2025 Commencement Ceremony Packet

Office of Student Affairs Miami Campus

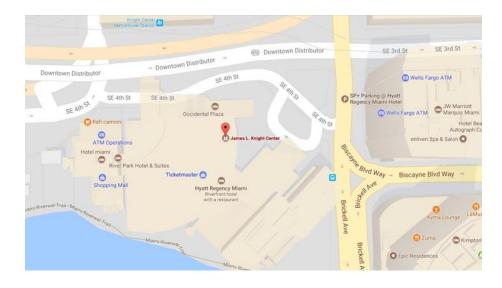


Dear AU Graduate,

Congratulations on achieving your academic goals. We are proud of you! Earning your degree is a milestone that deserves recognition. It is time to gear up for participation in the 2025 Commencement Ceremony. Carefully review the information provided in this packet.

2025 Albizu University Commencement Ceremony

- Commencement is scheduled for Friday, October 10, 2025.
- The event will be held at the James L. Knight Center, 400 SE 2nd Ave, Miami, FL 33131.
- For directions, see Google Maps, or call the James L. Knight Center, at (305) 416-5978.



- The ceremony will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.
- Please observe the following operational conventions:
 - All graduates must be present at the James L. Knight Center no later than 8:30 a.m. wearing the graduation regalia, and with their name cards in hand.
 - o Name cards will be distributed at commencement.

Cap and Gown Ordering / Pickup Date

Graduates can now order regalia online!

- <u>Online:</u> Order your regalia online at <u>Herff Jones</u> and have your regalia shipped to your home.
- Herff Jones accepts VISA, MasterCard or Discover as forms of payment.
- All orders will be shipped to your home approximately 2-3 weeks from time of order.
- Online order deadline July 31, 2025.
- Deliver Date by August 28, 2025.

Cap & Gown Pricing and Packages

Regalia fees can be found on the Herff Jones website

Please note:

- Regalia will be shipped directly to your home.
- Bachelor's and Master's graduates retain ownership of the regalia.
- Doctoral graduates must return regalia to Herff Jones within 7 days after graduation. Rental instructions will be included in the shipment with regalia.
- Cap and gown orders received after July 31nd, 2025, will be assessed a late fee by Herff Jones.
- If you are unable to order your regalia by the scheduled date, graduates may pre-order regalia with Herff Jones at the AU Miami Campus on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 3 pm 6 pm. Pre-order will incur an expedited fee of \$20. These orders will be available for pickup at Commencement by visiting the Herff Jones table.
- Contact Herff Jones directly, at 305-271-6769, or by email, at <u>Hjcollegefl@aol.com</u> for additional questions and/or clarifications.
- Club regalia (cords, pins, stoles, etc.) are not handled by the Office of Student Affairs (OSA). You must contact your club president or advisor about these items.

Honor Cords

- Honor cords will be sold online at <u>Herff Jones</u> and will be shipped directly to your home.
- Ordering your **honor cord is a separate order** from that of the cap and gown.

The honor cords criteria are as follow (GPAs do not round up):

Undergraduate cumulative grade point average:

- Cum Laude: 3.33 3.49 (Orange)
- Magna Cum Laude: 3.50 3.95 (Red)
- o Summa Cum Laude: 3.96 4.00 (Purple)

Graduate cumulative grade point average:

- Distinction: 3.60 3.94 (Silver)
- o Utmost Distinction: 3.95 4.00 (Gold)

Graduate students receiving honors cannot:

- Receive a grade of C or lower in any course.
- Receive a NP in or repeat practicum, internship, Dissertation/Doctoral Project, and/or Comprehensive/Qualifying Examination.

Graduation Announcements

- Order personalized AU graduation announcements online at <u>Herff Jones</u> or on campus, Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 3 pm – 6 pm.
- Delivery takes approximately 2-3 weeks. Payment in full is required at the time of order.

Graduation Rings

• Order an AU class ring online at <u>Herff Jones</u> or on campus, Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 3 pm – 6 pm. Herff Jones offers convenient 4-6-month, interest free payment plans. Herff Jones accepts VISA, Mastercard or Discover as forms of payments. Delivery takes approximately 6-8 weeks.

Graduation Photos

- AU partners with <u>GradImages</u>, a photography company that will take official graduation photos of each graduate.
- GradImages will be on AU Miami Campus, September 9, 2025, 3 p.m. 6 p.m.
- More information will be sent to your email about photos and packages available by <u>GradImages</u>.

Photography at Commencement

- <u>GradImages</u> will also attend Commencement to take photos of each graduate. Photos are available for purchase at a later date.
- Graduates will receive detailed information from <u>GradImages</u> regarding orders. Please ensure the information you list on your name card is up to date and legible.
- Ensure your updated email is on file with the Office of the Registrar.

Tickets

- Tickets are required in electronic format to attend Commencement. E Tickets are limited to 10 per graduate.
- Only graduating students may request commencement tickets using their Albizu email.
- Personal emails, family/friends, and non-graduates will not be eligible to request tickets.
- Students are therefore encouraged to invite family, friends, mentors, and supporters who have contributed to their academic achievement.
- <u>2025 Commencement Ceremony RSVP Participation link Click Here</u>
- <u>2025 Commencement Guests Tickets Click Here</u> for your guests free e-tickets
- <u>2025 Commencement Webpage Click Here</u>
- 2025 Commencement Kickoff RSVP Participation link Click Here

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the commencement ceremony?

• Friday, October 10, 2025, at 10:00 am.

Where is the commencement ceremony venue located?

• James L. Knight Center, 400 SE 2nd Ave, Miami, FL 33131.

What time should I arrive for the commencement ceremony?

• Graduates must arrive to the venue no later than 8:30 am.

What if I have special needs?

• Request accommodations in the Office of Student Affairs two weeks prior to the event. Guests in need of special accommodations the day of the commencement ceremony must speak to the AU staff member at the entrance of the James L. Knight Center.

How many tickets are graduates given?

• Tickets are required for entry and there is a limit of 10 per graduate for guests that can attend.

How can I obtain regalia for the ceremony?

• Regalia must be ordered online via <u>Herff Jones</u>. All orders for regalia will be shipped directly to your home.

Will regalia be available at graduation?

• No, a last opportunity to purchase regalia will be on campus, Tuesday, September 9, 2025, between 3 pm and 6 pm. Purchases made on campus will be available at the graduation venue—please visit the Herff Jones table.

Will honor cords be sold at the commencement ceremony?

- No. We will not be selling any honor cords at the graduation ceremony.
- All orders for honor cords will be shipped directly to your home.
- Any potential discrepancies on honor cords must be resolved with the Office of the Registrar before the deadline for ordering the honor cords which is July 31, 2025.

What if there is a discrepancy with my GPA and honors status?

• We are unable to handle GPA disputes at the event.

Will graduates obtain a name card at the commencement ceremony?

• Yes.

What should I wear to the commencement ceremony?

• Graduates must arrive wearing the appropriate graduation attire (cap/gown). Wear comfortable shoes and breathable apparel.

What about parking?

• Please note that parking is available for a fee in the parking garages. We encourage attendees to arrive early, to secure the best parking, and to ensure timely arrival for the commencement exercises. For current parking rates, we advise checking the parking facility's <u>website</u>, or contacting them directly, at 305-416-5978.

Where will I store my personal belongings during the ceremony?

- Albizu University will not store personal belongings before, during, or after the ceremony.
- Please leave your personal effects with a friend or family member before the ceremony.
- Albizu University and the James L. Knight Center will not bear responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

Where is the graduate robing area located?

• There will not be a graduate robing area. All graduates must arrive wearing their cap and gown.

How will I know where to line up?

- AU staff will direct you to the appropriate area to be seated.
- Graduates will sit by school/program.

Am I allowed to decorate my cap?

• Yes. While this is a celebratory event, any decoration should reflect its solemnity, and discretion is advised. No obscenities.

Will OSA hold my regalia for pickup?

• No. All orders for regalia will be shipped directly to your home.

Can I wear honor cords, stoles, and pins from a club or honor society?

• Yes. See your organization for details about acquiring.

Will I get my diploma at Commencement?

• No. Diplomas are not distributed during the ceremony.

Can graduates leave the ceremony early?

• No, unless there is an emergency.

When are my guests expected to arrive and be seated?

• Guests should be seated by 9:00 am sharp or they will have to wait to enter the venue after the staff, faculty, and graduate processions.

Can graduates stay and take pictures inside the ceremony hall?

• No. Once the commencement ceremony complete, the hall must be vacated.

- The name card will be given to you on the day of the event, Friday, October 10, 2025, upon your arrival at the James L. Knight Center.
- It is important that you completely fill out the name card and do not lose it.
- Eat a balanced meal before attending commencement.
- Cell phones must be placed on silent at all times during the exercises.
- Guests are not permitted to approach the stage during the ceremony.
- Large balloons and signs obstructing the view of guests are strictly prohibited.
- Share your pictures with #Albizugrad
- <u>2025 Commencement Webpage Click Here</u>

Should you need additional information regarding the commencement exercises, or are in need of special arrangements, please contact the Office of Student Affairs, at <u>dosa@albizu.edu</u>.

