

Safety and Security—Health Safety—Overview
Commencement May 15, 2021

Facilities for Commencement will open at 11:00am.

1. Arriving to Campus

- a. **For safety reasons, face masks must be worn at all times. Everyone is asked to Self-Screen before coming to campus ([View Screening Questions Here](#))**—if you aren't feeling well, have any COVID-19 symptoms, or have recently been exposed or diagnosed with COVID-19, we ask that you help protect the health of others and do not come to campus. The Commencement ceremony will be streamed for you to view remotely.

- b. **Entering Campus and Parking** – Thomas will use the two (2) entrances to help facilitate the arrival of graduates and their guests to campus. When arriving—please enter campus according to the designated entrance below.
 - i. **Sheridan Drive**: North Lot, Ayotte Staff Lot; Bartlett, Village, Hinman, Townhouse parking lots
 1. Undergraduate Students
 2. Undergraduate Student Guests
 3. Parking for those with reserved accommodations
 4. Thomas Faculty/Staff

 - ii. **Vining Drive**: Harold Alfond Academic Lot; South Lot; Lots: A, B, C, and GPH Lot
 1. Graduate Students
 2. Graduate Student Guests
 3. Trustee Parking
 4. Thomas Faculty/Staff

- c. **Graduating Students**
 - i. All students proceed directly to the Larry Mahaney Gymnasium Lobby
 1. Students will be directed to designated location for Line-Up
 - a. Graduate Students: AU103, AU104 and Auditorium
 - b. Undergraduate Students: Larry Mahaney Gymnasium

- d. **Guests/Families: Each student is allowed two (2) guests to attend Commencement. Vehicles will be stopped upon arrival.**
 - i. Guests of Graduate Students—check-in at the Tent between the Harold Alfond Academic Center and the Ayotte Administration Building (near South Lot) to receive your seating assignment. Proceed to Tent #1 or Tent #2 as assigned within the quad. An usher will direct you to assigned seating.

 - ii. Guests of Undergraduate Students—check-in at the overhead door of the Harold Alfond Athletic Center (east entrance) in the North Parking Lot to receive your seating assignment. An usher will direct you to assigned seating.

2. Travel

- a. **Domestic** – as of **May 1, 2021**, Maine will open for all visitors arriving from another U.S. state
- b. **International** -- Maine follows CDC Guidelines for anyone entering the state and coming to campus from another country. Please contact the Vice President of Student Affairs Office (desautelsl@thomas.edu) by **May 10th** if you'll be arriving from international travel.
 - i. [COVID-19: Travel | Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) | Airborne Disease Surveillance Epidemiology Program | MeCDC | Maine DHHS](#)

3. Health and Safety Guidelines

- a. Masks are to be worn and social distancing practiced
- b. No food/eating is allowed within the tents or fieldhouse
- c. To help with social distancing once you enter the tent or fieldhouse please remain seated and do not exit
- d. During the procession and line-of-march while graduates are processing at the start and end of the ceremony please remain in your seat and do not crowd aisle, doorways, walkways, perimeters, etc.
- e. Only designated photographers and members of Thomas' staff are permitted to be in the area in front or along the sides of the stage— There will be professional photographers for the event, as well as opportunities after the ceremony for taking pictures on the quad.

(4.28.2021)