

# Instructions for Graduates - Wayne Law Commencement 2025

Monday, May 12, 2025

## Most important:

1. Listen to what **people at the lectern** say during the ceremony. You will be told if/when you need to stand and if/when you need to sit back down.
2. Watch for directions from the **Commencement marshals (people wearing solid green gowns.)** They will direct you any time you need to move from your seats or back to your seats.
3. Drape your regalia hood over your left arm before walking across the stage.

## Instructions for processional:

1. At 4:50 p.m., **a staff member** and **two marshals** will escort you to the Grand Lobby to prepare for the processional. You will be in one line – remain single file. You will enter using one aisle and exit using the other.
2. Graduates process in first, followed by Law School faculty/administration and the on-stage participants.
3. A marshal will lead your line into the theater and guide you as you file into your seats in the front center section. **Once a row is filled, start filling the next row.**
4. Remain standing at your seats until **Dean Bierschbach** comes to the lectern and says, “Please be seated.”
5. Programs will be waiting for you at your seats.

## Instructions for diploma distribution:

1. **A marshal** will guide you from your seats row by row (beginning with the front row) to the stairs on the right side as you're facing the stage. Stay seated until your row is called. Then the entire row stands up together.
2. Hand your name card to **Associate Dean Settlage**, who will announce your name.
3. Take a diploma holder (it's just a holder; your diploma will come in the mail) from the **Professors of the Year**.
4. Directly after receiving your diploma holder, Dean Oswalt, Professor Wellman, and Professor Dillhoff will be on stage to hood you. **Remember to drape your hood over your left arm before walking across the stage.**
5. Shake hands with **Provost Clabo**.
6. Shake hands with **Dean Bierschbach**. A **photographer** (who will be at the corner of the side of the stage you are walking toward) will take a photo of you shaking hands with the dean – so pause and smile.
7. Leave the stage from the other set stairs in front of the stage.
8. **A marshal** will guide you back to your seats. Sit down as soon as you reach your seat.

## Instructions for recessional:

1. Stand at your seats when **Dean Bierschbach** says, “This concludes our Commencement ceremony. Thank you for joining us. Will those on stage, our faculty/administration, as well as the graduates, please rise to prepare for the recessional.”
2. People on stage will exit first followed by faculty/administration.
3. **Marshals** will be the last people off the stage. When the marshals reach the **graduate** seating area, they will direct you (row by row, beginning with the front row) to follow the faculty/administration out in the recessional. You will be exiting from the opposite side of the seating area from where you entered.
4. As you enter the Grand Lobby, keep moving up the stairs to the second level so we can avoid congestion in the Grand Lobby.
5. The reception will be in the Grand Lobby (and on the second level), so you'll be staying there.