

**UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER**  
**School of Nursing Commencement Ceremony**  
**Friday, May 21, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre**  
**26 Gibbs Street**

The **2021 School of Nursing Commencement** will take place on Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> in Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre at 2:00 p.m. This ceremony should take about an hour to an hour and half.

**Arrival time:**

Graduates will check in at the Oval Lobby Entrance of Eastman Theatre beginning at 1:30 p.m. Please give yourself plenty of time to get here and park. Parking is available in the East End parking garage on Scio Street.

**Tickets** are required to participate in the ceremony. Your e-ticket will include a seat assignment and you have received an email with this e-ticket from the Box Office at the Eastman. Please have a screenshot available at check-in or the actual email. This e-ticket will be scanned upon entry into Kodak Hall and ushers will be on hand to assist you in getting you to your assigned seat.

At check in, we will confirm that you have uploaded the **required COVID document** with University Health Services and are cleared to attend the ceremony. You will not need bracelets as mentioned before. All students, faculty and staff will be required to complete Dr. Chat Bot the morning of the ceremony. **Please have a screenshot available upon check-in.**

Each candidate will be issued a **name card at check in** and must keep the card and present it to the Announcer at the stage as part of the ceremony. This card will have your name, including a phonetic pronunciation of your name and any Latin honors achieved. In addition, you may also be given an extra card if alphabetically you are the first person in new program, i.e. CNL, LHCS, etc. This extra card which will be given to the Announcer so they aware a new group is beginning and they can properly announce that new grouping. Also, students who have been notified they are receiving an award will be given an additional card with that information on it and the Announcer will read that as well.

These arrangements are important to assure that candidates reach their assigned seats and are in alphabetic sequence by degree group. Please do not change your assigned seat. Eastman Theatre ushers will assist you with locating your seat.

**Ceremony regalia (caps gowns, and hoods)** should have been ordered in advance and delivered to your home address. **Please arrive at the ceremony in complete regalia.** For those graduates who have made arrangements to pick up swapped out regalia – Alex Pearce from the bookstore will be available on site to do that exchange. For instructions on how to wear your regalia properly please visit the main UR webpage at [www.rochester.edu/commencement/faqs](http://www.rochester.edu/commencement/faqs) and under general information for students you will find a short video to watch.

**If you have Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society cords – please wear them.**

**Diplomas** – you will be receiving an empty diploma case on stage. Your actual diploma will be available after the ceremony for you to pick-up in Lowry Hall and you will be directed to that location upon exiting the theatre.

**Personal items**, such as purses, etc. may be kept on your seat during the ceremony. Please do not carry any items on to the stage. You will return to your original seat once you have walked across the stage to receive your diploma case. Please be mindful of purse straps and not have them laying over seats since graduates that are walking through the rows might trip over them.

**Masks** must be worn before, during and after the ceremony, with the exception of when you have your picture taken by the hired photographer after leaving the stage with your diploma.

**For pinning of Bachelor of Science graduates ONLY** – a sash with nursing pin already attached will be draped over your designated seat. When is it time for you to be brought forward to the stage, please drape this sash over your left arm as you rise to walk up and cross the stage. Once your name has been read and BEFORE you receive your diploma, you will approach the pinning area marked with an “X” (which is just a few steps beyond the reader). Please stop, turn and face the audience and place the sash around your neck. Then proceed towards Dean Rideout to receive your diploma. **Handshakes are not permitted.** Dean Rideout will hand you an empty diploma case – she will be gloved and masked.

For Master’s graduates the directions are the same but without the pinning - after your names have been read you will proceed to receive your diploma case from Dean Rideout, pick up a yellow rose and then have your picture taken and return to your seat.

**University photographers** will be taking photos on and off stage. In the days following your ceremony, you will receive a link to upload your photos after the ceremony.

Once you have received your diploma and are hooded, PICK UP A YELLOW ROSE on the table by the exit steps and proceed to the photographer’s station and pause at the instruction of the photographer for a photo. An “X” will be placed on the stage floor and we ask that you stand in this location for your photo. **You may remove your mask briefly for this photograph.**

After taking your photo, proceed down the stairs, pause when you reach the bottom of the stairs and put your mask back on, return to your original seat. Please remain in your in your places until the conclusion of the ceremony.

The Ceremony is open only to graduating students and University faculty and staff needed to manage the event. **Guests** are not allowed to the ceremony and will not be allowed into the Hall.

Ceremony will be **live streamed** starting half hour prior to the ceremony time. Make sure to tell this to your family and friends! Please visit the University Commencement website on the day of the ceremony for the link: <https://www.son.rochester.edu/commencement/>

#### **PROCESSIONAL:**

Lucy Carroll from SON will ask students to rise for Pomp & Circumstance. Please remain standing until President Mangelsdorf and the platform party have entered the stage and you have been asked to be seated.

#### **PROGRAM FLOW:**

The program begins with greetings from President Sarah Mangelsdorf, brief remarks by Dr. Mark Taubman, Dean Kathy Rideout’s address, followed by the degree presentations.

## **PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES:**

Dean Kathy Rideout will ask candidates for the degrees to stand and be recognized by the President in the order listed below – with exception of the Doctoral graduates and they will be announced and recognized by their Program Directors.

At the conclusion of the announcement, graduates are asked to be seated.

Names of graduates attending virtually will be read by program after in-person graduates have received their diploma cases.

The candidates will then stay seated until **School of Nursing staff direct them**, row by row, to come forward in the order listed below:

1. Bachelor of Science, RN to BS Program
2. Master of Science – Nurse Practitioner Programs
3. Master of Science – Leadership in Health Care Systems
4. Master of Science – Clinical Nurse Leader Program
5. Master of Science – Nursing Education program
6. Doctor of Nursing Practice
7. Doctor of Philosophy

## **Proceeding to the stage to pick up your diploma case:**

SON staff will signal each candidate to move via the far right aisle to the steps/ramp to the right of the stage and proceed to the stage landing.

Marshal Patrick Hopkins will be at the top of ramp and will release the graduate to the announcer. The graduate proceeds to the announcer at microphone and presents their name card or cards.

As their name is being read – if the student is a Bachelor of Science student will stop at the “X”, face the audience and sash themselves – if a Master of Science graduate they will continue to receive their diploma from Dean Kathy Rideout and to politely acknowledge President Mangelsdorf. Handshakes are not permitted. The student will then continue to pick up a rose from the table on the stage and then proceed to the photographer’s station where their photograph will be taken. The student can remove their mask just for the photograph and must be put back as they return to their seat.

## **RECESSIONAL:**

After Dean Kathy Rideout offered her closing remarks and Dr. Mary Dombek has provided the Benediction, the Platform Party will prepare for the processional at the prompting of the bagpiper and drummer.

Graduates should stand during the Platform Party recessional. After the Platform Party has left the theatre, marshals will direct the graduates out through the exit door at stage left to Lowry Hall (which is located in the front of the theatre) where you will be able to pick up your diploma and other Commencement commemorative items.

Students will be expected to leave the building after receiving their diplomas.