



COMMENCEMENT GUEST PREPARATION LIST

We can't wait to celebrate with you and your graduate on Saturday, May 17, 2025! Here are a few suggestions to consider when preparing for Commencement Day.

Prior to Commencement:

- Make lunch and/or dinner reservations to avoid waiting at restaurants. Newport News and the surrounding areas of Yorktown, Williamsburg, and Hampton all have excellent options to choose from. Additionally, you can enjoy our diverse selection of food trucks on the York River Lawn on Commencement Day.
- Make a Commencement Day plan with your graduate: Will they be participating in the processional and Conferral Ceremony? If yes, designate a meeting place following the recessional. What activities do they want to participate in on Commencement Day? What time are they scheduled to join the Grad Walk Queue? What other events will they be attending- Latin Honors Ceremony, Candlelight, PLP Ceremony?
- Sign up for our AI Chatbot by texting "Hi" to (877) 376 - 3672 for live Commencement information! If you have any questions, Captain Chris can answer them all 24/7!

Commencement Day Packing List:

- Portable cellphone chargers
- Sunscreen or umbrella for portable shade
- Comfortable shoes
- Water bottle - There are refilling stations, marked on the Activities Map, in most buildings on campus.
- There is no guest dress code for guests, but CNU blue is encouraged!
- Any items that support the mobility needs of your party: walker, wheelchair, folding chair, cane, etc.
- Planning to make a purchase? The food trucks, flower sales, Captains Locker, and Einstein's Cafe are open for business! Bring multiple payment options (credit card & cash) as each vendor may be equipped differently.

After Commencement:

- Order family portraits online by following the directions in the Mementos tab on the Commencement website at www.cnu.edu/commencement.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?
CONTACT UNIVERSITY EVENTS AT 757-594-8061
OR CNUEVENTS@CNU.EDU