



College of Arts and Sciences

Graduation Information Packet Spring 2026



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PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL

COAS CEREMONY DETAILS

The Graduation Recognition Ceremonies for the College of Arts and Sciences will be held on:

Thursday, May 7, 2026, In Burr Gymnasium.

- **Morning Ceremony: 8 am-10 am.**
- (Graduates **MUST** arrive in the Lower Gym by 7:00 am, processional begins at 7:30 am)
- **Afternoon Ceremony: 1 pm-3 pm.**
- (Graduates **MUST** arrive in the Lower Gym by 12:00 pm, processional begins at 12:30 pm)

The COAS Graduation Recognition Ceremonies celebrate all graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences. During these ceremonies, COAS students will have the opportunity to walk across the stage and receive their diploma covers. There will be a morning ceremony and an afternoon ceremony.

[Please click here to visit the COAS Graduation Website](#)

Graduates must be both academically and financially cleared to participate in graduation and commencement activities. Regalia is required for all ceremonies.



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY DETAILS

Howard University's 158th Commencement Convocation will be held on:

**Saturday, May 9th, 2026, on campus at the
Upper Quadrangle, The Yard.**

- Graduates are expected to arrive by 7 a.m. to line up for the processional.
- Doors will open to all guests at 7:30 a.m.
- The processional will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.
- Ceremony will begin at 10:00 am

Howard University's Commencement Convocation is the official, university-wide ceremony celebrating the academic achievements of all graduating students. During this formal event, graduates are recognized collectively, hear remarks from university leadership and distinguished speakers, and take part in time-honored traditions marking the completion of their degrees.

[Please click here to visit the University Commencement Website](#)

Graduates must be both academically and financially cleared to participate in graduation and commencement activities. Regalia is required for all ceremonies.



MEET YOUR COAS GRADUATION TEAM

For any questions related to COAS gradation recognition ceremonies please contact the team member below:

Ms. D'Asia Bethea

Assistant Director for Strategic Initiatives, Academic Assessment, and Communication

COAS Graduation Coordinator

Email:

dasia.bethea@howard.edu



For any questions related to COAS graduation clearance or advising please contact your academic advisor or UnderGraduateStudies@Howard.edu

Please be sure to submit your graduation application and any clearance documents requested as soon as possible to ensure there are no delays with your final clearance. Delays in final clearance can cause:

- Issues with pickup for COAS Graduation or University Commencement tickets or cap and gown
- Students names to not appear in the graduation booklet

For any questions related to **escalated** academic advising for graduating seniors please contact the team member below:

Ms. Kea Jones

Associate Director of Student Policy and Success

Email:

kea.jones@howard.edu



WHICH CEREMONY ARE YOU IN?

COAS holds two separate graduation ceremonies to accommodate our large graduating class. Please see the lists below to see what ceremony your major falls under.

MORNING CEREMONY

- African Studies
- Afro-American Studies
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth, Environment and Equity (E3)
- Economics
- English
- Health, Human Performance & Leisure Studies
- History
- Interdisciplinary Studies

AFTERNOON CEREMONY

- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Physics & Astronomy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology & Criminology
- World Languages & Cultures

LATIN HONORS POLICY & DISTINCTION

LATIN HONORS POLICY

- These honors will appear on student transcripts, diplomas, and in the commencement program.
- Honors eligibility grades in non-credit courses are not considered in determining eligibility for honors.
- **Students are NOT eligible to receive honors distinctions if:**
 - The last half (60 hours) of coursework required for the degree was not completed in residence at Howard University
 - Course(s) were repeated (received a letter grade)
 - They have not been enrolled in at least 12 credit hours for each semester enrolled, with the exception of the last semester in residence.

LATIN HONORS DISTINCTIONS

3.20 to 3.49
Honors
Cum Laude

3.50 to 3.79
High Honors
Magna Cum Laude

3.80 to 4.00
Highest Honor
**Summa Cum
Laude**

TICKETS

COAS GRADUATION CEREMONIES

The college will be distributing tickets for the COAS ceremonies to prospective graduates who have met the academic and financial requirements to participate in the ceremonies.

- **COAS Honor Cord & Ticket Pick-Up:**
 - May 4-6: Carnegie Hall
 - May 4: 9 am-12 pm and 1 pm-5 pm
 - May 5: 9 am-12 pm and 1 pm-5 pm
 - May 6: 9 am-12 pm and 1 pm-5 pm
- Graduates will receive **4 guest tickets AND 1 graduate ticket** for the COAS graduation ceremonies.
- **Everyone must have a ticket to enter the venue INCLUDING GRADUATES (Graduates will receive a ticket for themselves).** Small children who can sit in an adults lap will not need a ticket (2 years old and under).

The ceremonies will also be streamed live for others to view.

UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

For the University's Commencement Convocation (Saturday, May 9), **each graduate will receive four (4) reserved tickets.**

COAS Students can pick-up Commencement tickets at the University bookstore on Wednesday, May 6

[Commencement Ticket Pick-Up Schedule](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

PLEASE SEE THE IMPORTANT DATES BELOW PERTAINING TO COMMENCEMENT & GRADUATION

- **Friday, April 17:** Deadline for prospective graduates to apply via BisonWeb
- **Friday, April 17:** Last day to order regalia [Click here to place your Cap and Gown Order](#)
- **Friday, April 24:** Deadline for prospective graduates to have cleared balance
- **April 21-23:** Final examinations for prospective Spring 2026 Graduates
- **April 24:** Last day to complete the ADA seating form for COAS ceremonies request form-
[Click here to complete the form](#)
- **April 27:** Deadline for instructors to submit grades for prospective graduates
- **April 27:** Formal classes end
- **May 8:** Spring 2026 semester ends
- **May 4-6:** COAS ceremony tickets and honors cord pickup: Carnegie Hall
- **May 5:** 2026 Commencement Participation Orientation Webinar: [Click here to register](#)
- **May 6:** Commencement ticket pick-up: University Bookstore
- **May 6:** COAS Graduation Rehearsal:
Morning Ceremony Rehearsal: 12:30 pm,
Afternoon Ceremony Rehearsal: 1:30 pm
- **May 7:** COAS Graduation Ceremonies
- **May 7 (Thursday):** Annual President's Reception for Graduates and Their Families
- **May 8 (Friday):** Annual Prayer Breakfast
- **May 9:** Commencement Convocation (Location: The Upper Quadrangle-The Yard)

ADDITIONAL GRADUATION CONTACTS & RESOURCES

- **Questions about Cap and Gown Orders:**
 - Please contact the Herff Jones sales representative at 703.368.9550 or mkuhn@herffjones.com
- **Letters for International Travel for Graduation:**
 - Please contact Ms. D'Asia Bethea at dasia.bethea@howard.edu
- **COAS Graduation Website:** [Click here!](#)
- **Seating Accommodations:** Guests requiring seating accommodations for the COAS ceremonies will be escorted to the designated seating area upon their arrival. Please [click here](#) to complete the seating accommodations form by Friday, April 24th
- **Transcripts and Diplomas:** Any questions regarding transcripts and diplomas please contact the Office of the Registrar at graduation@howard.edu
- **Questions: Graduation Clearance:** Office of Undergraduate studies: UnderGraduateStudies@Howard.edu
- **Questions: COAS Graduation Ceremonies:** coas.asahelp@howard.edu
- **Questions: University Commencement Ceremony:** commencement@howard.edu or [Commencement Website](#)
- **2026 Graduation University Hotel Partners:**
 - Landing page (select: Hotel Services-Partners/Reservations): [Hotel Services Office of Auxiliary Enterprises](#)

PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL

We want to ensure that you are receiving all important communications regarding COAS graduation and Commencement from the university and the Office of the Dean. It has come to our attention that some crucial emails may be ending up in your spam/junk email folder.

To ensure that you don't miss out on important updates, announcements, and other vital information, we kindly ask you to check your spam/junk email folder regularly. Our communications often contain essential details about upcoming events, academic deadlines, and other significant matters that directly impact your academic experience.

If you find any emails from the university in your spam/junk folder, please mark them as "Not Spam" or move them to your inbox to help improve the email filtering system.

Additional information/details regarding the COAS Graduation Recognition ceremonies is forthcoming. Please continue to check your email and the COAS graduation website for updates.



College of Arts and Sciences