



# Commencement Guide 2026



# Important Dates

- Graduate Eucharist - 5 pm
  - Thursday, May 7, 2026 Oxnam Chapel
- Masters Graduate Orientation
  - Thursday, May 7, 2026  
After Master's Graduate Eucharist Oxnam Chapel
- Masters Students Graduate Reception
  - Thursday, May 7, 2026  
After Masters Graduate Orientation
- Doctor of Ministry Graduate Breakfast - 9 am
  - Monday, May 11, 2026
- Doctor of Ministry Graduate Orientation - 10 am
  - Monday, May 11, 2026 (will follow the breakfast)
- Commencement Service- 2 pm Monday May 11
  - Graduates need to arrive by 1 pm



# GRADUATE EVENTS

## Graduate Eucharist

- A Eucharist service for graduands and their friends and family will be held in Oxnam Chapel on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 5 pm.

## Masters Graduate Orientation

- Orientation for Masters students will be held immediately following the Graduate Eucharist service on Thursday, May 7, 2026.

## Masters Graduate Reception

- Following the Eucharist and Orientation, a dinner for Masters student graduands will be held in the Refectory.

## Doctor of Ministry Graduate Breakfast

- A breakfast for Doctor of Ministry graduands will be held the morning of graduation, Monday, May 11, 2026 at 9 am.

## Doctor of Ministry Graduate Orientation

- After the D.Min. Graduate Breakfast, an orientation for Doctoral graduands will be held at on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 10 am in KG-01.

# Ticket Information

## Tickets

- Tickets will be available in the Registrar's Office beginning April 14, 2026. Before you pick up tickets, you must complete the following:
  - Graduate Surveys: Complete the Graduate Student Questionnaire and the Library Services Survey available. These will open soon.
  - Settle your financial account with the Business Office. Pay any outstanding balances by April 14, 2026.
  - Tickets will only be released to you with a picture id.
  - If you need to leave tickets for someone to pick up the day of commencement, the Registrar's Office will have Will Call available at the Cathedral. Tickets will only be released by name with picture id.

## Tickets

- ***You will receive ten (10) tickets*** for commencement. If you worked at a PMM learning site, your learning partners will receive 2 tickets directly distributed through the PMM Office.
- In mid-April, a Blackboard site will be set up for students to request extra tickets from their fellow graduands. Through this site you can post messages to your fellow classmates either requesting or offering extra tickets. **This site will be the only avenue to request extra tickets.**

# Transportation & Parking

## Parking

- Parking will be available at the Cathedral and at the Wesley campus the day of commencement.
- There will be limited parking available; there are parking garages at Cathedral Commons, at 38<sup>th</sup> NW and Macomb St. NW with a maximum charge of about \$25.00.
- If you have persons in a wheelchair or with serious mobility issues, know the Cathedral garage is accessible and has an elevator. However, we can not reserve spaces.

# Commencement Day

## Monday, May 11th

### Graduand Information

Graduands will line up for a commencement procession in several chapels on the basement level of the Cathedral. Each degree program will line up in a separate chapel. Graduands are expected to be at the Cathedral at 1:00 pm. **Do not be late.**

### Diplomas

Graduands will receive their official diplomas at commencement. Masters degree students with a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher will receive the designation of “with Honors” on their diplomas. Doctor of Ministry students are not eligible to graduate with honors.

### Seating

Guest seating is on a first-come, first served basis. Ushers will be onsite to assist guests in seating. Guests will not be seated until after 1:00 pm. Please note that the Washington National Cathedral does not permit guests to photograph or videotape the commencement service. The service will be livestreamed.

# Graduation Checklist

- ✓ **Pay graduation fees.** A fee of \$200 will be charged to your student account in early 2026. Any outstanding balance must be paid by April 16, 2026 to be eligible for graduation.
- ✓ **Complete the graduation surveys online.** You should complete both the ATS and Library surveys online and complete the Alumni Update prior to pickup of tickets. Links to all will be posted on the commencement website and available in March.
- ✓ **Pick up tickets.** Tickets will be available in the Registrar's Office beginning April 14, 2026. A Blackboard site will be set up for extra ticket requests from your fellow graduands in the Spring.
- ✓ **Turn in keys.** Prior to commencement, mailbox keys must be returned to the mailroom. Room keys and gate-card keys must be returned to the Housing Office.
- ✓ **Update contact information.** It is crucial that you submit any update in your address to receive your 1098-T at the end of the year. Alternately, you can submit a Student Information Update form to the Registrar's Office, available at [www.wesleyseminary.edu/forms](http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/forms).
- ✓ **Attend commencement orientation.** Masters orientation will be on Thursday, May 7, 2026 after the Graduate Eucharist. D.Min. orientation will be Monday, May 11, 2026.
- ✓ **COMMENCEMENT!!** Graduands are expected to arrive at the National Cathedral at 1:00 pm on Monday, May 11, 2026.