Commencement Rehearsal
April 26, 2023
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
MAY 5, 2023

9 AM  College of Arts, Education, and Humanities
Noon  College of Business, Mathematics, and Sciences
3 PM  College of Individual and Community Health

Sanford Event Center
Where?

Sanford Event Center
Family and Guests

Q: Do I need tickets for guests?

A: No

But we do ask that you observe a limit of 10 or fewer guests / student.
Family and Guests

- Do I need tickets for guests? **NO.** *(but please observe 10 guests / grad maximum)*

- When should guests arrive at the event center?  
  About 1/2 hour before the scheduled ceremony is good. There will be a concert before the march, and seating may be tight.
How should we get to the event center?

You can walk or bike ...

(It’s about 2 ½ miles from BSU along the lake)
- How should we get to the event center?

You can walk or bike ... or drive.

Parking at the center is free for this event.

But parking is not infinite, please carpool if possible.
Please Carpool if possible.
(but don’t overdo it)
Where should family and guests come in?

*Family and guests should enter by Gate 2.*

*Allow extra time for security check points at doors.*
Are there accommodations for hearing impaired and guests with physical needs? Yes. All guests should come in with their families through Gate 2.
Are there accommodations for hearing impaired and guests with physical needs?

Ushers will be available to help with seating.
Ceremony
Do you have to wear a cap and gown?

Yes, all faculty, staff and students taking part in commencement ceremonies are required to wear traditional academic regalia. Only academic adornments should be on the gown. No flowers, no jewelry.
On which side do I wear my tassel?

Undergraduate students wear their tassel on the right side at the beginning of the ceremony. After degrees are conferred, tassels are moved to the left side.

Graduate students wear their tassel on the left since they have already graduated with a bachelor’s degree.
- **Will my name be read?**

  Yes. *All students come to the platform, your names are read, you are congratulated by the President, and you receive a diploma cover.*

- **Will there be a professional photographer?**

  Yes, you will be contacted after commencement with regard to pictures taken when you cross the stage.
Graduate Assembly and March
Ceremony Times

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>9 AM</td>
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Graduates should arrive at Gate 4 30 - 45 minutes before the ceremony.
Personal belongings cannot be left in the staging area, and you won’t be allowed back in there after the ceremony.

Don’t bring a lot of stuff!

Don’t do this.
Once inside, go to the appropriate room, as directed.

Please don’t mill around in the hall. (much)
March (Two by Two) begins about 10 minutes before the official time of the ceremony.

Times:

8:50 AM (9) College of Arts, Education, and Humanities
11:50 AM (12) College of Business, Mathematics, and Sciences
2:50 PM (3) College of Individual and Community Health

We’ll be directing you on this. Just show up at Sanford on time...
March (Two by Two) begins about 10 minutes before the official time of the ceremony.

Marching Order:
- Faculty
- Masters
- Undergrads
- Platform Party
March (Two by Two) begins about 10 minutes before the official time of the ceremony.

Marching Order:
- Faculty
- Masters
- Undergrads
- Platform Party

If you want to sit with your friends, line up in front of or behind them. You will be separated from the person next to you in the march.
If you want to sit with your friends, line up *in front of or behind* them.

You will be separated from the person next to you in the march.
If the weather is OK, we will go out Gate 5.
The march will go from Gate 5, around the lake side and front of the center, and into Gate 2.

“Bye BSU”
If the weather is **not** OK, we will go to the arena through the halls.
Grads will be led into the middle of the arena, between a double line of faculty*, by the stage, and then back into their seats.
At the front of the arena, the two lines will be directed to split.

Whoever you were walking next to will end up on the other side of the seating area.

Walk in front of or behind the people you want to sit with.
Pay attention to:

Marshal

Big piece of metal

Do not make this dude angry.

The junior ushers
After you have gotten your degree folder, have had your picture taken, and have returned to your seat:

Go ahead and sit down.
At the end of the ceremony

You will be led out of the arena and out to the front of the center.

You can meet your families and friends in the area in front of the center.
Reader Cards

So that the reader on the podium knows what name to say as you walk across the stage, you will have a Reader Card.

These will be distributed at the Sanford Center on the day of commencement.
If you need special accommodations during the ceremony, see Kim Gourneau right after the rehearsal.
Questions?

The website has much of this information, and is kept up to date.

http://www.bemidjistate.edu/commencement/