

# FAQs

Fall 2023

## COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

### How do I apply for graduation?

Apply through your myUH account. The deadline to apply for graduation is **October 6, 2023**, and there is a \$25 filing fee. Late applications are accepted through **November 3, 2023**, with a \$50 filing fee. No applications will be accepted after the **November 3, 2023** deadline. Your graduation is contingent upon successful completion of your degree requirements and coursework by the end of the Fall 2023 semester. An application for graduation does not necessarily mean that you will be approved for graduation.

### When and where is the commencement ceremony?

The University of Houston Fall 2023 Commencement Ceremony for the Conrad N. Hilton College is scheduled for **Friday, December 15 at 9 a.m.** at the University of Houston's Cullen Performance Hall.

### Will my name be listed in the commencement program?

We make every effort to ensure that all graduating students who apply on time are in the commencement program. However, if at any time you have requested privacy protection for your academic records, your name cannot be published in the program unless you have indicated on your application for graduation that you want your name to be included. Although your name might not be included in the printed program, you will still be individually recognized by name as you cross the stage during the College Commencement Ceremony.

### What do I wear?

Academic regalia (the traditional black mortarboard cap and black and red gown) are required for all graduates. The University of Houston has selected official UH regalia, and we strongly encourage you to purchase your regalia at the UH Bookstore.

#### *Regalia colors for Hilton College:*

- **Baccalaureate:** Navy blue tassels-no hood
- **Master's and Doctoral:** Black tassels-red, white, navy blue hoods

#### *Tassel placement:*

- **Baccalaureate:** Tassels are worn on the right side of the cap before the ceremony and are then moved to the left side when directed to do so.
- **Master's:** Tassels are worn on the left side of the cap before, during and after graduating.
- **Doctoral:** Tassels are worn on the left side of the tam or cap before, during and after graduating.

### Where can I buy my invitations, class ring and cap and gown?

Graduation invitations, UH class rings and your academic regalia (cap and gown) can all be purchased at the UH Bookstore located in the Student Center. You also can make a purchase online with [Herff Jones](#).

### Are there any required meetings I must attend before the ceremony?

**YES**, there is a **MANDATORY** meeting you *must* attend if you plan to participate in the ceremony. This meeting is the only opportunity to discuss graduation and ask questions. Please plan on attending one of these meetings.

#### **Face-to-Face Meetings**

*All face-to-face meetings will be held in room S260-CHC (Blue Computer Lab).*

Monday, October 23	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 24	12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 25	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 26	3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

#### **Virtual Meetings**

Monday, October 23	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Virtual link click <a href="#">here</a>
Tuesday, October 24	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Virtual link click <a href="#">here</a>
Wednesday, October 25	9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Virtual link click <a href="#">here</a>
Thursday, October 26	9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Virtual link click <a href="#">here</a>

### When is the Graduation Fair?

The Graduation Fair will be at the UH Main Campus Bookstore (126 University Center) October 9 & 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Representatives will be on hand to assist in ordering caps, gowns, hoods, honors cords as well as announcements, UH rings and diploma frames.

### Will I graduate with honors?

Undergraduate students who have completed the graduation requirements of the Honors College, including a senior honors thesis or senior honors project, are graduated with "University Honors with Honors in Major." Undergraduate students who have completed all requirements of the Honors College except for the thesis or project, are graduated with "University Honors" (*see University Honors College*). Undergraduate students who successfully completed a senior honors thesis or senior honors project, and who are not members of the Honors College, are graduated with "Honors in Major." Undergraduate students who completed their degree requirements will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the grade point averages listed in the Honors Categories below. Final GPA's are comprised of A, B, C,... letter grades and are based on the last 54 credit hours (all of which must be completed at the University of Houston). Grades of S, U, I and W are not assigned grade point values and are not used in the computation of the grade point average.

#### **Honors Categories**

*Summa Cum Laude* (3.9 to 4.0 - with highest honors)

*Magna Cum Laude* (3.7 to 3.89 - with high honors)

*Cum Laude* (3.5 to 3.69 - with honors)

Furthermore, the honors calculation will include all hours completed in the semester in which the last of those 54 hours were completed.

### **What do my guests need to do?**

When inviting guests, please be advised of the following:

- Doors will open one hour before the ceremony.
- This is a ticketed event. Guests will only be granted entry with an official ticket.
- Saved seats are prohibited and will be strictly enforced by security and ushers.
- Doors to the Cullen Performance Hall will close if maximum capacity is reached. This decision is made by the fire marshal and not the University.

### **Where do we park?**

Graduates and guests attending the Hilton College commencement ceremony are asked to park at the Hilton University of Houston, the Welcome Center parking garage, the East Parking Garage, or Lots 4A, 20A or 20C. We strongly suggest that family and friends arrive well before the ceremony is scheduled to begin.

### **What about special accommodations?**

Students with guests who are mobility impaired will need to contact the Hilton College Office of Academic Services **no later than December 1, 2023**, for any additional assistance or requests.

### **Is there a rehearsal before the commencement ceremony?**

There is no rehearsal for the commencement ceremony.

### **When and where do I show up, and what do I do for commencement?**

Graduate check-in begins at **7:30 a.m. on Friday, December 15, 2023**, at the University of Houston's Cullen Performance Hall. You should arrive in full academic regalia **no later than 8:30 a.m.** There is no late seating after the ceremony has started.

### **How long does the commencement ceremony last?**

The commencement ceremony should last 1-1.5 hours.

### **Is there a reception after the ceremony?**

Yes. We invite you and your guests to join us immediately following the ceremony for a reception at the Conrad Hilton College's Waldorf-Astoria Ballroom.

### **What about photographs?**

Family and friends are free to bring cameras and video recorders and may take as many pictures as they like. However, they must remain in their seats during the ceremony; standing is prohibited in the aisles. We also suggest that photographs be taken at home or at other locations on campus prior to or after the ceremony. A professional photographer will be taking individual photos during the ceremony.

### **When do I get my actual diploma?**

Diplomas are normally mailed eight weeks after the official end of the semester. Students can check the status of their diploma at [www.MichaelSutter.com/UH](http://www.MichaelSutter.com/UH). Diplomas are mailed directly to students at the most current address provided through their myUH student account. The diploma-printing company will also send e-mail notifications to diploma recipients indicating when diplomas have been mailed. It's important to keep contact information updated in myUH to avoid shipment delays.

***NOTE:** There is a \$25 fee for each additional diploma ordered. This fee does not apply to the initial diploma mailed upon graduation but will apply to additional copies as requested on the diploma order form.*