

Ottawa University



Prepare for a Life of Significance™



Ottawa Campus Commencement Booklet—2024



Ottawa University

Prepare for a Life of Significance™



**Reggie Wenyika,
EdD**

Campus President,
OUKS

February 14, 2024

Dear OU Senior, Parent(s), Family and Friends,

Congratulations on achieving this lifetime milestone! Soon you will be joining a distinguished group of global citizens as only 6.8% of the world population has successfully completed a university degree. This will be Ottawa University's 159th anniversary commencement and I am looking forward to seeing you and your family on campus.

The Commencement ceremony is scheduled for May 4, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. It's time to begin making plans for that very special day/weekend, and in preparation, this booklet includes pertinent information to assist with planning.

This year's graduating class will be large with 163 individuals slated to receive their degrees. Consequently, seating will continue to be a great challenge, and each graduate will be limited to only 3 (three) guests for admission to the in-person ceremony in the Fredrikson Chapel. Please note that as in the past, the ceremony will be streamed live, and details for this can be found on the Commencement website at www.ottawa.edu/commencement.

My heartfelt thanks go out to every individual who has been instrumental and helpful toward your achievement and success. For 159 years, family, friends, alumni, and donors have encouraged, supported, and sustained generations of OU students. It is a great tradition, and let's keep it going.

Always a great day to be a Brave. See you on Saturday, May 4, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Reggie Wenyika". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Dr. Regg



Attendance and Viewing Information

Admission to Ottawa University's 2024 Commencement Ceremony at OUKS in Ottawa, Kansas, is limited to three guests per graduate for family and guests to attend the Commencement Ceremony inside the Fredrikson Chapel.

Questions

Julie Wilson
Commencement
Coordinator
785-248-2570

While there is limited seating available within the Fredrikson Chapel, the livestream link will be shared on Ottawa University's social media sites, as well as can be found online at www.ottawa.edu/commencement.

Photographs

Integrity First Photography is the official photographer for Commencement. Following the link below, candidates or graduation need to register in advance for him/her and their family to receive access to his/her personal gallery of graduation photos following the event. Register ASAP by following the links for Ottawa Graduation ceremony at www.integrityfirstphotography.com.

Graduation Announcements

Ordering

Announcements may be purchased by calling 800-433-0296 or online at (www.cbgrad.balfour.com). To order online, select the campus and graduation time.

Questions

Noah Huske
Manager of
Bookstore
Operations
785-248-2414

Class Rings

Candidates for graduation who are interested in ordering a class ring will find a wide variety of options by visiting www.jostens.com.

Local Dining Options

There are a variety of dining options throughout the Ottawa community. For the most up-to-date list of dining options, visit www.visitottawakansas.com.

Cap and Gown

Ordering Your Cap and Gown

Caps and gowns can be ordered at Grad Fair or at the following link: ottawa.shopoakhalli.com.

Students have the option for their caps and gowns to be delivered to the University free of charge. Orders for caps and gowns to be delivered to the University must be completed by March 8, 2024. If students would rather their caps and gowns to be delivered to another location they may do so with an additional shipping charge. Orders to be delivered to a location other than the University must be completed by March 31, 2024. It is suggested students order their caps and gowns early to ensure they receive them in time.

Preparation of Gown

Gowns are packaged in plastic bags and should be removed and hung to allow the wrinkles to come out. You may find it helpful to hang it in the bathroom area to allow steam from a hot shower to help pull out wrinkles, or you may choose to steam them. Due to the gown material, a hot iron should **NOT** be used to remove wrinkles.

Student Commencement Regalia

Adornments, paraphernalia, messaging, or any other additions to commencement regalia issued to students specifically for this ceremony **MUST** be academic in nature, which includes appropriate cultural identification or accents that are historical in nature (tradition, academic honorary, heritage, etc.). Other decorations, including the cap/mortarboard, should **NOT** include offensive words or images **AND** must be flush with the top of the cap so that the view of other graduates or spectators is not impeded. **Regalia deemed inappropriate on the day of Commencement will be replaced and returned to the student after the ceremony.**

Questions

Noah Huske

Manager of
Bookstore
Operations
785-248-2414

Local Lodging Options

We hope the following information on motels will be helpful in finding lodging for the weekend.

Best Western

606 East 23rd Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

888-212-0452
785-242-2224

www.bestwestern.com

Comfort Inn

2335 South Oak Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

800-424-6423
785-242-9898

www.comfortinn.com

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

2340 South King Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

888-465-4329
785-521-7009

www.ihg.com

Knights Inn

1641 South Main Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

877-242-6067
785-242-4842

www.knightsinn.com

Super 8 Ottawa

2315 South Oak Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

800-800-8000
785-242-5551

www.super8.com

Travelodge

2209 South Princeton Road
Ottawa, KS 66067

800-578-7878
785-242-7000

www.travelodge.com

Note

Inform the hotel personnel that your reservation is for Ottawa University's Commencement to see if a discount is available.

Parking

There are a total of eight parking lots on the Ottawa University, Ottawa campus. Seven of those lots are open to general parking for Commencement weekend. There will be some shuttle services available from those lots. The general parking lots are located at:

- 11th and Mulberry Streets (southeast corner of campus)
- 11th and College Streets (south central entrance to campus)
- 11th Street between College and Cedar (south entrance to campus)
- Mulberry Street (east entrance to campus)
- 9th and Oak Streets (two lots; north central entrance to campus)

Additional parking is available along 11th Street east of Mulberry near the Dick Peters Sports Complex (noted at the top of the map below).

Online Resources

Visit the Ottawa University website at www.ottawa.edu/Commencement.

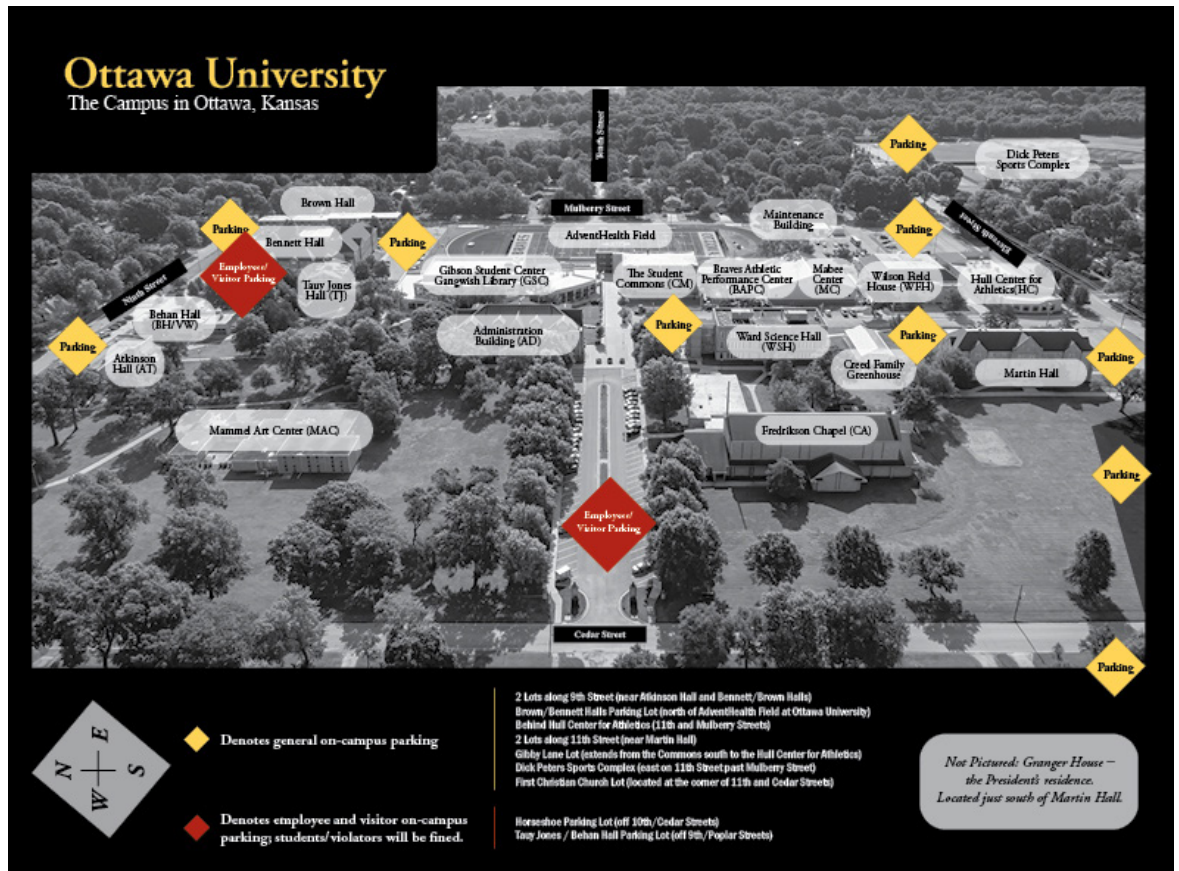
There you will find information concerning the 2024 Ottawa University Commencement. An electronic version of this booklet can be found there.

Handicap Parking

One lot is reserved for handicap parking and is referred to as the horseshoe parking lot. It is located at:

- 10th and Cedar Streets (west entrance to campus)

Campus Map



Future Plans

In the future, should you find yourself in need of creating new career opportunities, remember that Career Services is here to help you with the process.

Special Assistance

If you have special needs or require assistance, please contact Campus Safety at 785-214-0070. Feel free to communicate with us prior to the event date.

Whom to Contact

- Cap, Gown, Ring, and Graduation Announcements Noah Huske
785-248-2414
noah.huske@ottawa.edu
- Transcripts www.ottawa.edu
Click on “Transcript Request” in the footer.
- Lodging Individual Motels
See page 3
- General Questions Julie Wilson
785-248-2570 • 800-755-5200, #9
julie.wilson@ottawa.edu

Questions

Christine Currier
Director of Career
Development and
Student Retention
785-248-2562

Special Thanks

Ottawa University wants to express a heartfelt thanks to our graduates’ family and friends for their ongoing support and encouragement. Family and friends have sustained generations of OU students for 159 years.



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Ottawa, KS 66067

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