

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation! Your cap, gown, and tassel are included in your graduation fees, and you can pick them up at the Grad Fair. If you are unable to attend, please contact the Bearcat Shop at bearcatshop@lander.edu for more options. The graduation ceremony will take place at the Finis Horne Arena on **Thursday, December 12th** at either 10:00 AM or 2:00 PM, depending on your academic college. Below is a checklist to help your day go smoothly.

Students with financial obligations will not be able to participate in the commencement ceremony or receive their diploma.



CEREMONY TICKETS

Up to **9 ceremony tickets** will be available to each candidate for pickup from **November 18th- 27th** in the Registrar's Office. Every guest must have a ticket to enter the arena (including small children and infants). Students must have a photo ID to pick up their tickets. If you are unable to come to campus to pick up your tickets, you can reach out to the Registrar's Office at graduation@lander.edu for more available options.



GUEST INFORMATION & CLEAR BAG POLICY

The arena doors will open one hour prior to the start of the ceremony. Entrance to the arena will be closed 15 minutes before each ceremony. Handicapped guests are encouraged to arrive early to be seated. These seats are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. These guests can be dropped off at the circular drive close to the arena entrance.

Lander University will be enforcing a clear bag policy for the commencement ceremony. Guests will be allowed to bring in one clear backpack or bag, subject to search. Clutches are not permitted. Exceptions will be made for guests with medically necessary items. Balloons are not permitted inside the arena.



GRADUATES ARRIVE

Graduates of the College of Business & College of Science & Mathematics will attend the 10:00 AM ceremony and should arrive in the PEES auxiliary gym at 8:45 AM for rehearsal.

Graduates of the College of Arts & Humanities, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, College of Education, & School of Nursing will attend the 2:00 PM ceremony and should arrive in the PEES auxiliary gym at 12:45 PM for rehearsal.



LOOK THE PART

All graduates must be in a Lander University issued cap and gown to participate in Commencement. The tassel should be on the right side of the cap prior to the ceremony; it will be moved to the left side during the ceremony as directed. Beneath the regalia, candidates are asked to dress in a professional manner, like what you might wear to a formal business interview. Please keep in mind you will be walking a short distance from the PEES gym to the arena.

Please do not bring any personal belongings with you to the gym. We recommend that you leave these with family members or friends in the general admission area.



GET SNAPPED

Commencement photography is provided by GradImages. Photographers will be taking photographs during the ceremony. GradImages will email graduates after the ceremony with information about how to obtain their photos.



KEEP WALKING

Once your name is called, that will be your signal to cross the stage. You will shake hands with your right hand and pause to take a picture with the University President. You should keep walking in a respectful manner, processing with the line back to your seat. We ask that graduating students and guests refrain from shouting out names or other forms of boisterous behavior so all students' names can be heard.



DIPLOMA INFORMATION

Diplomas will be available for pickup in the Registrar's Office from **January 13th – 24th**. Please be sure to bring a photo ID when picking up your diploma. Diplomas will not be released to anyone other than the student. Any diplomas that are not picked up will be mailed the **week of January 27th**. Please know that diplomas are mailed at the student's discretion. Tracking will not be provided. If you are in immediate need of your degree, an official transcript can be requested online after degree conferral.