

Duke Divinity Baccalaureate Service: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How many tickets can I get? Each Divinity graduate is allotted *up to four* priority seating tickets. You can register [here](#).

Q: What if I have more than four guests attending and need extra tickets? You should check with classmates and other graduates to see if anyone isn't using all their tickets. We've set up a Google doc for students to use to exchange tickets. Click [here](#) to access it, and list your name and contact information along with the number of tickets you need. You can also see if anyone has listed extra tickets to share. Please note that neither the Chaplain's office nor the University box office manages the ticket exchange. Any extra tickets should be shared freely and without remuneration (i.e. no buying or selling of tickets!).

Q: What if I have extra tickets and would like to share them with other graduates? That's great! We've set up a Google doc for students to use to exchange tickets. Click [here](#) to access it, and list your name and contact information along with the number of extra tickets you have to share. You can wait to be contacted, or you can proactively reach out to students looking for extra tickets. Please note that neither the Chaplain's office nor the University box office manages the ticket exchange. Any extra tickets should be shared freely and without remuneration (i.e. no buying or selling of tickets!).

Q: Do I need to register even if I don't have guests attending? If you plan to attend the Divinity baccalaureate service, then you should register, even if you don't have any guests attending. There is an option for registering yourself to attend without getting guest tickets. You might also consider registering for your allotted four tickets and sharing them with other graduates who need extra tickets.

Q: What are the tickets for? Tickets allow guests to enter Duke Chapel during the priority seating window from 5:30-6:10 pm. Please note that guests who arrive after 6:10 pm, even guests with tickets, are not guaranteed a seat in Duke Chapel. Once Duke Chapel is filled to capacity, the University Events Management staff will direct guests to overflow seating which will be in 0014 and 0016 Westbrook where the service can be viewed via livestream.

Q: How can I tell if I've registered for Divinity baccalaureate tickets and not for other University baccalaureate tickets? A confirmation email will be sent to everyone who registers for baccalaureate tickets. Make sure the subject line of your email is "Baccalaureate Tickets Spring 2018" and the sender is "Nohemi Ramirez." Also check the title, time and date the baccalaureate in the email. The Divinity baccalaureate is on Saturday, May 12, at 6:30 pm in Duke Chapel. Finally, if the confirmation email says anything about your surname, then you have NOT registered for the Divinity baccalaureate.

Q: I registered for the wrong baccalaureate service. How do I fix this? Just go ahead and register for the Divinity baccalaureate by clicking [here](#).

Q: When and where do I pick up my Divinity baccalaureate tickets? Tickets should be picked up at the Bryan Center Information Desk on the following dates/times listed below. Only the student who reserved the tickets can pick them up. Students must bring a photo ID. MACP and DMin students who live out of state should contact Sonja Tilley if in-person pick-up presents difficulties.

- Monday-Friday, April 30-May 4 from 11 am – 6 pm
- Monday-Friday, May 7-11 from 11 am – 6 pm
- Saturday, May 12 from 9 am – 3pm

Q: What time should my ticketed guests arrive? What about non-ticketed guests? It is recommended that ticketed guests arrive no earlier than 5 pm. It is recommended that non-ticketed guests arrive no earlier than 5:30 pm. The University Events Management team will direct guests to line up in an orderly fashion.

Q: What about guests with priority seating tickets whose health makes it very difficult for them to wait in line to be admitted to Duke Chapel? 110 Gray has been reserved for guests who are unable to stand for long periods of time and need to rest. Volunteers will be on hand to assist. NOTE: If you have ticketed guests in a wheelchair, please contact [Nohemi Ramirez](#) to see about pre-registration for wheelchair seating. (More information about wheelchair seating appears below.)

Q: Will guests without tickets be able to sit in Duke Chapel for the Divinity baccalaureate? A very limited number of seats will likely be available after the priority seating window for ticketed guests ends at 6:10 pm. Guests will be seated on a first-come, first-served basis until the University Events Management team determines that Duke Chapel has filled to capacity. At that time, guests will be directed to overflow seating in 0014 and 0016 Westbrook.

Q: Do young children or infants who will be sitting on someone's lap require a ticket? A good rule of thumb is "one ticket for one seat." If a child or infant will be sitting on someone's lap *for the entire service* (over 90 minutes), then they do not need a ticket. However, if the child is likely to move between a lap and a seat, then they need a ticket. NOTE: *Guests with young children might consider the wisdom of opting for seating in the overflow rooms, where food is allowed and there is easy access to restrooms. Once seated in Duke Chapel, movement is difficult.*

Q: Will language translation be provided for guests who do not speak English? Please contact [Nohemi Ramirez](#) if you have ticketed guests that need language translation. The Chaplain's office will try to meet these needs.

Q: Is there seating for guests in wheelchairs? Please contact [Nohemi Ramirez](#) if you have ticketed guests who will be in a wheelchair. Students who have ticketed guests in wheelchairs should please pre-register for wheelchair seating. It can create a lot of problems for the Events Management staff to accommodate unexpected wheelchairs, including moving people who've already been seated.

Q: What happens to guests who haven't been seated when Duke Chapel is filled? Once the University Events Management staff determines that Duke Chapel has reached capacity, all other guests will be directed to 0014 and 0016 Westbrook for overflow seating. The service will be livestreamed into these classrooms. With more than 300 seats available in these classrooms, we have never run out of overflow seating.

Q: Will the service be livestreamed, and if so, where can people find the link? Yes, the service will be livestreamed. We will update this sheet with a link once we have it. The service will also be archived on the Duke Divinity School and Duke Chapel websites for viewing after the event.

Q: What do graduates wear to the Divinity baccalaureate service on Saturday evening? Students receiving masters degrees should wear a black robe or black alb/cassock and bring their Divinity hood. Only students receiving doctoral degrees (Th.D. or D.Min.) have the option of wearing either a black

robe/alb/cassock or the official blue Duke University doctoral robe. Mortar boards/tams are not worn to the Divinity service.

Q: What do graduates wear to the Duke University commencement service on Sunday morning?

Students should wear the robe and hood from the baccalaureate service PLUS their mortar board (masters students) or tams (doctoral students).

Q: What's the difference between the Divinity Baccalaureate service and the Duke University commencement ceremony? The *Divinity Baccalaureate service* is a service of worship held in Duke Chapel on Saturday evening. It features a sermon by a Divinity faculty member, and a service of investiture during which graduating students are named individually and receive their academic hoods. It is a service specific to the Divinity School. The *Duke University Commencement service* is a university-wide ceremony in Wallace Wade on Sunday morning at 9:30 am. Graduates from across the university's ten undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools are invited to participate.

Q: Where do I pick up the hood/robe I ordered? It depends on where you ordered items. If you ordered a robe and/or hood from the Divinity Bookshop, then those items will be mailed directly to you unless you made other arrangements when you placed the order. If you ordered gowns/hoods from the Bryan Center, they can be picked up between April 30-May 5 and May 7-12 in the Brown Gallery in the Bryan Center from 9 am – 5 pm.

Q: When and where can I pick up my diploma? Diplomas will be available for pick-up in the lobby outside the Academic Programs office suite (on the first floor at the juncture just before the cloister walk hallway, near the couches and the bathrooms) following the Divinity baccalaureate service on Saturday, May 12, until 9:30 pm. After this, diplomas can be picked up in the Academic Programs Office (108 Gray) on Monday and Tuesday, May 14 and 15, from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. After May 15th, diplomas will be returned to the University and mailed to the address indicated by students when they applied to graduate via ACES. NOTE: Graduates who have a hold on their bursar accounts will not be able to pick up their diplomas until they have cleared any holds.