



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY**

2025 SODM COMMENCEMENT

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Ceremonies and Tickets

Commencement offers a shared traditional graduation experience for all Case Western Reserve University graduates and their guests. Most ceremonies last 90 minutes and include remarks from university leadership and a prominent keynote speaker, after which, graduates' names are read as they walk across the stage to receive their diplomas. Each school also hosts a special event following its ceremony to celebrate this milestone achievement.

All guests of CWRU graduates should arrive at the Maltz Performing Arts Center **45 minutes before** the ceremony start time at 9:00am. Doors open at 8:30am.

*Guests requiring ADA accommodations may enter the building at 8:15am (with two others for assistance) and gather in the lobby, but they will not be led to the assigned ADA seating in the auditorium until 8:30am.

Tickets are required for each diploma ceremony. Graduates should transfer tickets to their guests' mobile devices ahead of guest arrival. Please make sure your tickets are available and ready to scan at the entry check point to ensure a smooth, positive experience for all. No screenshots or an alternative form of the ticket will be allowed for admission. Guests **will not** be able to enter the commencement venue without a ticket.

If you can't make your graduate's commencement ceremony, [a livestream option will be available](#).

Where to Go

Parking

All cars must be moved from the Maltz parking lots immediately concluding the ceremony as there is another ceremony directly following ours.

[Review parking details for each day of commencement weekend \(May 16-18, 2025\).](#)

Seating

Seating at all ceremonies is general admission and on a first-come, first-serve basis.

ADA seating is available at all events. [Review accessibility and special accommodation information](#).

What to Wear

Guests may wear whatever makes them comfortable. Some walking will be required, so we recommend comfortable footwear. Please plan for the weather — rain or shine. However, **umbrellas are not allowed** in any commencement ceremony venue.

Food and Beverages

Guests are encouraged to hydrate before the ceremony as no food or beverage, including coffee, are permitted in the Maltz Performing Arts Center.

Safety and Security

Upon arrival, all individuals will undergo a security check that includes a metal detector, bag screening and visual inspection of clothing capable of concealing prohibited items. To reduce touch points with staff and lengthy inspections, guests are encouraged not to bring bags to the venue.

The following items are **prohibited**:

- Bags of any type larger than 5" x 8" x 1" (backpacks, purses, handbags, fanny packs, cinch sacks, camera bags, messenger bags, binocular cases, suitcases, etc.). One 14" x 14" x 4" bag per person will be permitted (after inspection) for dietary or medical needs (medications, single-serving snacks for medical needs, medical equipment, etc.) or childcare needs (diapers, formula, baby food, baby bottle, pumps, etc.).
- Firearms or weapons of any kind (including pocket knives, blades, etc.).
- Laser pointers and noisemakers (cowbells, air horns, whistles or other items).
- Alcoholic or outside beverages.
- Signs, banners, flags, placards and pamphlets intended for distribution.
- Any items containing language or imagery that is threatening, intimidating or offensive.
- Aerosol cans or liquids.
- Confetti, glitter or stickers.
- Balloons (those arriving with balloons must return them to their cars).
- Sticks or poles (including selfie sticks).
- Mace or pepper spray.
- Umbrellas (can be left at the door).

- Eyeglass cases with metal hinges.

Prepare to take out electronic devices before going through security check points.

Rave Alerts

Rave is a text and voice messaging alert system that is used in the case of imminent danger or a serious threat to the campus community, including severe weather. In case of a major campus emergency, Case Western Reserve University will utilize the Rave text and voice messaging alert system, among other methods of communicating with guests, faculty, staff and students.

Text "CWRUGrad2025" to 67283 to receive alerts. Text "STOP" to 67283 to opt out.
[For more information, review our Rave Alerts webpage.](#)

Smoking

Case Western Reserve is a tobacco-free campus. Guests are not permitted to smoke (including electronic cigarettes or vaping devices) or use tobacco products anywhere on CWRU property.

Thank you in advance for adhering to Case Western Reserve University's commencement guidelines. We look forward to hosting our graduates and their friends and family! Once the ceremony has concluded you are are invited to the Reception hosted by Dean Chance, held in the Samson Pavilion. Complimentary parking in the JJ garage on East 93rd street is available

CONGRATULATIONS to Case Western Reserve University's 2025 graduates!