

SPRING COMMENCEMENT 2025 | ADA GUEST EXPERIENCE GUIDE

Last updated: Monday, May 5, 2025

The University of Texas at Austin strives to ensure each graduate and guest can participate fully in the Commencement activities. This guide focuses on the <u>University-Wide</u>

<u>Ceremony</u> held in Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium (DKR-TMS) on Saturday, May 10 at 7:00 p.m.

For details regarding accommodations for the college or school ceremonies, please contact the <u>appropriate college or school</u> as accommodations are venue-specific and will vary.

Important Note for Graduates

Graduates who plan to participate in the University-Wide Ceremony and are requesting accommodation are asked to contact University Events & Experience **by Monday, May 5.** Accommodation requests made after this date are not guaranteed.

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Parking

Guests with ADA placards and license plates are encouraged to park in <u>Health Center</u> <u>Garage (HCG)</u> and ride to Darrell K Royal–Texas Memorial Stadium (DKR-TMS) on our fleet of ADA-accessible shuttles. Parking at Health Center Garage is free on Saturday, May 10.

Alternate parking options are available at numerous <u>parking garages and lots on campus.</u>
Note that these garages and lots have a limited number of ADA-reserved spaces and will not offer shuttle service. University Events & Experience cannot guarantee that these garages and lots will have available ADA-reserved spaces at any time.

Accessible Shuttles

A fleet of free and accessible shuttles will transport guests with ADA accommodations from several points around the stadium. Shuttles will pick guests up on a continuous loop at Health Center Garage (HCG) on Saturday, May 10 starting at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 11:00 p.m. Shuttles will begin dropping guests at DKR-TMS at 4:00 p.m. Please reference the map below.

Note: For guests parking in Health Center Garage **May 8-10** for college and school ceremonies, **shuttles will run from until 10:00 p.m. on the same route** as Saturday, May 10. Please reference the map on the next page.

For guests with limited mobility who are not using a wheelchair, a fleet of sprinter vans will be available. For wheelchair users, a fleet of vans and 14-seat sprinter shuttles, which accommodate two wheelchairs at a time, will be available. Both vehicles follow the same shuttle route.

Please look for the **orange- and white-striped tents** at the shuttle stops depicted in the map on the next page. Shuttles will drop guests off <u>near Gate 14 and Gate 27</u> (ADA-accessible gates). Stadium staff will be stationed at DKR-TMS to assist guests in wayfinding and navigating to their seats.

Following the ceremony, all shuttles **will return only to Health Center Garage (HCG).** Note that traffic congestion around the stadium will likely result in **long wait times for shuttle departure and transit.** Your patience is appreciated.

Golf Cart Shuttles

Texas Athletics will offer a number of golf cart shuttles to transport guests with limited mobility to ADA-accessible gates around DKR-TMS. Golf cart pick up locations are noted in the map on the next page.



A downloadable version of the map will be available on the Commencement website.

Accessible Stadium Entry

Guests with reserved wheelchair-accessible seating are **strongly encouraged to enter** DKR-TMS through ADA-accessible <u>Gate 14 and Gate 27</u>. These gates feature **ramps and elevators** to upper levels of the stadium. Staff will direct guests to elevators and to their ADA-accessible seating.

Wheelchair-Accessible Seating

DKR-TMS offers reserved wheelchair-accessible seats throughout the stadium. Guests needing wheelchair-accessible seating may reserve a **ticket for themselves and up to three additional companions**.

Wheelchair-accessible seating is provided in the following sections:

Recommended Entry: Gate 14

Sections 13-19 Sections 111-113 Sections 115, 117

Recommended Entry: Gate 27

Sections 25-31 Sections 119-123 Section 125 Section 131

Parties requiring wheelchair-accessible seating may reserve their ticket by clicking the link below. The promotional code needed to reserve tickets is **GRADADA**.

Click HERE to reserve wheelchair-accessible tickets

For parties larger than four, we recommend the remainder of the party sit in an open seating section nearest to their party's wheelchair user. Open seating is first-come, first-served. The stadium has ample seating for large parties.

Please note: Tickets are **not** required to access the general quest seating in DKR-TMS.

Limited Mobility Seating (First-Come, First-Served)

We encourage parties with limited mobility (but do not require wheelchair seating) to sit in the numerous open seating sections accessible via **ADA-Accessible Gates 14 and 27.** These are accessible by elevator and require few, if any, stairs.

Please note: Open seating is cordoned off and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are **not** required to access the open seating across DKR-TMS.

Additional recommended sections of seating for parties with limited mobility will be listed here the week of the Commencement ceremony.

Entry via Gate 14:

Section 115 (Level 10): Rows 2-3

Entry via Gate 27:

Sections 20-21 (Level 7): Rows 70-72

Sign Language Interpretation and Captioning

Closed captioning will be available on the Freddie Steinmark Scoreboard located in the stadium. ASL interpretation will also be available on the scoreboard via picture-in-picture video.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I reserved a ticket in the wheelchair-accessible sections. Where do I go once I'm at the stadium?

A: Your ticket is printed with a section and row listed. You can find a stadium map with sections and entry gates <u>linked here</u>. Guests with reserved wheelchair-accessible seats are **strongly encouraged to enter via Gate 14 or Gate 27**.

For further questions about navigating to your seats, please contact Commencement@austin.utexas.edu.

Q: Where can I find accessible restrooms at the university-wide ceremony?

A: Accessible stalls are available in all stadium restrooms. Event staff will be available to direct guests to the nearest restroom.

Q: Where can I find a wheelchair for my guest to use for the day?

A: The university is **unable to provide** wheelchairs for individual use. Those requiring wheelchairs or other supportive equipment for the duration of their time here in Austin should plan on making their own accommodations for equipment prior to arriving on campus. Guests interested in renting wheelchairs or other equipment are encouraged to contact a local provider.

Q: Who do we contact for a medical emergency while inside the stadium?

A: Text your location and emergency to 737-41-HORNS (46767) and a member of University of Texas at Austin staff will assist you. Please also notify event staff located throughout the stadium.

Q: Where can I receive medical attention inside the stadium?

A: St. David's Hospital will staff aid stations located near Gate 1, Gate 8 and Section 31. There are two additional aid stations located on Level 10, North and East sides.

Q: I will be using a motorized scooter, but plan to sit in a bleacher seat. Where may I leave my scooter during the ceremony?

A: Guests may leave motorized scooters at the St. David's Hospital aid stations near Gates 1 and 8 and Section 31. Note that St. David's staff is not monitoring or responsible for the devices nor "watching over" them during the ceremony.

Q: I want to use the accessible shuttles from Health Center Garage to DKR-TMS. When will shuttles run on Saturday, May 10?

A: Our fleet of free and accessible shuttles will transport guests with ADA accommodations from several points around the stadium. Shuttles will pick guests up on a continuous loop at Health Center Garage (HCG) on Saturday, May 10 starting at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 11:00 p.m.

If you have questions that are not answered above, please contact University Events & Experience at Commencement@austin.utexas.edu.