

Convocation/Hooding Ceremony FAQ'S

- **Will there be vaccine and masking requirements?**
OHSU policy is that all guests of OHSU Sponsored events are required to be fully vaccinated or receive a negative PCR test within 48 hours before the events. You and/or your guests will be required to attest that they are in compliance of this policy. OHSU will make any other decisions based on OHA recommendations, science and the health and safety of all.
- **Do we have a contingency plan in place in the case that COVID numbers are increasing or a new variant is active at the time of the events?**
If conditions change, the decision to hold in-person Convocation may be revised to match the circumstances. If the COVID situation is unsafe, with growing case numbers, hospitalizations and mortalities, we will revert to virtual ceremonies such as we have celebrated in the last two years. Any changes will be communicated widely and we will announce more as we know more.
- **Where do I leave my phone, pager, purse, coat, backpack, umbrella, camera case, or other valuables?**
These items **MUST** be left with family and/or friends before you enter the building and robing/staging area, as there will be no secure area in which to keep them during the ceremony. Anything left in the staging area will be removed prior to the end of the ceremony and OHSU cannot be responsible for the items. Cell phones/pagers should be turned off or set to silent/vibrate during the ceremony.
- **Where do we park?** Parking garages are located below [the Convention Center for](#) a fee. There are also [surface lots and street parking](#) as well as many public transportation options.
- **Can family/friends come to the robing/staging area and take pictures?** No. The robing/staging area is for students and participating faculty only.
- **When will the SoD Hooding Ceremony begin?** The Convocation Ceremony begins at 1 p.m. and we anticipate it lasting 1-1.5 hours. Once participants are lined up for Hooding, the Ceremony will *tentatively* begin at 3 p.m.
- **May my baby/child sit with me during the ceremony?** No, we are unable to allow babies and children in the processional. Please make arrangements with family or friends to tend to your baby/child.
- **What about children as guests?** Young or small children may have difficulties with the length of the ceremony. Please do not allow children to play in the aisles. If the child(ren) becomes fussy, please adjourn to the outer lobby so as not to disturb the ceremony.
- **What do I do with my hood?** The hood will be carried into Convocation on your right arm and will remain there for the duration of the ceremony. You will then carry it into the Hooding ceremony and hand it to the faculty member/mentor at the hooding station as you cross the stage.
- **What do I do with my regalia after the ceremony?** The regalia will be yours to keep.
- **What should I expect at the reception?** Tentatively there will be a light hosted reception following the Hooding ceremony for graduates and their families, planned for 4:30 p.m.

- **What about tickets for my family/friends?** No tickets are necessary.
- **When should my family/friends arrive?** The doors to Convocation will open at 12:15 p.m. for immediate seating. Early admittance is not available.
- **Aisles:** Please keep all aisle ways clear at all times. No baby carries, strollers, children or seating is allowed in these areas for safety reasons. Aisles are used during the ceremony by students, staff, and faculty. If you have guests with special needs, please let the Student Affairs team know.

If you have further questions about the OHSU Convocation & SOD Hooding Ceremony, please contact Jenna Wilkinson, wilkinje@ohsu.edu or Polina Pozdina, pozdinap@ohsu.edu.