Hooding Ceremony FAQ – Graduate Students

What do I need to wear? Students typically wear dress clothes with their cap and gown. We strongly recommend that students wear the cap and gown; it is not required but strongly recommended. Students can purchase new or used or share gowns. The College of Education and Human Services does not have information or resources for used caps and gowns.

How do I get a cap and gown? The USU Campus Store is the place to purchase your cap and gown, order announcements, class rings, grad packs or buy a diploma frame. Caps and gowns are available in-person or through their webpage at https://www.usucampusstore.com/graduation/graduation-regalia.

What color of cap and gown do I get? Black.

What color of tassel do I get? Black.

What color hood do I get? Your hood color will be your college color, which is Light Blue for the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services.

How do I wear my cap and gown? Come to the Wayne Estes Center in your black cap and black gown.

- Your black tassel will need to hang from the left side of your cap. You will move your tassel to the right side at the conclusion of the ceremony.
- Please fold your hood in half. Lay the color and rounded end towards your body on your left arm (see photo). There will be faculty members to hood you at the ceremony.
- You will line up and walk with your tassel on the left side and your hood on your left arm with color/round end towards your body.

Are there honor cords or special distinctions to wear? Honor cords and special distinctions are not issued by the College and are not announced at the Commencement ceremony. If you have received an honor cord or special distinction to wear, you are welcome to wear it.

What do I need to bring with me? You need to bring your cap, gown, hood, and tassel. You are responsible for any other items you bring. There will not be a secure place to leave any items. The seating is very tight with no room for large items to be stored. We do not guarantee that after you are hooded you will return to the same seat you were in before getting hooded so you may need to carry the extra items you bring with you to the platform.

Where do I leave my purse or backpack during commencement? We recommend that students bring as little as possible. We strongly encourage students to not bring valuables, so they do not get misplaced or stolen. It would be best for you to leave your personal items with your family, friends, or guests.

What if I did not RSVP? If you did not indicate you were planning to attend commencement ceremonies when you completed your graduation application, you do not need to do anything. You can still attend the ceremonies without notifying anyone you plan to attend.

What is the difference between the two ceremonies? You are invited to attend two ceremonies. The first is the Main Commencement Ceremony and the other is for the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services. You can attend both ceremonies or just one; the choice is yours. Both ceremonies will be about 1½ hours long.

The Main Commencement Ceremony on Thursday, May 5, is for the entire university and will begin at 9:00 am in the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. You will need to assemble on the quad at 8:00 am. The traditional processional will begin at 8:30 from the quad to the Spectrum. You will sit with the entire college (in any order). The President of the University will be there, along with other dignitaries. There will be a commencement speaker, and then the provost will confer your degree. He will introduce each college and ask them to stand and cheer. Names will not be read at this ceremony. Tickets are not required.

The Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services Ceremony on Friday, May 6, is only for the College of Education and Human Services and will begin at 2:00 pm in the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. You will need to line up in the Wayne Estes Center (building to the west of the Spectrum) at 1:30 pm. There will be a short processional from there to the Spectrum. The Dean will speak, along with the Legacy of Utah State recipient. Each department will be introduced, which is when you walk to be hooded and up to the stage where your name will be read. After your name is read, you will walk across the stage and get your diploma cover from your department head, then shake hands with the Dean. Tickets are required.

How do I obtain tickets? Seating in the Spectrum is on a first come, first-served basis. Tickets will be required for our CEHS ceremony. There will be plenty of tickets for your guests. Tickets are free, but they must be reserved and will be available beginning April 4. https://www.usu.edu/commencement/ After you have reserved your tickets, you will receive two emails, one confirming your “purchase” and the other with a link to download the tickets. All ceremonies will also be broadcast live over AggieCast for guests who are unable to attend in person. The AggieCast link will be provided in a future email.