

USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck

School of Social Work

Dear Graduates:

Congratulations on your milestone!

Please read all the information in this email **carefully**. There is important information about ticketing, parking, clear bag policy, ADA and more. If you have questions or concerns regarding any of the details below, contact [Elizabeth Gutierrez](#), Director of Special Events.

If you are receiving this email, we have received your RSVP form that you plan to attend the school's commencement ceremony on May 16, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. (PT).

If your plans change and you will no longer be attending the ceremony, or you need to make any adjustments to the information you submitted in your RSVP form, please email these changes to [Elizabeth Gutierrez](#).

USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Ceremony

- 3:30 pm **Guest** seating opens, Gate 4 & 8 only (designated guest seats) ([see the map](#))
- 3:30 pm **Graduate line-up**, (3960 Bill Roberston Lane) expo park ([section student check-in](#)) **Guests will not be allowed to enter through here and will be redirected to gate 4 & 8.**
- 6:30 pm End of Ceremony
- After the ceremony we will host a grab and go, cookie and beverage with a photo opportunity before exiting Gates 4 and 8.

TICKETING AND SAFETY MEASURES:

Tickets are REQUIRED to access campus and all commencement events taking place on May 14-17, 2025. Graduating students will need to use their USC email account to access these tickets. If you require more than ten tickets for family and

friends, there will be an appeals process for additional tickets from the university. Please check [here](#) for ticketing information.

SECURITY AND CLEAR BAG POLICY:

- Security measures are similar to those for attending athletic events at the Coliseum and will be in place at the designated entrances. All bags and personal property will be screened and go through metal detectors.
- A clear bag policy will be in effect for any personal property for ALL. You can find our clear bag policy information [here](#).
- You should allow more time to park, go through security, and ensure you arrive for the lineup for the ceremony processional on time.

GRADUATE LINE-UP AND SEATING:

- Each degree program will have their own line up for procession. Located in the Tunnel displaying your degree.
- Graduates can choose who they walk and sit with at the ceremony. If you would like to sit with specific fellow graduates in your degree program, you should stand together in line-up for procession for your degree (single file, not side-by-side). Once you have processed in and are seated in the section assigned for your degree, you cannot change seats.
- You will be walking on various surfaces: grass, concrete, stairs, and ramps. Be sure to wear shoes that are safe, comfortable, and appropriate for this ceremonious occasion.
- You will be handed an envelope at check-in, in the envelope there will be a name card to fill out which will be used by the announcer to call your name when you walk across the stage. Please complete this card as soon as you are seated. Bring the card with you when you go up to the stage and hand it to the announcer at the podium when it is your turn to walk.
- You will be guided back to your seat after receiving your diploma. Please plan to stay for the entire ceremony (estimated to last 2 hours) to celebrate your fellow graduates receiving their diploma.

CAMPUS ACCESS, RIDESHARE AND PARKING:

Parking in Exposition Park is complimentary for USC Commencement Ceremony ticketed guests on **Thursday, May 15; Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17**. Please have your guest ticket or grad pass ready to show the parking attendant when you enter Exposition Park.

Overnight parking or tailgating is not permitted.

- Park at the Blue Structure (Enter from S. Figueroa St. and Exposition Park Dr./39th St.)
- Park at the Green, Pink, or Yellow Lots (Enter from Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and South Hoover St.)

Rideshare services can drop-off and pick-up located in [\(see the map\)](#) Exposition Park's Green Lot (south of BMO Stadium). Access for rideshare services is from S. Figueroa St. (right turn only).

DIPLOMAS:

Diplomas are mailed to graduates by the university approximately three weeks following the commencement ceremonies. All questions or concerns regarding diplomas (i.e., name adjustments, mailing address, etc.) should be directed to the [Office of Academic Records and Registrar](#). Individual schools do not oversee anything related to diploma production or distribution.

CHILDREN AT CEREMONY:

Children of graduates are welcome at the ceremony and will require a ticket, they must be seated with family members or friends in the guest seating area. Children may not sit with graduates in the designated graduate seating area. Also, for reasons of safety and policy, children and babies-in-arms may not accompany graduates when they walk across the stage. Please ensure there is someone able to care for your child in the guest area for the entire ceremony.

GUEST SEATING:

All **guest** seating is on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 3:30pm at the Coliseum, **enter Gate 4 and 8 only**. Please remind your guests they are not allowed to enter the graduate section; they must use designated gates 4 and 8 only.

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY:

GradImages will take photos of every graduate. Image proofs are emailed within 24-48 hours of the ceremony. You can also [Register](#) with [GradImages](#) to receive a 20% discount on any photographs you order after commencement.

LIVE STREAM:

The ceremony will be live streamed on the school's [YouTube Channel](#). It will remain available for later viewing.

CAP & GOWN RENTALS:

WALK-UP CAP & GOWN RENTAL AND PICK-UP: For graduates wishing to rent a cap with tassel, gown, and hood in person, we will hold an in-person distribution beginning May 12, 2025, on the USC Bookstore Patio. **Rental Regalia will also be available at the Coliseum on commencement, located at gate 28.**

Location:

- Outside on the Bookstore patio
- Days and hours:
- May 12th - May 15th: 8:30am - 7:00pm
- Please visit the [regalia rental page](#) for more information.
- Rental return bins will be located throughout campus, the coliseum and at the USC Bookstore on commencement day and after.

WEATHER ADVISORY:

A friendly reminder that the Los Angeles Coliseum is an outdoor location. There is limited shade, graduates and guests should come prepared that they may be seated in partial or direct sunlight for up to 2 hours. Wear light clothing, bring sunblock, and stay hydrated. Water is available for purchase throughout campus, but we also recommend that guests bring their own.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE COLISEUM:

ACCESSIBLE SEATING

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum can accommodate patrons in wheelchairs or with restricted mobility. The Coliseum features multiple areas at Street level that do not require ramps or lifts to access. Situated at a midpoint between field level and the uppermost rows of the Coliseum, these areas can be accessed directly through accessible tunnels, which lead into the seating area of the Coliseum. These locations are situated around most of the circumference of the venue.

People with mobility disabilities who require accessible seating because of their disability will be provided tickets for accessible seats on a first-come, first-served basis, based on availability. ADA tickets can be obtained at our Guest Services booths located inside Section 109, or inside Gate 4 & 8. People with disabilities who do not require the specific features of accessible seating but merely have a preference for them are not entitled to accessible seats. **For assistance or more information, please contact the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum At lamcinfo@usc.edu**

For guests that need additional assistance reaching upper-level seats in the Coliseum, escalators are located adjacent to Tunnels 11, and 19. An additional service elevator is located at Tunnel 9 for access to the Upper Concourse.

ACCESSIBLE DROP-OFF AND PICK UP

Drop-off and pick-up for guests with disabilities should be made Exposition Park Drive after entering from South Figueroa at W. 39th Street. Please be aware the drop-off and/or pick-up may be difficult due to heavy traffic and congestion. Due to traffic patterns leaving the park, pick-up in this area may be delayed until traffic can accommodate for access. Please be patient and follow the direction of parking staff.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING

ADA accessible parking is available in Exposition Park's Pink Lot, Blue Structure and Green Lot. Marked ADA spaces may not be reserved in advance and are subject to availability based on arrival and a valid ADA placard.

It is encouraged that you continue to check the [Parking](#) information daily for updates. The university has no control over gates or road closures. Space is extremely limited on commencement day. An alternative is the Grand Avenue

Parking Structure on the corner of Jefferson Boulevard and Grand Avenue. [Public transportation and rideshare services](#) are highly recommended.

ACCESSIBLE ENTRY

Gates 4 & 8 have a designated priority accessible entry lane. Additional assistance will be located at each gate.

CLOSED CAPTIONING

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum provides closed captioning services. The service provides text of all public address announcements during the event. You can access the service from your browser on any smart phone or mobile device. Data rates may apply. To access the service from your mobile device, go to www.CaptionedText.com and enter Confirmation: 2650 (for English) at the top of the page. If you need assistance during an event, please text (213) 263-4007. Data rates may apply.

HEARING AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Assistive listening devices for fans with hearing or visual impairments are available for checkout at Customer Service located in the Coliseum West Administration Building across from Tunnel 11.

SERVICE ANIMALS

Service animals are welcome inside the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. Service animals must remain on a leash or in a harness at all times unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animals safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means). If you intend to bring a service animal to the building, please notify your ticket representative at the time of purchase so that an aisle seat may be reserved for you if available. An animal relief area is provided at Gate 33 in the Olympic Plaza. Guests with service animals are responsible for cleaning up after their animals and for their appropriate behavior toward other guests and Coliseum personnel at all times. A failure to do may result in the animal's removal from the stadium. The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal.

WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORTS

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum is proud to provide assistance at all entry gates inside the stadium for guests with disabilities. This service is free and can be requested through Guest Services. During event hours, please call or text 213 263-4007. So that we may assist multiple guests, please be aware that our staff will not remain with you during the event, and you are not allowed to remain in the wheelchair during the event. In addition, the Coliseum does not rent wheelchairs or crutches.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:

Please click [here](#) for the full Coliseum Commencement Ceremony Know Before you Go

Thank you,

Elizabeth Gutierrez
Director of Special Events
USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work
University of Southern California