Date: Saturday, December 16, 2017
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Florida State Fairgrounds, Expo Hall

Commencement Activities

Friday, December 15
• Interfaith Graduation Service
  4 p.m. Sykes Chapel
• Graduation Dessert Reception
  5—6 p.m., 9th Floor—Vaughn Center
• Legacy Photo
  5:30 p.m. 9th Floor—Vaughn Center
  Presidents Conference Room
Hooping Ceremonies
Please see the complete list of all Master Degree hooping ceremonies at www.ut.edu/hoodingceremonies

Saturday, December 16
8 a.m.—3 p.m. UT Bookstore open
9 a.m. All graduates assemble in caps & gowns for the procession.
9:30 a.m. Commencement will begin

Guests
The doors to the Expo Hall, Florida State Fairgrounds will open for seating at 8:15 a.m. Guests are encouraged to arrive between 8:15 am—8:30 am to ensure enough time to park and find seating. No tickets are required. Concessions will be available with food and beverages.

Hotel Accommodations
The host hotel for the December 16, 2017, Commencement is Hilton Tampa Downtown. Families and guests are urged to make reservations as soon as possible. Please identify yourself as an attendee of the UT 2017 December Commencement. Reservation requests received after the cut-off date will be based on availability at the hotel's prevailing rates. Contact Hilton Tampa Downtown at (813) 769-8300 or visit the reservation link by November 14, 2017 or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first.

Directions and Parking
The Florida State Fairgrounds is located at 4800 U.S. Highway 301 North in Tampa. From the University, travel on I-275 North toward I-4/Orlando and merge onto I-4 East via Exit 45B. Take Exit #7 (U.S. Hwy. 301 South) and stay in the right lane heading south for 1/4 mile. Turn right into the Fairgrounds entrance.

**Please note there is no fee for parking.**

***Please take proper precautions for Tampa traffic.***

Etiquette
In order to participate in the Commencement ceremony, graduates must be in academic apparel. During the reading of graduate names, we ask graduates and guests to be considerate in their applause and celebration so that all names are heard clearly and the ceremony is not disrupted. We also ask that if you decide to attend the Commencement ceremony, you remain in your seat for the entire event. Please afford every student and family the same respect and honor that you deserve.

Guests with Disabilities
Guests with disabilities should contact a UT Diplomat at the entrance to the seating area at the Expo Hall for assistance. Those needing assistance should provide their own wheelchair. Guests in wheelchairs will be seated in a special area.

Special seating for guests with walking disabilities will be in the first row of each bleacher section. Because seating in these areas is limited, only one individual may sit with the guest who has special needs. Your cooperation is required in order to accommodate all of our guests.

Congratulations Class of 2017!