WILEY
UNIVERSITY

GRADUATION CHECKLIST

Baccalaureate • Commencement

April 30 - May 1, 2027

WHO

- **Prospective Graduates**
  - Graduation clearance from the Registrar is required to participate in either ceremony.
  - Confirm your name pronunciation on the index card provided at Rehearsal.
  - Stoles will be disseminated at Commencement line-up, Honor Cords will be disseminated at Rehearsal.
- **Guests & Families**
  - Guests are welcome at both ceremonies.
  - Guests may not access the floor or stage area at any time.

WHAT

Rehearsal - Friday, April 30, 2027 at 1:00 PM

Rehearsal will be held on the same day as Baccalaureate and is mandatory for all participants, including graduates, faculty, and staff. This is your opportunity to learn the processional route, learn your assigned placement, and receive final instructions on the ceremonies. All participants are expected to arrive on time and ready to engage.

- Honor Cords will be disseminated at Rehearsal.

Baccalaureate — A Sacred Ceremony

Baccalaureate is a solemn, reverent ceremony honoring the spiritual and personal journey of each graduate. The processional is a sacred moment, from the moment you line up to the moment you are seated.

- Attire is Black and White underneath the graduation gown.
- If Graduates are not in line when processional begins, graduates may forfeit their opportunity to participate in the ceremony.

Immediately following Baccalaureate, dinner will be served in the Cafeteria. Graduates and families are warmly invited to attend.

⚠ **Accessible seating is available.**

138th Commencement - The Official Degree Conferral

Commencement is the official ceremony in which degrees are conferred. Enter with poised excitement.

- If Graduates are not in line when processional begins, graduates may forfeit their opportunity to participate in the ceremony.

⚠ **Accessible seating is available.**

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WHEN AND WHERE

Rehearsal - Friday, April 30, 2027

Time	1:00 PM
Location	Julius S. Scott, Sr. Chapel

Baccalaureate - Friday, April 30, 2027

Processional Line-Up	5:00 PM — Report to the Library in Black and White Attire and Gown
Doors Open	By 5:30 PM - Guests arrive at Julius S. Scott, Sr. Chapel
Ceremony Begins	6:00 PM
Post Ceremony Dinner	Immediately following Baccalaureate in the Student Union (Cafe)

138th Commencement - Saturday, May 1, 2027

Processional Report Time	6:00 AM — Report to the Student Union (Cafe) in full regalia.
Processional Line-Up	By 7:45 AM — Outside of Student Union
Processional Begins	8:00 AM - Toward Pemberton Athletic Complex Field
Guest Entry	Wiley University Pemberton Athletic Complex Field

⚠ **Graduates requiring accessibility accommodations for the processional or stage crossing should contact the Office of Academic Affairs no later than April 29, 2027, and arrangements can be made in advance. Email gamazan@wileyc.edu.**

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HOW — Protocol & Expectations

Line-Up Protocol

- Graduates will be lined up in alphabetical order — by degree within the respective Division and/or School.
- Graduates **must** remain in assigned order/seating throughout the processional and ceremony.
- Diplomas will be given on stage — remaining in assigned order is essential to receiving the correct diploma.

The Processional — A Sacred Moment

The processional is a sacred moment. From the moment you step into line until you are seated, you represent your class, yourself, and Wiley University.

- Walk in complete silence — no talking, laughing, or phone use during the processional.
- Maintain proper spacing and an even, measured pace.
- Enter the venue with head forward, shoulders back, and a composed, dignified bearing.

Behavior Expectations

- Poised excitement is key.
- Remain seated for the entirety of each ceremony unless directed otherwise.
- All electronic devices must be silenced during the ceremonies.
- No noise makers, outbursts, or disruptive behavior — applause is appropriate.
- Follow all directions from graduation coordinators and ushers immediately and cheerfully.

Academic Regalia

- The Gown must be pressed and properly fitted before your arrival.
- Tassel begins on the RIGHT — moved to the LEFT after the conferral of degrees
- Honor Cords will be disseminated at Rehearsal; Stoles will be disseminated at Commencement line-up.
- Cap decorations should be in good taste.

Stage Protocol

- This is your moment, carry it with the same poised dignity you brought to the processional.
- Strolling, stepping, hopping on stage is strictly **prohibited**. Organizations will receive consequences from the student code of conduct such as cease and desist.
- Receive your diploma.
- Shake hands with the President, Provost, and platform party.
- Pause briefly at the end of the stage for your photo and return to your seat in sequence.

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GRADUATION CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to prepare for both ceremonies. Check off each item before you line-up.

👗 BACCALAUREATE ATTIRE — Black, White, & Gown Only

- ☐ Black dress, slacks, or skirt
- ☐ White blouse, dress shirt, or top
- ☐ Academic gown — pressed and wrinkle-free
- ☐ Honor Cords — received at Rehearsal

👔 COMMENCEMENT ATTIRE — Business Professional Under Regalia

- ☐ Business professional attire underneath regalia (suit, dress, slacks with blouse, or equivalent)
- ☐ Academic gown — pressed and properly fitted, Cap — level on head, secured with bobby pins
- ☐ Honor Cords — if applicable
- ☐ Stoles — received at Commencement line-up

👟 COMFORTABLE SHOES — Both Ceremonies

- ☐ Choose professional footwear you can stand and walk in comfortably for 2–3 hours.
- ☐ Flats, low heels, dress shoes, or wedges strongly recommended.

⏰ ARRIVAL & TIMING

- ☐ **REHEARSAL: Arrive at the Chapel by 1:00 PM - Friday, April 30**
- ☐ **BACCALAUREATE: Arrive at the Library by 5:00 PM - Friday, April 30**
- ☐ **COMMENCEMENT: Arrive at the Student Union(Cafe) by 6:00 AM - Saturday, May 1**
- ☐ Build in extra time for parking, transit, and adjusting your regalia.

✓ PROTOCOL & READINESS

- ☐ Graduates **must** remain in assigned order/seating throughout the processional and ceremonies.
- ☐ Name pronunciation is confirmed on the index card at Rehearsal.
- ☐ Know the order of the ceremony — when to stand, sit, and walk.
- ☐ Remain in alphabetical/divisional order — diplomas will be distributed by the assigned order.
- ☐ Carry yourself with poised excitement from line-up to your seat.
- ☐ If Graduates are not in line when the processional begins, graduates may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the ceremony.
- ☐ NPHC strolling, hopping, or stepping on stage is strictly **prohibited**. Organizations will receive consequences from the student code of conduct such as cease and desist.

Questions? Contact the Division of Academic Affairs via Dr. Amazan via email gamazan@wileyc.edu