

Commencement 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

Doctoral Students

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 6:00 P.M.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING PH.D. AWARDS DINNER, ALUMNAE HALL.

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 9:00 A.M.

UNIVERSITY PROCESSION AND DOCTORAL CEREMONY

WHAT TIME DOES THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING PH.D. AWARDS DINNER START?

The Brown Engineering Awards Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 24 at 6:00 P.M., in Alumnae Hall on the Pembroke Campus. Dress is semi-formal; black tie, optional. In addition to several awards, we will continue the tradition of recognizing our candidates for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by presenting them with their hoods.

IS THERE A LIMIT TO HOW MANY TICKETS I CAN GET AT THE ENGINEERING PH.D. AWARDS DINNER?

Due to the capacity of the room, graduates are guaranteed three guests (yourself + three guests). If additional space is available, graduates can request more tickets after May 1.

WHAT TIME DOES COMMENCEMENT START?

Doctoral students are asked to report to Waterman Street by 9:00 A.M. Lineup begins at Faunce Arch, facing west, on the north side of Waterman Street. Academic regalia is required to participate in the procession and the doctoral ceremony. Doctoral students will march through the Van Wickle Gates and take an immediate right onto Prospect Street and right again on Waterman Street. They will take a left onto Thayer Street and process to Pembroke Field for their ceremony. After the ceremony ends, the students return to the College Green for the University ceremony which will begin at approximately 1:15 P.M.

HOW DO I WEAR MY REGALIA?

Try on your regalia prior to Commencement to make sure you have received the correct items and they fit correctly. Carry the doctoral hood over your left arm; you will be hooded at the ceremony. The tassel for the tam goes on your left.

WHERE AND WHAT TIME DOES THE DOCTORAL CEREMONY BEGIN?

The doctoral ceremony will begin at approximately 10:30 A.M. After the doctoral students pass through the Van Wickle Gates, proceed to Pembroke Field.

WHERE AND WHAT TIME DOES THE UNIVERSITY CEREMONY BEGIN?

The University ceremony begins around 1:15 P.M. on the Main Green and is optional for doctoral students and their families. The honorary degrees are awarded here.

IS THERE A LIMIT TO HOW MANY TICKETS I CAN GET AT THE UNIVERSITY CEREMONY?

The doctoral ceremony is not ticketed. Students are advised to bring no more than four to five guests each; seating is first come, first served. The doctoral ceremony is available to view via livestream.

CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY

Please contact SAS (Student Accessibility Services) shuttle dispatcher at 401-225-9572 in advance to make arrangements for shuttle transportation. SAS can also assist with other arrangements throughout Commencement Weekend. Please visit commencement.brown.edu/plan/accessibility for additional accessibility information or call SAS at 401-863-9588.

DOWNLOAD THE BROWNU APP

Download the BrownU mobile app to find information on the go during Commencement and Reunion Weekend, including events, campus maps, dining and parking options, the location of water stations and restrooms, and much more.

For additional information, please visit: commencement.brown.edu