

Harvard Chan Convocation

Agganis Arena, Wednesday May 27, 2026

Harvard University Commencement

Harvard Yard, Thursday May 28, 2026

Agenda

1. Key Terms & What to Expect
2. Preparing for Convocation and Commencement
3. Convocation Day-of Logistics
4. Convocation Guest Experience
5. Convocation Reception
6. Commencement Day-of Logistics
7. Commencement Guest Experience
8. Final Reminders & Questions

Quick Vocabulary Lesson

Graduation

- Graduation is the awarding of your degree. This administrative process happens three times per academic year.

Convocation

- Ceremony and activities for graduates of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Commencement

- Harvard University-wide ceremony and activities, open to graduates of all Harvard schools



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Quick Vocabulary Lesson Cont'd

Line-Up

- The process of organizing graduates into alphabetical order by program before entering the ceremony space
- Based on your procession number on your Stage Pass Card

Procession

- The formal entrance of graduates into the ceremony
- Begins before the ceremony starts and follows a set program order

Stage Crossing

- The moment you walk across the stage as your name is announced
- You will present your Stage Pass Card and shake hands with the Dean.

Recession

- The formal exit at the end of the ceremony
- Graduates and platform party leave the venue in an organized sequence

Gonfalon

- A ceremonial banner representing Harvard Chan
- Used as a visual gathering point during Commencement (e.g., in Harvard Yard)

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Important Dates

- **April 30:** 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM: Graduation Q&A session via Zoom
- **May 3:** [Regalia rental order](#) deadline for off-campus shipping
- **May 6 – May 8, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM:** Commencement ticket pick-up, Kresge G4
- **May 22, 26-28:** Regalia Pick up
- **May 26:** [Awards Ceremony](#), Kresge Cafeteria, 10:00am
- **May 27:** [Convocation](#), Agganis Arena, 11:00am
- **May 28:** [Commencement](#), Harvard Yard, 9:30am
- **May 29, 8 AM - 6 PM:** Returns Regalia to Countway only on Thursday after commencement
- **June 2nd:** Last day to return Regalia



Awards Presentation and Ceremony

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

10:00 AM

Kresge Cafeteria

Reception to follow



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Convocation Ceremony

Wednesday, May 27, Agganis Arena

9:00 am: Graduate arrival

10:00 am: General admission guest seating opens

10:15 am: Live stream begins

10:30 am: Procession begins

11:00 am: Ceremony begins

1:30 pm (approximately): Reception begins



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Register for graduation events



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Regalia



Masters' Gowns



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Doctoral Gowns



Example of graduate name featured
across the screen



 **Julia Rose Penner Caproni**
Master of Public Health



 **Julie M. Paik**
Doctor of Science, Epidemiology

Example of PhD Hooding

Regalia Pick-Up

- **Your Harvard ID will be required** when picking up your regalia.
- Countway Library-Harvard Medical School classroom 102/103.
 - Friday 5/22- 8 am-6 pm- pre-order except for dual degrees
 - Tuesday 5/26 8 am- 7 pm- pre-order and dual pickup
 - Wednesday 5/27 8 am-6 pm- pre-order and dual pickup
 - Thursday 5/28 8 am-6 pm- pre-order and dual pickup-
- **Please note:**
 - *HSPH students pick up regalia with **salmon crows' feet**.*
 - *GSAS students will have regalia with **blue crows' feet**.*
 - *GSAS students who order via the HSPH webpage will pick up regalia at Countway Coop.*
 - *GSAS students who ordered via the GSAS webpage will pick up regalia at Harvard Square.*



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Regalia Returns

- Regalia to Countway only on Thursday after commencement and Friday, 5/29, 8 am-6 pm.
- After 5/29, returns can be made at Harvard Square Coop through 6/4 or shipped back to Herff Jones using the portal link below: [Herff Jones | Return Portal](#)
- Regalia pick-up and drop-off hours are fixed, and this is not a 24/7 self-service operation. If you arrive at Countway outside of those hours, the library staff will not be able to help you and you should return during the proper hours.

Regalia and Ceremony Guidelines

- All graduating students participating in Convocation are required to wear official Harvard regalia. Harvard Chan graduates can accessorize their caps, but we ask that you minimize other regalia decorations. Make sure any decoration on your cap will not obstruct the sightlines of those around you. We ask that you reduce other regalia decorations however, graduates are welcome to wear their own stoles.
- Please remember that you cannot bring any signs, flags, or other objects into the Convocation ceremony. Do not bring any objects on stage with you when your degree is conferred. No guests or children allowed in the procession. Graduates will need their hands free and should only carry a bag large enough for their ID, phone, and keys—one that will fit under their gown. Because you will be returning to a different seat, you will need to carry your belongings with you when you go on stage. We highly suggest wearing comfortable, closed-toe shoes.



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Guest Tickets

Convocation

- Convocation tickets are electronic and can be accessed via <https://harvard.tassel.com/>

Commencement

- Harvard Chan grads – pick up Commencement tickets on May 6-8th in Kresge G4 from 10 am-4 pm
 - We will provide a list of graduate names to security so you can get into the building via the FXB Entrance
- Late ticket pick-up is available from May 11th to May 27th, from 10 am-4 pm, in Kresge G4.

To obtain Commencement tickets, graduating students must complete the Graduating Student Satisfaction survey!



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Complete the Graduating Student Satisfaction survey



<https://harvard.bluera.com/harvard>



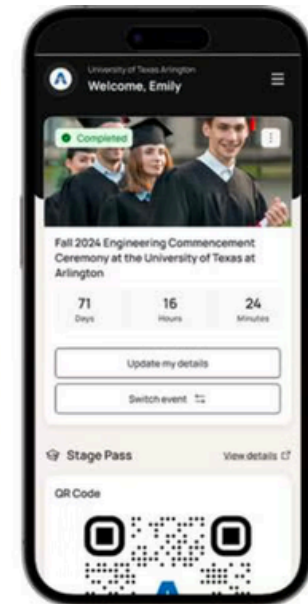
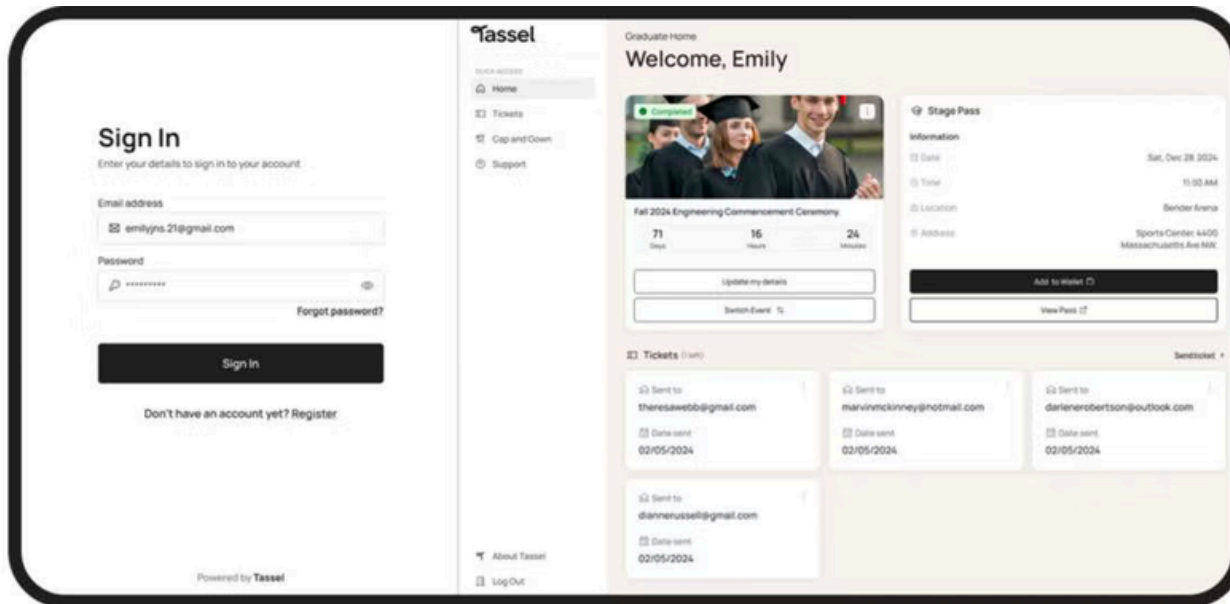
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Convocation Tickets

Log in to the [Ceremony Registration website](#) to access your electronic tickets for Harvard Chan Convocation.

When you have logged in, you can enter in emails for each of your guest tickets. Below is what the webpages should look like. Here is a video tutorial on assigning tickets or printing them out.

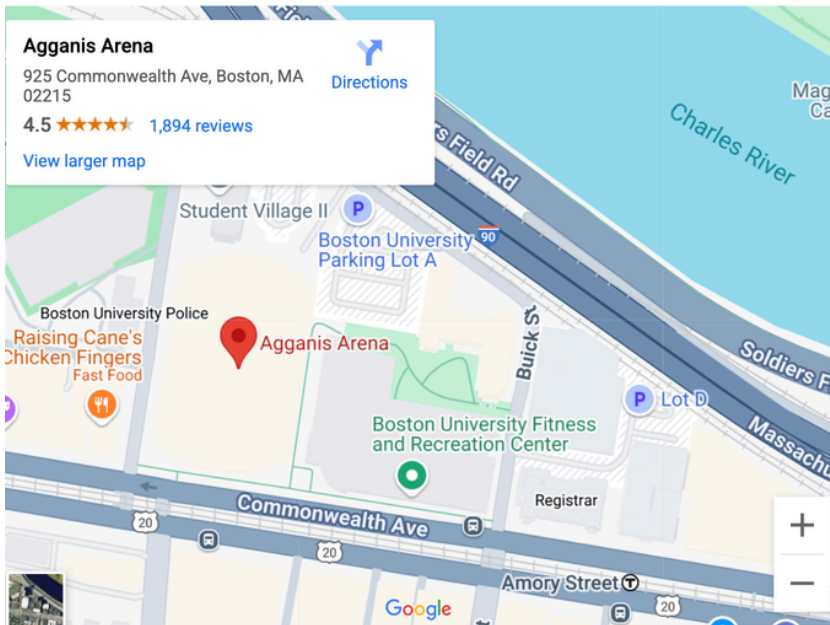


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Grad Arrival

- Graduating student arrival is at 9:00 am
- Graduating students enter the BU Recreation Center on the right side of the building, on Buick Street.
- You will then check in with your HUID and receive your Stage Pass Card.
- You will also receive a paper wristband for the reception



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Grad Stage Card

- Procession Order
- Do not bend
- Bring with you for stage crossing

SAMPLE 4

Full Name — **Matthew Hrybenko**


Add Field 1 — Matthew rih-BENG-koh

Add Field 2 — ***With Honors***

Add Field 3 — Bachelor of Social Work

Graduate Instructions:
-The number on the bottom left of this card is your position in line
-Keep this card with you and carry it to the stage
-Have the card scanned, take it back, and hand it to the announcer before you cross the stage

Add Field 4 — Lineup: 29

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Line Up and Procession

- At 10:15am, Graduating students will process alphabetically in the following order:
 - PhD (by department)
 - DrPH
 - MHCM
 - SM (by department)
 - MPH
- When it is time to line up, the graduation staff will announce programs to gather and get into alphabetical order based on your procession number.
- Your Stagecard has a **Procession Order** number. Make sure your number is between the person in front of you and behind you.
- Procession is 10-15 minutes long, expect to be standing



Line Up and Procession



Line Up and Procession



What Happens When You Cross the Stage

- Bring your Stage Pass Card
- Hand it to the volunteer
- Walk across stage
- Get handed a scroll
- Pause briefly for photo
- Exit stage and follow staff
- Return to a seat



StageClip

- Individualized, social media-friendly video clips of your stage crossing made available to you after ceremony



im0genx • [Follow](#)



im0genx The proudest 30 seconds of my life. I can't wait to do it again for Masters. ❤️🎓 #hawaythegrads

1w



stageclip_official Congratulations Imogen!! 🎓🎉



1w Reply



52 views

7 DAYS AGO

Add a comment...

[Post](#)



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GradImages

- Individualized, photo packages of graduating students crossing the stage will be available for purchase from our official Convocation photographer GradImages
- Receive a coupon for 20% off your entire order when you pre-register before Convocation at <https://www.gradimages.com/Preregistration>.
- You will receive an email proof after the ceremony.



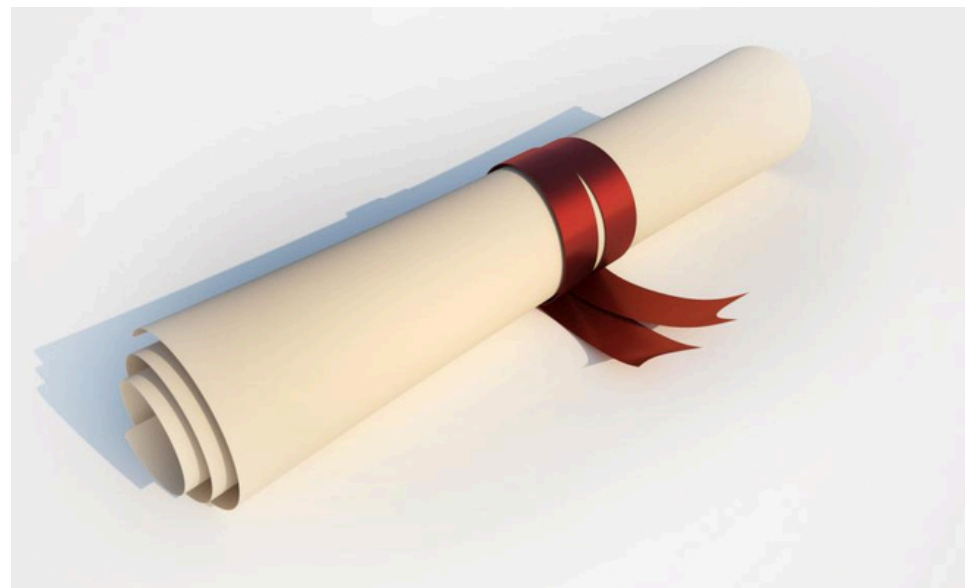
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Your Diploma

- You will not receive your diploma on stage
- Harvard Chan will be mailing all diplomas
- Must be cleared both academically and financially
- Visit the [Registrar's website](#) for more information

GSAS has their own process, please refer to their communications.



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Graduate Recap: Convocation

- Arrive + check in (get StageCard)
 - Line up by program + number
 - Process into the arena
 - Sit during the ceremony
 - Cross the stage when called
 - Return to seat
 - Recess out
 - Meet guests + attend reception
- Bring:**
- HUID
 - Phone + small personal items
 - Comfortable shoes
- Do NOT Bring:**
- Bags larger than allowed
 - Signs, flags, props
 - Guests/children in procession

**Check-in → Line-up → Procession → Seating →
Stage → Sit Down → Exit → Reception**

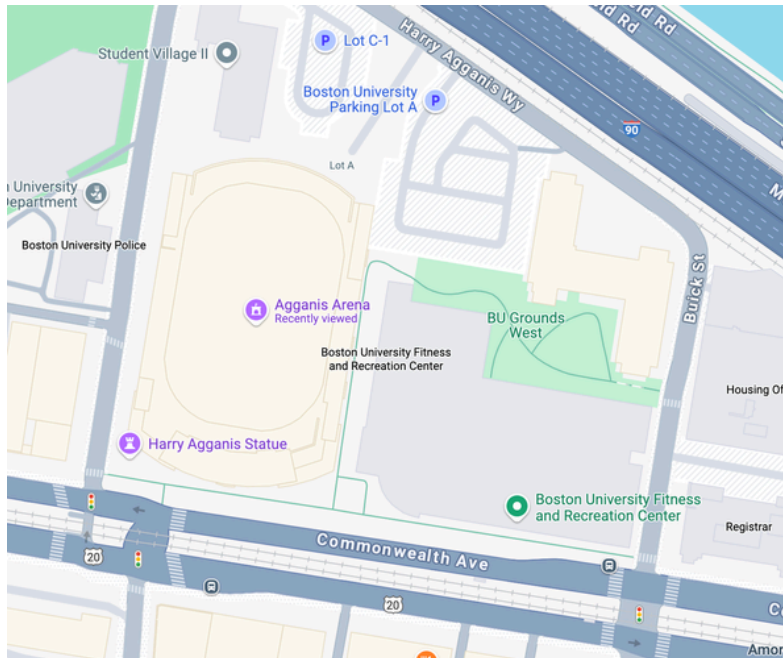


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Guest Arrival

- Guest arrival is at 10:00am
- There will be food and flowers available for purchase
- Guests enter the Agganis Arena on the corner of Commonwealth Ave and Harry Agganis Way.
- Guest tickets should be on their phone or printed
- They will get paper wristbands for the reception
- No tickets needed for kids 5 and under



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Livestream

- **Harvard Chan Convocation**
 - Online
 - www.hsph.harvard.edu
- **Harvard Commencement**
 - www.commencement.harvard.edu

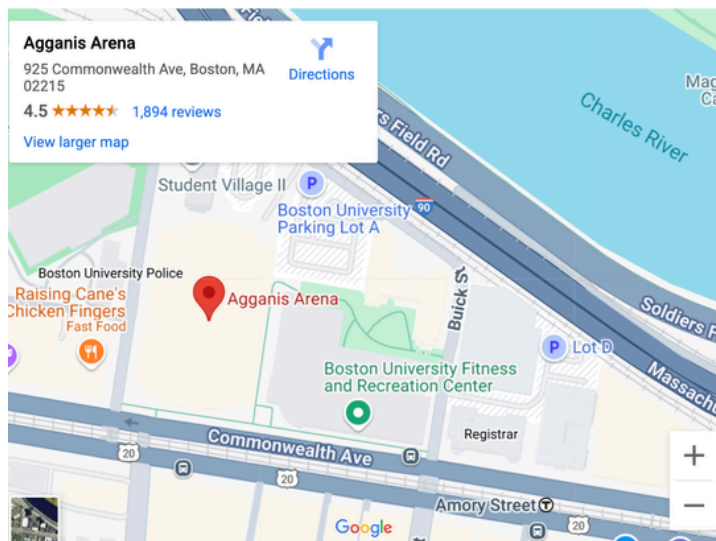


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Reception

- Reception begins right after the ceremony ends, estimated 1:30pm
- The reception is in the same space as the graduate student line-up area
- Plan to meet your family somewhere outside Agganis and then walk over together



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Reception



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Commencement Activities

Thursday May 28, Harvard Yard

- 6:45am Guest seating open
- 7:00am Graduate arrival on Quincy Street, gather inside Sever Quad
- 8:00am Harvard Chan procession begins
- 9:30am-12:15pm Morning Exercises
- 12:30pm GSAS Diploma Awarding Ceremony, Sanders Theatre



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Arrival

- Look for the Harvard Chan gonfalon on Quincy Street at 7:00am
- You will receive a lanyard from Harvard Chan staff
- You must place your HUID in the lanyard to enter the Yard



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Morning Exercises

2020 / 2021

MORNING EXERCISES ▾

STUDENTS ▾

PLAN YOUR VISIT ▾

ALUMNI CELEBRATION

HEALTHY HARVARD



commencement.harvard.edu/morning-exercises

Quick Links



COMMENCEMENT
LIVESTREAM



QUESTIONS?



2022 EVENTS/SCHEDULE



STUDENT ORATIONS
COMPETITION



HOTELS



ORDERING ACADEMIC
REGALIA



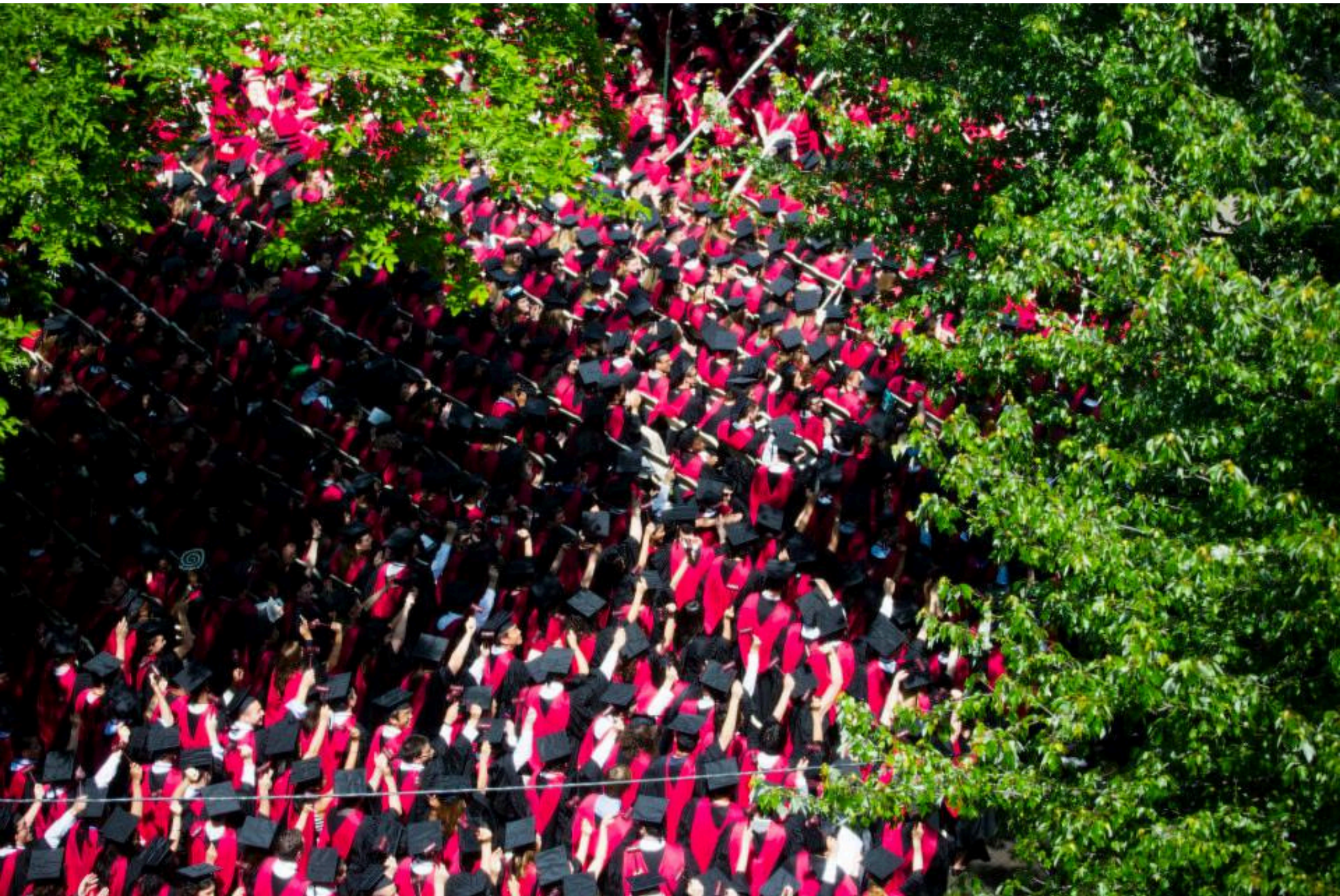
MAPS



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Transportation, Maps, Hotel Info, Etc.



<https://commencement.harvard.edu/plan-your-visit>

Safety and Etiquette

- No backpacks
- Graduates: no bags under regalia
- Guests: no bags over 12"x12"
- Weather-appropriate clothing and footwear
- Prompt
- Security
- No guests or children allowed in the procession



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Reminders

- Fill out the Graduating Student Satisfaction ([Click here for the survey link](#)) to get your commencement tickets
- Assign your guest tickets on [Tassel](#)
- Pick up your regalia, if applicable
- Attend the events!
- Look out for all emails from convocation@hsph.harvard.edu



QUESTIONS?

Graduation Ceremony Team
convocation@hsph.harvard.edu
www.harvard.edu/graduation

Graduate Attendee Information:
<https://hsph.harvard.edu/graduation/graduate-attendee-information/>

Guest Attendee Information:
<https://hsph.harvard.edu/graduation/convocation-commencement/guest-attendee-information/>



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