

# COMMENCEMENT INSTRUCTIONS – OUTDOOR CEREMONY

## 10:00 a.m., TVA Credit Union Ballpark, 111 Legion Street, Johnson City, TN 37601

We look forward to celebrating your graduation. Please note the following instructions. **If you have decided not to attend the ceremony, please contact Stacy Dahlman at [srdahlman@milligan.edu](mailto:srdahlman@milligan.edu).**

### Arrival Time - Graduates

**Please arrive at the stadium by 9:15 so that you can be in place for roll call by 9:30.** Signs will direct you into the large parking lot for the stadium, and a sign will direct you to the student line-up area to the right of the main stadium entrance (beside the green maintenance building). Faculty marshals and staff members will be on site to assist you in finding your place.

### Guest Arrival and Seating

Guests will be allowed to enter the stadium beginning at 9:00 a.m. using the main stadium entrance. **Please be sure your guests understand that only ticket holders will be allowed to enter. Masks and social distancing will be required.** Guests may want to bring a seat cushion and some sunscreen.

### Attire – Graduates

Masks are required for all graduates. You may remove your mask to cross the stage and receive your diploma, but please put it back on immediately after exiting the stage.

**Undergraduate students** – Please wear your black gown, cap, and tassel and any cords for Latin honors and/or honor society participation. When choosing footwear, keep in mind that you will be walking on turf. **Shoes with a substantial heel (rather than spike heels) will be best.**

**Graduate students** – Please wear your black gown, cap, and tassel and **carry your hood**. During the processional and when approaching the stage, drape the hood over your left arm. As you approach the stage during the ceremony, the director of your graduate program will take your hood and place it over your head. When choosing footwear, keep in mind that you will be walking on turf. **Shoes with a substantial heel (rather than spike heels) will be best.**

### Ceremony notes

Faculty marshals will help you line up and will lead you to your seat on the field. Take your time during the processional, leaving plenty of space between you and the graduate in front of you. When you get to your seat, remain standing for the remainder of the processional, the invocation, and the scripture reading.

Throughout the ceremony, faculty assistants will let each row of students know when they should stand and sit and when they should approach the stage. We have streamlined the ceremony as much as possible in an attempt to avoid confusion.

As they cross the stage, undergraduate students will go directly to President Greer to receive the diploma. Graduate students will stop in front of their graduate program director for hooding and then proceed to President Greer to receive the diploma.

### Photography

**Because of the protective netting between the stands and the field, taking photos during the ceremony will be a challenge.** A photographer will be stationed on the field to photograph each graduate receiving the diploma. Please look at the President rather than at the photographer for a more natural-looking photo. Within six weeks, each student will receive several printed photos as a gift from the University.

### Bookstore

The Milligan Bookstore will be open from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. on Saturday for any last-minute regalia needs.