduates Verify the spelling of your name for your diploma and the program and order regalia. Ruscilli Family Bookstore
May 1, 2026 6:00 PM	Baccalaureate Service Winebrenner Auditorium
May 2, 2026 8:00 AM	Doors Open for Graduate Commencement Ceremony Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex
May 2, 2026 8:15 AM	Students Report to the Student Recreation Center for Graduate Commencement Ceremony Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex
May 2, 2026 9:00 AM	Formal Procession Starts for Graduate Commencement Ceremony Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex
May 2, 2026 1:00 PM	Doors Open for Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex
May 2, 2026 1:15 PM	Students Report to the Student Recreation Center for Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex
May 2, 2026 2:00 PM	Formal Procession Starts for Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex

Graduation Checklist

- ☐ Apply for Graduation by [December 5, 2025.](#)
- ☐ Make sure all outstanding bills are paid to the Business Office by [December 29, 2025.](#)
- ☐ Order regalia by [March 13, 2026.](#)
- ☐ Request disability accommodations if needed by [April 17, 2026.](#)
- ☐ Verify your name and city/state is correct for program listing by [April 17, 2026.](#)
- ☐ Contact Hailey Niese by [April 17, 2026](#) if you are walking with a service animal.
- ☐ Pickup regalia from the bookstore by [April 17, 2026.](#)



What to Expect on the Big Day

Graduate Commencement

The day of graduation will go by quickly. Take a minute and remember to slow down and enjoy the moment. If you are participating in the Graduate Ceremony, please arrive at the Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex dressed in your regalia no later than 8:15 AM. Please take your regalia out of the packaging beforehand to press or steam out the wrinkles.

Graduates will proceed to the Student Recreation Center where you will check in at the registrar's table and receive your line of march card. Your guests will proceed to the Malcolm Athletic Complex for the ceremony. After you receive your line of march card, you will then be directed to line up in order based on the letter and number of your card. There will be staff there to help. If you are receiving a doctoral degree, please place your hood (folded in half) in the crook of your right arm with the color band toward your elbow and the string to the outside.

At 9:00 AM the formal procession will begin. You will follow your line into the Malcolm Athletic Complex and take a seat. You will find a program on your chair so you can follow along. Once the ceremony starts, please do not get up from your seat until your line is escorted to the stage to receive your degree.

When walking across the stage, doctoral students will be hooded by their professors. After this you will shake the president's hand and receive your degree portfolio. As you exit the stage you will pose for an official photo with one of the photographers. These pictures can be purchased after the ceremony. You will then process back to your seat until the end of the ceremony. Please note that you will not receive your actual diploma on stage. Diplomas are mailed out after grades have been verified.

Once the ceremony is concluded, you and your newly graduated classmates will process out of the Malcolm Athletic Complex and to the arch for the Griffith Memorial Arch Ceremony. Family members are encouraged to participate. After you have processed under the arch, you are free to meet up with your family members.

**How to position your
doctoral hood on your arm**



**Griffith Memorial Arch
Ceremony**



What to Expect on the Big Day

Undergraduate Commencement

Graduation day moves quickly and can be chaotic. Take a minute to slow down and enjoy it. If you are participating in the Undergraduate Ceremony, please arrive at the Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex dressed in your regalia no later than 1:15 PM. Please take your regalia out of the packaging beforehand to press or steam out the wrinkles.

Graduates will proceed to the Student Recreation Center where you will check in at the registrar's table and receive your line of march card. Your guests will proceed to the Malcolm Athletic Complex for the ceremony. After you receive your line of march card, you will then be directed to line up in order based on the letter and number of your card. There will be staff there to help. There will be a small presentation of the veterans' cords to veterans who are graduating at this time.

At 2:00 PM the formal procession will begin. You will follow your line into the Malcolm Athletic Complex and take a seat. You will find a program on your chair so you can follow along. Once the ceremony starts, please do not get up from your seat until your line is escorted to the stage to receive your degree.

When your name is read you will walk across the stage, and shake the president's hand. She will hand you your degree portfolio. As you exit the stage you will pose for an official photo with one of the photographers. These pictures can be purchased after the ceremony. You will then process back to your seat until the end of the ceremony. Please note that you will not receive your actual diploma on stage. Diplomas are mailed out after grades have been verified.

Once the ceremony is concluded, you and your newly graduated classmates will process out of the Malcolm Athletic Complex and to the arch for the Griffith Memorial Arch Ceremony. Family members are encouraged to come out and watch this as well. After you have processed under the arch, you are free to meet up with your family members.



Regalia

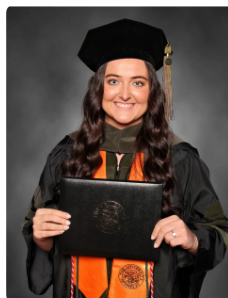
All graduates must wear appropriate apparel in order to participate in commencement. Please place your order through the University Bookstore at 301 Davis St., between the normal business hours of 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday - Friday or 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM on Saturday. There is a \$100 (tax included) charge for a full undergraduate commencement unit. The master's commencement full unit price is \$140 (tax included). All doctoral regalia will be \$180 (tax included). The last day to order commencement regalia will be **March 13, 2026**.

[Order Your Regalia Here Online](#)

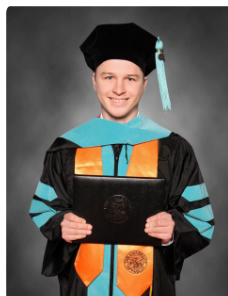


Scan the QR code to order on your phone.

Graduate Regalia Breakdown



Dr. of Pharmacy



Dr. of Physical Therapy

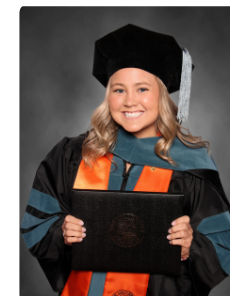


Master of Occupational Therapy

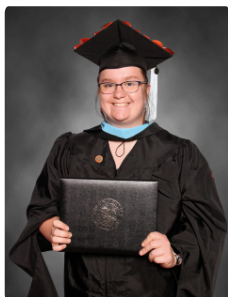
Arts, Letters, Humanities.....	White
Commerce, Accountancy, Business.....	Drab
Economics.....	Copper
Education.....	Light Blue
Fine Arts.....	Brown
Journalism.....	Crimson
Occupational Therapy.....	Rhodes Blue
Pharmacy.....	Olive
Philosophy.....	Dark Blue
Physical Education.....	Sage Green
Physical Therapy.....	Peacock Blue
Public Health.....	Salmon Pink
Science.....	Golden Yellow
Social Work.....	Citron
Veterinary Science.....	Gray



Dr. of Education



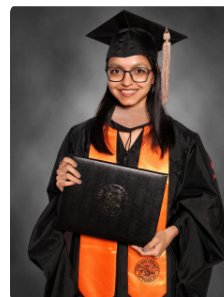
Dr. of Occupational Therapy



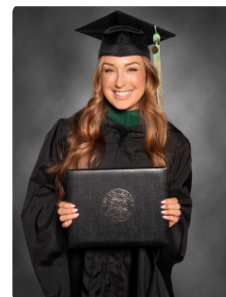
Master of Arts in Education



Dr. of Education in School Psychology

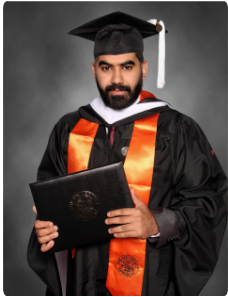


Master of Business Administration

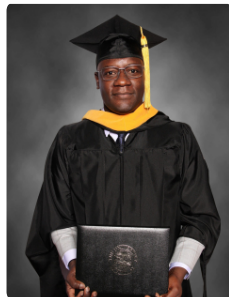


Master of Physician Assistant

Graduate Regalia Breakdown Cont.



Master of Arts in
Teaching
English to
Speakers of
Other
Languages and
Applied
Linguistics



Master of
Science in
Applied Security
and Analytics



Master of Health
Informatics



Master of Arts in
Rhetoric and
Writing



Master of
Science in
Environmental
Safety and
Health
Management

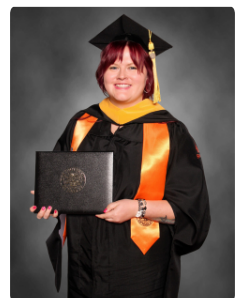


Master of Arts in
Professional
Communication

Doctoral regalia includes a doctoral robe with the appropriate color field on sleeves, front and hood. A tam or mortarboard with the appropriate color field tassel should be worn as well.

Master's regalia includes a black master's robe with a University of Findlay orange stole and black mortarboard with appropriate color of field tassel. The hood will be the same field of study color as the tassel.

Mortarboards should sit flat on your head with one point facing forward. If you look on the inside of the hat it will indicate what point is the front. Your tassel starts off on the right side. After your degree is conferred, move the tassel to the left side.



Master of
Science in
Radiologic
Sciences

Undergraduate Regalia Breakdown

Undergraduate regalia consists of a University of Findlay black robe with orange trimmed sleeves, an orange UF stole, and black mortarboard cap with the University tassel on it.

The mortarboard should sit horizontally on your head with one point facing you. This will be indicated inside the hat. The tassel starts off on the right side. Once your degree is conferred, you will move your tassel to the left side.

Upon check in, students graduating with honors (Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude and Summa Cum Laude) will receive a gold cord to wear. Additional academic cords are awarded based on organization and university participation.



Frequently Asked Questions

Can I walk with my service animal?

Answer: Of course you can! We just kindly ask that you notify us ahead of time if you plan to walk with your service animal. Knowing this ahead of time will allow us to put you and your service animal on the end of a row, so there will be more room to relax when you are seated.

If you would also like to practice walking across the stage with your service animal before hand, we can accommodate that.



Can I bring my purse or personal items with me?

Answer: We recommend you only bring what you need. You will not be permitted to take any items with you when you walk into the ceremony. The Student Recreation Center will be locked once all graduates have processed out. There will not be any readmittance after.

What if my family wants to take pictures of me before the ceremony?

Answer: Family and friends are permitted to take pictures of you before and after the ceremony. Family will not be permitted in the Student Recreation Center.

What if I arrive after the ceremony starts?

Answer: If you arrive late for your commencement ceremony, you will not be able to participate. After the last graduate in line has been seated, the aisles are blocked off. Anyone arriving late will not be permitted to sit with the graduates or walk across the stage.

Are air horns, cow bells, or any loud noise makers allowed?

Answer: The use of air horns, cow bells or any load noise makers is strictly prohibited. If these devices are found or used, you or your guests will be asked to leave immediately.

Does my family need tickets to attend either ceremony?

Answer: No tickets are sold or issued for this event. You may bring an unlimited number of family members and friends to either ceremony. We kindly just that ask you let us know if someone needs special accommodations so we can better serve them.



Scan to view the commencement website for more information.

Additional Questions?

Call Academic Affairs: (419)434-4166 or email hailey.niese@findlay.edu

Additional Information

Academic Requirements

Be sure you have met all academic requirements by contacting the Office of the Registrar at (419)434-4556.

Alumni Association

Graduates automatically become members of the Alumni Association. We invite and encourage you to become an active member. For information and services, please contact the Wolfe Center for Alumni, Parents and Friends at (419)434-4589 or visit www.findlay.edu/alumni.

Announcements

You may purchase announcements through the University Bookstore at (419)434-4561.

Commencement Website

For additional information about commencement and commencement activities, please visit the commencement webpage at www.findlay.edu/offices/academic/Commencement. Links for regalia purchase, photography, livestream, and programs can be found on this page.

Disability Accommodations

If you anticipate needing accommodations for graduation, we kindly ask that you submit your request by April 17, 2026. Submitting your request by this date will allow the Office of Accessibility (OAI) adequate time to review and arrange appropriate accommodations (419)434-5532.

Parking for people with disabilities will be available in front (east side) and behind the Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex (west side). Closed captioning is available during the ceremonies.

Flowers and Teddy Bears

Flowers or teddy bears can be purchased for graduates prior to the commencement ceremony on the Commencement website.

Outstanding Bills

Make sure all financial requirements of the University have been satisfied by contacting the Business Office at (419)434-4690. If your balance is unpaid by the time of commencement you will not be permitted to participate.

Photography

We have arranged for a photo to be taken of each graduate receiving his or her diploma. Please allow two weeks for delivery of proofs. You may also order online at graduationfoto.com. Photos of the Arch Ceremony may be downloaded by going to [flickr.com/photos/uf_images/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/uf_images/albums)

Programs

The University of Findlay has gone completely digital for commencement programs. All graduates will receive a souvenir commencement program that they will find on their chairs the day of the ceremony. QR codes will be posted around the facility for guests to scan and view the program online. If you would like additional programs, they can be purchased on the commencement website. Click [HERE](#) to view.

Watch Live!

The ceremonies will broadcast live at www.youtube.com/@UFTVFindlay.