

Ottawa University

Prepare for a Life of Significance™



Ottawa Campus Commencement Booklet—2023



Prepare for a Life of Significance™



**Reggies Wenyika,
EdD**

President,
OUKS

February 15, 2023

Dear OU Senior, Parent(s), Family and Friends,

Congratulations on achieving this lifetime milestone! Soon you will be joining a distinguished group of global citizens as only 6.8% of the world population has successfully completed a university degree. This will be Ottawa University's 158th anniversary commencement and I am looking forward to seeing you and your family on campus.

The Commencement ceremony is scheduled for April 29, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. It's time to begin making plans for that very special day/weekend, and in preparation, this booklet includes pertinent information to assist with planning.

This year's graduating class will be large with 145 individuals slated to receive their degrees. Consequently, seating will continue to be a great challenge, and each graduate will be limited to only 3 (three) guests for admission to the in-person ceremony in the Fredrikson Chapel. Please note that as in the past, the ceremony will be streamed live, and details for this can be found on the Commencement website at www.ottawa.edu/commencement.

My heartfelt thanks go out to every individual who has been instrumental and helpful toward your achievement and success. For 158 years, family, friends, alumni, and donors have encouraged, supported, and sustained generations of OU students. It is a great tradition, and let's keep it going.

Always a great day to be a Brave. See you on Saturday, April 29, 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Reggie Wenyika". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Reggie" being more prominent.

Dr. Regg

Attendance and Viewing Information

Admission to Ottawa University's 2023 Commencement Ceremony at OUKS in Ottawa, Kansas, is limited to three guests per graduate for family and guests to attend the Commencement Ceremony inside the Fredrikson Chapel.

Questions

Julie Wilson
Commencement
Coordinator
785-248-2570

While there is limited seating available within the Fredrikson Chapel, the livestream link will be shared on Ottawa University's social media sites, as well as can be found online at www.ottawa.edu/commencement.

Photographs

Integrity First Photography is the official photographer for Commencement. **Graduates should register ASAP at: www.ottawa.edu/OUKSGradRegistration.** Once registered you will be contacted directly as soon as proofs are available for viewing. If you have any specific questions, you can reach the photographer directly at: IntegrityFirst719@gmail.com, or through their website: www.integrityfirstphotography.com.

Graduation Announcements

Questions

Noah Huske
Manager of
Bookstore
Operations
785-248-2414

Ordering

Announcements may be purchased by calling 800-433-0296 or online at (www.cbgrad.balfour.com). To order online, select the campus and graduation time.

Class Rings

If you are interested in ordering a class ring, you will find a wide variety of options by visiting www.jostens.com.

Local Dining Options

There are a variety of dining options throughout the Ottawa community. For the most up-to-date list of dining options, visit www.visitottawakansas.com.

Cap and Gown

Pick-up

Graduates may pick up their cap and gown at the Grad Fair on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Graduates unable to get their gowns at Grad Fair, may pick up them up in the Gangwish Library, Braves Fan Shop.

Preparation of Gown

Gowns are packaged in plastic bags and should be removed and hung to allow the wrinkles to come out. You may find it helpful to hang it in the bathroom area to allow steam from a hot shower to help pull out wrinkles, or you may choose to steam them. Due to the gown material, a hot iron should **NOT** be used to remove wrinkles.

Student Commencement Regalia

Adornments, paraphernalia, messaging, or any other additions to commencement regalia issued to students specifically for this ceremony are **NOT** allowed unless specific prior approval is received from the Academic Dean. Any approved additions to commencement regalia must be academic in nature, which includes appropriate cultural identification or accents that are historical in nature (tradition, academic honorary, heritage, etc.).

Questions

Noah Huske

Manager of
Bookstore
Operations

785-248-2414

Local Lodging Options

We hope the following information on motels will be helpful in finding lodging for the weekend.

Best Western

606 East 23rd Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

888-212-0452

785-242-2224

www.bestwestern.com

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

2340 South King Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

888-465-4329

785-521-7009

www.ihg.com

Super 8 Ottawa

2315 South Oak Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

800-800-8000

785-242-5551

www.super8.com

Comfort Inn

2335 South Oak Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

800-424-6423

785-242-9898

www.comfortinn.com

Knights Inn

1641 South Main Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

877-242-6067

785-242-4842

www.knightsinn.com

Travelodge

2209 South Princeton Road
Ottawa, KS 66067

800-578-7878

785-242-7000

www.travelodge.com

Note

Inform the hotel personnel that your reservation is for Ottawa University's Commencement to see if a discount is available.



Parking

There are a total of eight parking lots on the Ottawa University, Ottawa campus. Seven of those lots are open to general parking for Commencement weekend. There will be some shuttle services available from those lots. The general parking lots are located at:

- 11th and Mulberry Streets (southeast corner of campus)
- 11th and College Streets (south central entrance to campus)
- 11th Street between College and Cedar (south entrance to campus)
- Mulberry Street (east entrance to campus)
- 9th and Oak Streets (two lots; north central entrance to campus)

Additional parking is available along 11th Street east of Mulberry near the Dick Peters Sports Complex (noted at the top of the map below).

Online Resources

Visit the Ottawa University website at www.ottawa.edu/Commencement.

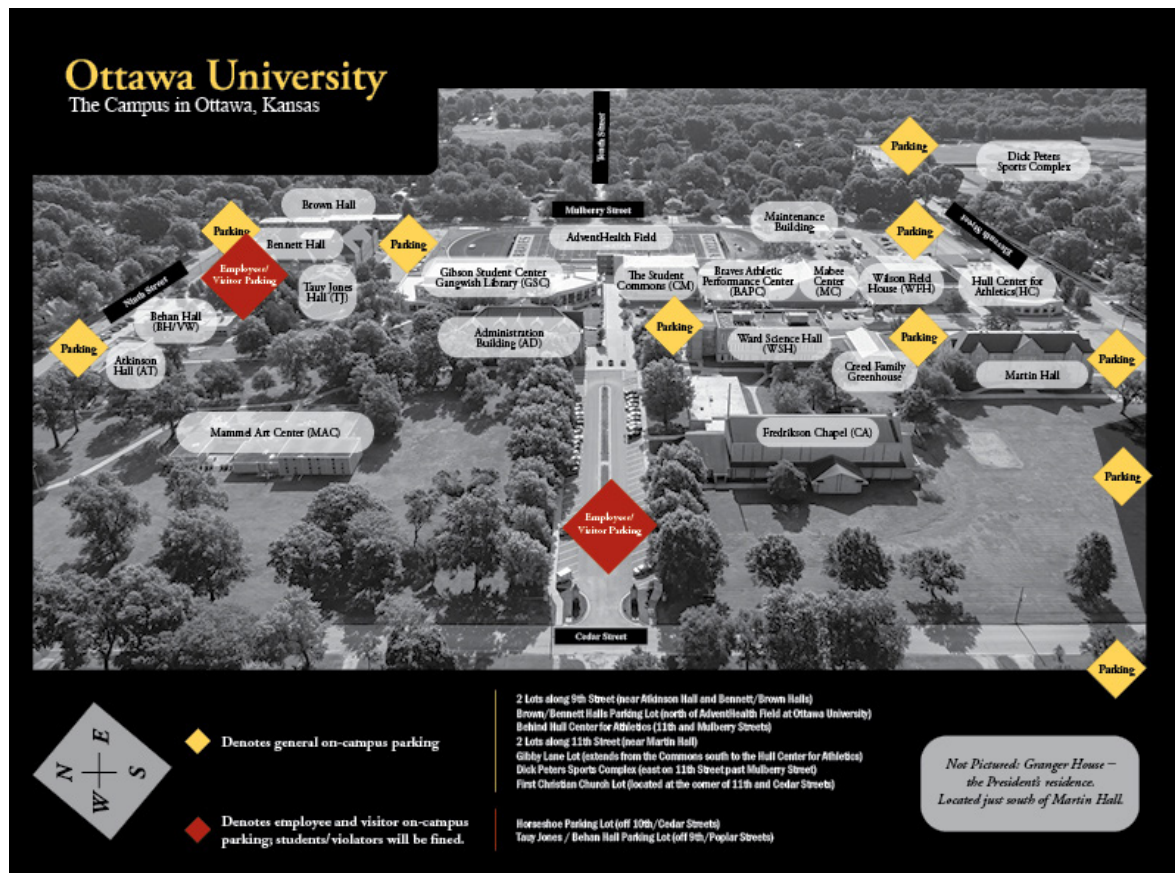
There you will find information concerning the 2023 Ottawa University Commencement. An electronic version of this booklet can be found there.

Handicap Parking

One lot is reserved for handicap parking and is referred to as the horseshoe parking lot. It is located at:

- 10th and Cedar Streets (west entrance to campus)

Campus Map



Future Plans

In the future, should you find yourself in need of creating new career opportunities, remember that Career Services is here to help you with the process.

Special Assistance

If you have special needs or require assistance, please contact Kevin Moore with OU Campus Security at 785-214-0070. Feel free to communicate with us prior to the event date.

Whom to Contact

Cap, Gown, Ring, and Graduation Announcements	Noah Huske 785-248-2414 noah.huske@ottawa.edu
Transcripts	www.ottawa.edu Click on “Transcript Request” in the footer.
Lodging	Individual Motels See page 3
General Questions	Julie Wilson 785-248-2570 • 800-755-5200, #9 julie.wilson@ottawa.edu

Special Thanks

Ottawa University wants to express a heartfelt thanks to our graduates’ family and friends for their ongoing support and encouragement. Family and friends have sustained generations of OU students for 158 years.

Questions

Christine Currier
Director of Career
Development and
Student Retention
785-248-2562



Ottawa University



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1001 South Cedar Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

800-755-5200 • admiss@ottawa.edu
www.ottawa.edu/OUKS