

Commencement 2021 FAQ

1. What is the Commencement Schedule?

Saturday, June 12, 2021

- 9 a.m. John Muir College Commencement
- 10 a.m. Graduate Division, Master's Ceremony
- 1 p.m. Sixth College Commencement
- 2 p.m. Graduate Division, Doctoral and Master of Fine Arts Ceremony
- 5 p.m. Revelle College Commencement

Sunday, June 13, 2021

- 9 a.m. Thurgood Marshall College Commencement
- 10 a.m. Rady School of Management Commencement
- 1 p.m. Eleanor Roosevelt College Commencement
- 2 p.m. School of Global Policy and Strategy Commencement
- 5 p.m. Earl Warren College Commencement

2. **Is there an All Campus Commencement scheduled for Class of 2021?** No, All Campus Commencement ceremony elements will be included in the College/Division/School ceremonies like a keynote speaker, Chancellor's address, national anthem singer, and student speaker.
3. **Are there registration fees associated with Commencement 2021?** No.
4. **Will all graduates and guests need to pass a COVID-19 screening at check-in?** Students will be required to show their UC San Diego "green thumb" clearance and guests will need to pass a verbal symptom screening upon entry.
5. **Will the University require vaccine cards or test results upon entry?** All participants must be fully vaccinated or have had a negative COVID-19 test within 24 to 72 hours prior to the ceremony. Please be prepared to show proof if requested onsite.
6. **How are graduates and guests seated during the ceremony?** Graduates and up to 2 guests from the same household will be seated together during commencement ceremonies in group "pods" social distanced from other groups.
7. **Do graduates and their guests need to arrive together?** YES. Guests will not be allowed entry if they are not with their graduate.
8. **Can a graduate bring another graduate's guests?** For example, Grad A is not bringing guests and Grad B wants to bring 4 guests. Can Grad A bring Grad B's guests? The answer is No. Guests' attendance is nontransferable.
9. **Can graduates be seated together if they are from the same household?** Graduates will be seated with their guests and if they do not have guests they will be seated in a seating section socially distanced from other grads.

- 10. Can the Class of 2020 attend Commencement 2021 ceremonies?** The Class of 2020 will be honored with an in-person ceremony in October 2021. More details will be directly emailed to the Class of 2020's permanent email address. Commencement 2021 is intended for the Class of 2021.
- 11. Do students need registration tickets to attend Commencement ceremonies?** Yes, a printed ticket is required at check-in.
- 12. Where can students find their registration tickets after they have successfully registered online?** A confirmation email from commencement@ucsd.edu will be sent to the student's email address that they provided during the registration process on May 20, 2021. It will list next steps which include printing their ticket, time of ceremony, location and time to check-in, etc.
- 13. A student is missing their registration ticket. How do they get a replacement?** A ticket can be reprinted at the check-in location the day of the ceremony, if it becomes lost or damaged. Note: The ticket will be scanned upon entry and is only valid for one admittance to the specified ceremony. Tickets are nontransferable.
- 14. Do guests need tickets?** No, but guests do need to arrive with a graduate with their registration ticket.
- 15. I am a student and cannot attend Commencement in-person. Can I still participate?** Yes! Register online and select "online" participation. The student will be directly to upload a photo and their photo will be shown as their name is read during the live ceremony. It will also be broadcasted live for remote viewing. They must register by May 19 to participate.
- 16. A student did not register for any ceremony by the May 19 deadline, can they still participate?** No, students will not be able to register online after May 19. No late registration exceptions will be granted due to the nature of the hybrid ceremonies and planning logistics.
- 17. Can students register on-site during Commencement weekend to participate in the in-person ceremony?** Students will not be able to register in-person on June 12-13. No late registration exceptions will be granted due to the nature of the hybrid ceremonies and planning logistics.
- 18. Can a student modify or change their registration ticket after they have already registered?** Modifications or changes to commencement registration are accepted until the registration deadline of May 19. Students can contact commencement@ucsd.edu after May 19 if they would like to change from online to in-person participation or change to "not attending"/cancel their registration.
- 19. What name will be listed on the registration ticket and displayed on the screens?** Student's preferred name as listed in the Social Identities Tool will be listed.
- 20. Why does the commencement registration process require a phonetic spelling?** In order for a

student's name be read properly, it is important that the name reader knows the correct pronunciation. If a student's name is one that is pronounced in a special way, they are instructed to use a pronunciation key, with examples, to list their preferred name which will be displayed on their ticket so the name reader can pronounce their name properly.

- 21. A student wants to change their name as it is displayed in commencement programming.** The student's name is auto populated and will be listed as shown in the Social Identities Tool, however there may be exceptions and a student can contact commencement@ucsd.edu to request a change by May 19.
- 22. Where can participating students find a commencement booklet?** Commencement booklets will not be distributed during ceremonies this year. Students can download a list of names online in Yearbook.
- 23. Does the list of names serve as a proof of graduation or proof that a student graduated with honors?** No, Yearbook does not serve as a document of record or as proof of graduation. The final degree will be awarded on the basis of all completed course work and university requirements. Candidates for Latin Honors for 2020-21 will be determined by graded units and grade point average at the time of filing. Final honors will be awarded on the basis of all completed courses and grades.
- 24. What is Yearbook?** When students register for Commencement by May 19 there will be an option to participate in "Yearbook". Yearbook is a social media platform for UC San Diego graduating students. It is where they will create a profile, watch commencement ceremonies, interact with other graduates, and family and guests can leave comments on their page. They can also download a photo card with their picture, name, quote and achievements, and a list of their fellow graduates as commemorative Commencement 2021 digital keepsakes.
- 25. A student attended commencement last year, can they attend again this year?** No, commencement registration will not allow them to register again if they registered for a ceremony last year.
- 26. Can students register for more than one ceremony?** Students will only be able to register to their home College/Division/School ceremony, however exception requests to attend a ceremony other than their home ceremony can be submitted to commencement@ucsd.edu by May 12.
- 27. What happens if a student submits an exception request to participate in a College ceremony other than their home College?** Students need to complete their register then email a written exception request with supporting documentation to commencement@ucsd.edu by midnight on May 12. They will be notified in writing of the Commencement Committee's decision by May 19. If their exception is approved, they will be notified and able to print their commencement ticket with the updated college ceremony on May 20. Supporting documents will be kept confidential and will be securely disposed of after a decision is made. More information about exception requests can be

found online at commencement.ucsd.edu starting May 1.

28. What do participating students need to bring with them to commencement ceremonies?

- Printed registration ticket
- Valid UCSD Student ID card
- Symptoms screening clearance and documentation for the day of their ceremony (smart phone is ok)
- Regalia
- Recommended: Sunscreen, reusable water bottle, comfortable shoes, and smart phone

29. Is a printed ticket required or are check-in attendants able to scan a smart phone upon entry? A printed ticket is required to each ceremony.

30. What happens if a student no longer plans on attending their commencement ceremony? They can modify their registration to “Not Attending” by May 19th. After May 19th, email commencement@ucsd.edu to cancel their registration.

31. What time is check-in for the Ceremonies? Check-in is an hour prior to the ceremony start time for College ceremonies.

32. Where should students check-in, and what happens here? Students and their guests must check-in together at the designated check-in location printed on their ticket. They should allow time to wait in line for symptom screenings and security checks upon entry; all bags will be thoroughly searched and all attendees. After the security check, students and their guests will continue to the check-in location where the student’s printed ticket will be scanned in order to participate. They will then be escorted with their guests to a seating “pod” on the field socially distanced from other pods. Students need to hold onto their ticket throughout the ceremony because it will be scanned again on the field, to display their name on the screens as their name is read and they cross the stage.

33. Will participating students need to wear their cap and gown to their ceremony? Yes, official UC San Diego regalia; cap, gown and tassels are required.

34. A student shows up without their cap, gown, or tassel, where can they purchase replacement regalia?

They can go to the Help Deck located near the entrance for misc. regalia needs. They can also go to the Bookstore to purchase regalia during commencement weekend 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

35. Where do participating students return their gown? They can keep it all! They own their gown, cap, and tassel(s). Rentals are not available for students, only for purchase.

36. How long are the ceremonies? Each ceremony is scheduled for 120 minutes.

37. Do guests need tickets to Commencement? Is there is a limit to the number of guests that can attend? Are there exceptions? Guests must arrive with their graduate upon entry. Up to two guests may enter with their graduate. They do not need a ticket, but their graduate does. There is no reserved seating. Guests and their graduate will sit together in a pod of three. There will not

be exceptions made, only two guests are permitted with each graduate.

38. What accommodations will be available for students/guests needing special assistance?

- Disabled parking will be available near RIMAC Field and Triton Track and a shuttle service to the ceremony location may be available; parking location and details will be updated on the website by mid-May.
- The University does not provide wheelchairs for guests. The seating pod will accommodate guests in wheelchairs.
- Closed captioning will be available on the screens. There will be seats in the front row of the guest seating section dedicated to students/guests who are deaf or hard of hearing. Service animals specifically trained to assist a person with a disability are welcome. No other animals are allowed.
- Reserved seating is not available for guests needing special assistance. Accommodations are first-come-first-serve.

39. If a guest or student cannot make a ceremony, can they watch a live broadcast somewhere?

Yes, a live broadcast/livestream will be available at <https://commencement.ucsd.edu/>. Refer to the ceremony schedule for dates and times.

40. Where can guests purchase floral bouquets and leis?

Leis, bouquets, and t-shirts will be sold at Commencement. However, preorders for pickup before the ceremony are encouraged so participating students can wear leis onstage and in pictures. Order directly online at [commencement.ucsd.edu](https://www.thecommentgroup.com/ucsandiego/) or at <https://www.thecommentgroup.com/ucsandiego/>.

41. Where can guests purchase gifts?

Online at UC San Diego Bookstore <https://ucsandiegobookstore.com/t-gradpacks.aspx>. At this time, the Bookstore will be open on Monday, June 7-Thursday, June 10 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday, June 11 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Saturday, June 12 -Sunday, June 13 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Located to the East in the Price Center complex.

42. Will there be a professional photographer taking photos during the ceremony? If so, how are photos ordered after Commencement?

Yes, Grad Images will be taking photos of all participating graduates in line prior to their name read, as they cross the stage, and as they walk down the stairs from the stage. Graduates will receive a text message or email to the phone number or email address they provided during registration, with a link to access their photo proofs. Orders should be placed within two to three weeks upon receipt of the text or email to ensure the fastest shipping time. For additional information, visit the company's website: gradimages.com/Home/FAQ

43. Are parking permits needed for students and guests during commencement weekend?

- ❑ No parking permits are needed. Follow all event signage and directions of traffic management staff for access to the best available parking or drop off locations.
- ❑ Carpooling, ride-sharing, or using public transportation is recommended.
- ❑ Additional information about specific lot and road closures, accessibility routes, traffic impacts, and move-out instructions will be posted in mid-May.

44. Where are restrooms located?

Portable toilets and hand washing stations are available on the RIMAC Field and Triton Track. Additional restrooms will be in the Economics Building, Sequoyah Hall, Division of Social Sciences building, and the RIMAC Annex facility.

45. Will there be food, drinks, and water available for purchase at the ceremony site?

Bottled water will be provided to students, guests, and faculty. No food or water stations will be available onsite due COVID restrictions.

46. Where can one go to receive medical attention?

The EMT booth, located on RIMAC Field behind the last row of chairs, in the booth with the red & white tent.

47. Where is Lost & Found? Lost & found items should be given to any security officer. Items will be turned over to Campus Police on Monday, June 14. Lost & Found phone number: (858)534-4361.

48. Are pets allowed?

No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to assist a person with a disability are welcome.

49. Will UC San Diego clean between each ceremony and follow the State restrictions and guidelines regarding COVID-19? Yes, time has been designated between ceremonies to clean and sanitize as needed.

50. When will graduates receive their diploma?

- Diplomas are available 3-6 months after the end of the quarter in which the student graduates. Undergraduate and Graduate diplomas are mailed directly to the permanent mailing address on record in TritonLink. Diplomas will bear the student's official name exactly as stated on their UC San Diego academic record.
- Students will receive a UC San Diego diploma upon successful completion of the university and degree requirements, as long as a [Degree and Diploma Application \(DDA\)](#) was properly submitted to their College before the end of their final quarter.
- Note: Multiple degrees are listed on one diploma. Minors are not listed on diplomas. · If a diploma is not received by the end of the time allowed, contact Academic Records (858) 534-3144.

53. A graduate has VISA questions, inquiries about invitation letters, or other international travel specifics. How can we help? Contact ISPO and ask that they complete the form for more information about their request specifically - <https://ispo.ucsd.edu/contact/index.html#CONTACT-FORM>

54. Where can we park? Transportation and parking will be impacted beginning Friday evening, June 11, 2021, due to Commencement 2021 ceremonies and move-out activities. Plan to arrive a **minimum of one hour** prior to the start of your ceremony to allow ample time to park and walk to the entrance in [Lot P357](#). Keep in mind that traffic will be heavy leaving campus after the ceremonies as well. Please allow for an hour to depart. Please follow all event signage and directions of traffic management staff for access to the best available parking or drop off locations. Parking will be available on campus at no

charge.

Key Dates:

April 14 – Registration opens

April 12– Week of Commencement announcements (Campus Notice, Social, TritonLink, etc.)

May 1 – Deadline to order regalia for delivery by June 5.

May 12 – Last day to submit exception requests (to participate in another college’s ceremony or unit exception)

May 19 – Deadline to modify registration and register for Commencement and Yearbook.

May 20 – Ticket printing opens (email communication will be sent to students from commencement@ucsd.edu).

June 12-13 – Commencement Weekend.