



Hello Academic Advisors, Graduation Advisors, and Convocation Coordinators,

With Commencement 2023 on many students' minds, we wanted to share some general information for you to assist you as you work with students. Specifically, this message includes information on eligibility to participate in Commencement and inclusion in the Commencement program.

### Ceremony Eligibility

- Please feel free to reference and share our Ceremony Eligibility page with students [linked here](#).
- Students who have graduated or will graduate in the following terms are eligible to participate in Commencement 2023: Fall 2022, Winter 2022, Spring 2023, Summer 2023, Fall 2023, and Winter 2023.
- Students who graduate in the Fall or Winter terms may participate in either the Commencement prior to or following their expected graduation date. Students are not eligible to participate twice.
- Students who are graduating after Commencement 2022 (Summer, Fall, & Winter 2023) do not need to contact us to ensure they can participate. If they have applied to graduate, they can RSVP on their own at [commencement.arizona.edu](http://commencement.arizona.edu).
  - If they have not or could not apply to graduate by the time the RSVP goes live in mid-March, we recommend that students apply to graduate when they can (prior to Commencement) and then they can RSVP. Spaces do not fill up, and there is no benefit to RSVPing now vs. RSVPing in April. *(Example: If a student cannot apply to graduate until mid-April for whatever reason, we will recommend to that student that they WAIT until they have applied, and then they can RSVP for Commencement.)*
  - If they *cannot* apply to graduate until AFTER Commencement 2023, they can contact us starting the week of March 20 to RSVP at [commencement@arizona.edu](mailto:commencement@arizona.edu) and we will process their RSVP.

### Printing in the Commencement Program

- In order to finalize the Commencement program in time, there are deadlines in place.
  - Undergraduate students must have applied for graduation by the February 1 deadline to be guaranteed in the program.
  - Graduate students have different deadlines and are encouraged to contact their degree counselors.
- The names in the program are NOT designated by RSVPing for Commencement, but instead by following graduation deadlines from the Office of the Registrar and the Graduate College. "Commencement" and "graduation" are separate processes.
- August candidates will be listed in the Commencement program for the preceding May. Fall and Winter candidates, whose degrees have been awarded, will be listed in the following Spring Commencement program.
- The program for May 2023 will contain the names of the following degree recipients and applicants: Fall 2022 (awarded), Winter 2022 (awarded), May 2023 (applied), August 2023 (applied). ***There are no exceptions.***

Our office tries to ensure students know Commencement does not equal graduation and is simply a celebration of the student's accomplishments. We appreciate your help in sharing this information.

We are always here as a resource! Please do not hesitate to contact us or share our FAQ page ([commencement.arizona.edu/faq](http://commencement.arizona.edu/faq)) with your students.

Thank you,  
UA Commencement