

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Master's Hooding Ceremony

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Am I eligible to participate?

A: Any master's degree student who will graduate this spring, summer or fall or who graduated in the previous fall or summer is welcome to register to participate in the Master's Hooding Ceremony.

Q: What do I wear?

A: Master's candidate regalia includes a gown, hood, cap and black tassel. These items can be purchased at the [KU Bookstores](#). We recommend placing your order as soon as possible, no later than May 1st. Sizes can run out as commencement approaches.

- ❖ *Master's gown:* Long sleeves closed at the end with the arm passing through a slit above the elbow. This differs from the bachelor's gown, which has bell-shaped sleeves.
- ❖ *Cap:* Black mortarboard
- ❖ *Hood:* The hood for College of Liberal Arts and Sciences candidates is black with a white velvet strip, with red and blue accents.
- ❖ *Tassel:* Master's candidates should wear a black tassel. The white tassel for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is for undergraduate students.

Q: What do hooders wear?

A: Nearly all hooders are faculty members. They wear regalia from the institutions where they graduated. In some instances, a staff member is asked to hood a student. In this event, if the hooder received a master's degree but not a doctoral degree, he/she is also encouraged to wear regalia from their institution. If not, professional dress is appropriate.

Q: What if my faculty advisor/mentor is unable to attend?

A: If your faculty advisor/mentor is unable to attend, you may use the designated faculty hooder. You can either request this option on the registration form, or let a staff member at the ceremony know you would like to use the designated hooder.

Q: How will I know when to arrive and what to do the day of the ceremony?

A: Once the registration deadline passes, students and faculty who are participating in the ceremony will receive an e-mail with instructions for the day of the ceremony. If you have not received this e-mail and believe you should have, contact coga@ku.edu.

Q: How long is the ceremony?

A: The ceremony typically lasts one hour.

Q: Where is the Lied Center and where should participants and guests park?

A: The Lied Center is located at [1600 Stewart Drive](#) off of Irving Hill Road and 15th Street. There is plenty of [parking](#) available for all participants and guests.

Q: Will my name appear in the program even if I'm not participating in the ceremony?

A: If you graduated in the summer semester, fall semester or spring semester previous to the upcoming ceremony, your name will be included in the program unless you have opted out. If you are graduating in the summer semester or fall semester following the upcoming ceremony, you will be listed only if you are participating in the upcoming ceremony.

Q: Is there a winter hooding ceremony?

A: No. The Master's Hooding Ceremony happens only in the spring. Students who graduate in fall or summer semesters are encouraged to participate in either the ceremony prior to or after their graduation semester.

Q: What's the difference between the Master's Hooding Ceremony and the Distinction Highest Distinction Ceremony?

A: This year, the Master's Hooding Ceremony is combined with the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Distinction Highest Distinction Ceremony for Undergraduate student candidates.

Q: What's the difference between the Master's Hooding Ceremony and the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony?

A: The [Master's Hooding Ceremony](#) is facilitated by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences for its candidates for master's degrees. The [Doctoral Hooding Ceremony](#) is facilitated by the university's Graduate Studies office for all KU doctoral candidates.

Q: What is the difference between this ceremony and commencement activities on Sunday?

A: Unlike the university-wide [commencement](#) procession, this ceremony individually recognizes each participating graduate as he/she is called to the stage. This is a popular event for family and friends to attend as they can witness the hooding of graduates that symbolizes the completion of this phase of study.

Q: Is there a viewing option for friends and family members who cannot attend the ceremony?

A: Yes. The event will be live-streamed and viewable online.

Q: What happens if I need more than four tickets?

A: You may request to be placed on a waiting list for additional tickets when you complete the registration form. Additional tickets are not guaranteed, but in the past, we have been able to accommodate most ticket requests.