

VUSN May 2024 Pinning and Investiture of the Academic Hood Frequently Asked Questions

Graduate Instructions for Pinning and Investiture

These are instructions for May 2024 Pinning and Investiture. If you are an August or December 2024 graduate, you will not attend these ceremonies.

1. What time should I arrive to the Investiture of the Academic Hood on May 10th?
 - a. 1:15pm at Magnolia Lawn on the Peabody campus, dressed in your robes. You should have your hood on your arm. If you do not wear regalia, you will not be allowed to participate.
2. What time should I arrive to the Pinning ceremony on May 9th?
 - a. Morning ceremony graduates should arrive at 10:30am. Please wear business attire that will allow you to be pinned. Please do not wear spaghetti straps or sleeveless tops/dresses.
 - b. Afternoon ceremony graduates should arrive at 3:30pm. Please wear business attire that will allow you to be pinned. Please do not wear spaghetti straps or sleeveless tops/dresses.
3. I missed the online ordering deadline for regalia. What are my options?
 - a. All graduates (Master's level and doctoral) can pick up spare regalia at the Vanderbilt Bookstore (2nd floor) on May 7th-9th from 8:30am to 7:00pm. You will incur a \$10 late fee.
1. Will photos be taken at the ceremony?
 - a. A professional photographer takes photos as graduates shake hands with the Dean on stage. As a courtesy to all in attendance, please ask your guests to refrain from advancing to the front of the stage area to take photos. After the ceremony, the stage is available for additional graduate and guest photo opportunities.
2. Who will hood me?
 - a. Your program director (or their designated proxy) will hood you at the Investiture of the Academic Hood.
3. Who will pin me?
 - a. Your program director (or their designated proxy) will pin you at the Pinning ceremony. If you have a close family member who is a nurse (parent, partner,

sibling, or grandparent), they can pin you. You must email Dean Lewis directly to arrange this.

4. If I cannot attend Pinning in person, can you mail me a pin?
 - a. No. No pins will be mailed at any time. You may designate someone to collect your pin through prior arrangement with Dean Lewis, *after* the Pinning ceremony. Pins cannot be collected *before* the Pinning ceremony.
5. What places on campus will be open for lunch on May 10th?
 - a. Graduates and guests can eat lunch at Kissam from 11am-6pm.
6. How will we learn about weather delays or cancellations?
 - a. All events will go on, rain or shine. In the event of severe weather, you should monitor the [VUSN Pinning and Investiture website](#) for updates. You can also download the [Alert VU app](#) for general severe weather updates affecting the entire Vanderbilt community.

Guests: Ticketing and Seating

4. Are there guest tickets?
 - b. There is not a ticketing system in place for any Commencement-related event. Graduates are allowed to bring a maximum of 10 guests to the Pinning ceremonies and the Investiture of the Academic Hood. This operates as an honor system.
5. How does seating work for guests?
 - c. Seating is first come, first serve across all ceremonies.
6. Is there an overflow room?
 - d. There will not be an overflow space for the Investiture of the Academic Hood ceremony. For the 11am Pinning ceremony, guests may use Sarratt 189 as an overflow room. For the 4pm Pinning ceremony, guests may use VUSN NA 165 as an overflow room, which also functions as a nursery. For all ceremonies, seating for guests is first come, first serve.

Parking

7. Where do we park?
 - e. For the May 9th Pinning ceremonies, guests and graduates are invited to park in the Wesley Place Garage. Staff will be on hand to help direct you across main campus. Parking is free.

- f. For the Investiture of the Academic Hood, guests and graduates can park at the following locations: Wesley Place Garage, Sony, and Lot 77. Parking is free at those designated locations. At Wesley Place Garage, there will be shuttles running to and from Magnolia Lawn.

Special Needs and Accommodations

- 8. My guest uses a wheelchair. Is the venue accessible?
 - g. For the morning Pinning ceremony, there is step-free access to enter Sarratt Cinema. Staff will be positioned outside to help direct you.
 - h. For the afternoon Pinning ceremony, VUSN and Nursing Annex 155 are step-free access to enter. However, the seating area of NA 155 contains stairs.
 - i. For the Investiture of the Academic Hood ceremony, Magnolia Lawn is accessible. The seating area for guests and graduates will be a grassy area without cemented pathways.
- 9. Is there a nursery available?
 - j. For the morning Pinning ceremony, there is not a nursery available in Sarratt Cinema. You are welcome to step out into the lobby of Sarratt Cinema when needed. Gender-specific and gender neutral bathrooms are located closely by.
 - k. For the afternoon Pinning ceremony, VUSN student organization Vandy Village is hosting a nursery in Nursing Annex 165. Parents and guardians must be with children under the age of 18 at all times—no child may be left unsupervised. There will be a livestream of the ceremony shown in the room.
 - l. The Investiture of the Academic Hood ceremony will not have a nursery available. You may use the bathrooms of the Kennedy Center, Peabody Library, Payne Hall, Mayborn, and the Home Economics Building.