



**University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Commencement 2016**

**Saturday, May 21, 2016
Verizon Arena**



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What time do I need to arrive at Verizon Arena on Saturday afternoon? The ceremony starts at 3pm, but you need to be there by 1:00pm. Doors at Verizon Arena will open at 12:30pm. Arena security will be scanning all people entering the arena, so graduates are being asked to please arrive by 1:00pm. Please do NOT bring bags, purses, etc. with you. There is no place for you to store these items, and they will slow down the security check process.

How many guests are allowed to attend the Commencement ceremony? There is no limit to the number of guests you may invite to Saturday's event.

If my guests are from out of town, where can they stay? The Clarion Hotel-Medical Center (925 South University Ave., Little Rock, AR 72204, 501-664-5020) and the Crowne Plaza (2015 South Shackleford Road, Little Rock, AR 72211, 501-223-3000) are offering special rates for guest over the commencement weekend. When you make your reservation, tell the reservationist that you are attending the UAMS Commencement.

Where do I park?

Parking for graduates will be available for free for the first 500 cars. The parking lot is located on the corner of Olive and Washington near the Verizon Arena Box Office. To get into the lot for free, students will need to be wearing or able to show their black regalia to be worn during the ceremony.

How long does Commencement typically last? The ceremony begins at 3:00pm and lasts a little over 2 hours.

Is seating available for persons with disabilities? Yes, each venue has seating for persons with disabilities. Just tell the usher upon arrival.

Where should my family and friends sit in the stands? It is open seating; however, consult the attached "diploma walk" diagram for an orientation to where you will be sitting during the ceremony as well as the direction from which you will cross the stage. As you are facing the stage in the arena, CHP will sit on the left side. When you receive your diploma, you will be crossing the stage, facing toward the left side of the arena.

What happens at the Commencement? All graduates from all UAMS colleges attend. The format is similar to a high school/college graduation you may have attended in the past. When your name is called, you will walk across the stage and shake hands with the Chancellor, Dean, and representatives of the UA Board of Trustees.

What do I wear under my regalia? Wear something cool yet appropriate, and wear comfortable shoes. You will be standing in line on concrete, and you will be walking up a ramp onto a stage. Do not wear flip flops.

May I "decorate" my cap? No, you may not. Please do not do anything to your cap except attach your tassel and wear in on top of your head (not on the back of your head so it looks like a propeller). *No masking tape words, signs, glitter, or....*

Do I turn in my regalia? No need to return it. It is yours to keep.

Will there be a place to ‘store’ my personal items (handbags, cell phones, keys, etc)? *There is no place to securely store personal items.* Please give your items to family or wear a garment that has pockets. If there is a need to have your cell phone with you, please make sure that the ringer is off.

Are cameras and other recording devices allowed? Families should bring cameras or camcorders to both events. The UAMS Creative Services department will be taking a photograph of each graduate as he/she is handed a diploma tube on stage. They will also be recording the entire ceremony to sell as a DVD that graduates may order. More information about ordering will be in your Commencement program.

Will I have help lining up at Commencement? There will be faculty available to help you line up correctly – *that’s why we all need to be there early*. CHP programs line up in alphabetical order by 1) certificate or degree awarded; 2) program; and then 3) student last name. At the front of the line is the certificate in Emergency Medical Sciences (EMS), followed by associate degrees, then bachelor’s degrees, post-baccalaureate certificate in dietetics and nutrition, master’s degrees, and finally, Doctor of Audiology. Within each of these certificates/degrees, the programs line up alphabetically with the students lined up alphabetically by last name.

How will the announcer know my name? Once the line-up has occurred, faculty marshals will distribute a 5 x 8 index card with your name on it. *Take that card with you up to the stage and hand it to the Announcer* – with the writing toward the announcer so she can read it quickly. Do not leave it on your chair or the announcer will not know what name to announce.

Do I receive my diploma at Commencement? No. Diplomas will NOT be distributed at the Saturday afternoon ceremony. You will be handed a scroll which will contain information regarding how you will be able to obtain your diploma as well as other important information. Please wait to open the scroll until you are seated. Please do not open it as you are walking back to your seat from the stage.

What happens if I do not pick up my diploma by May 31st? All unclaimed diplomas will be mailed. They are rather large and will be sent “return receipt,” therefore somebody will need to be available to sign for it. Your diploma will be mailed to the address you provided on your clearance form or, if you were not required to clear, the address you provided to the Office of the University Registrar.

What is the most important thing of all? *Remembering to take in the moment and enjoy! Congratulations!*

For more information, please visit: <http://commencement.uams.edu/about/>

Directions to the Verizon Arena

From Northwest Arkansas on I-40 (Tulsa, Fayetteville) Follow I-40 to North Little Rock. Take the I-30 Little Rock exit. Take the Broadway, Verizon Arena Exit (141B) onto Cypress Street. Proceed through stoplight at Cypress and Broadway. From Cypress, turn right onto Washington Avenue. Verizon Arena will be on your right.

From East Arkansas on I-40 (Memphis, Jonesboro) Follow I-40 to North Little Rock. Take the I-30 Little Rock exit. Take the Broadway, Verizon Arena exit (141B) onto Cypress Street. Proceed through stoplight at Cypress and Broadway. From Cypress, turn right onto Washington Avenue. Verizon Arena will be on your right.

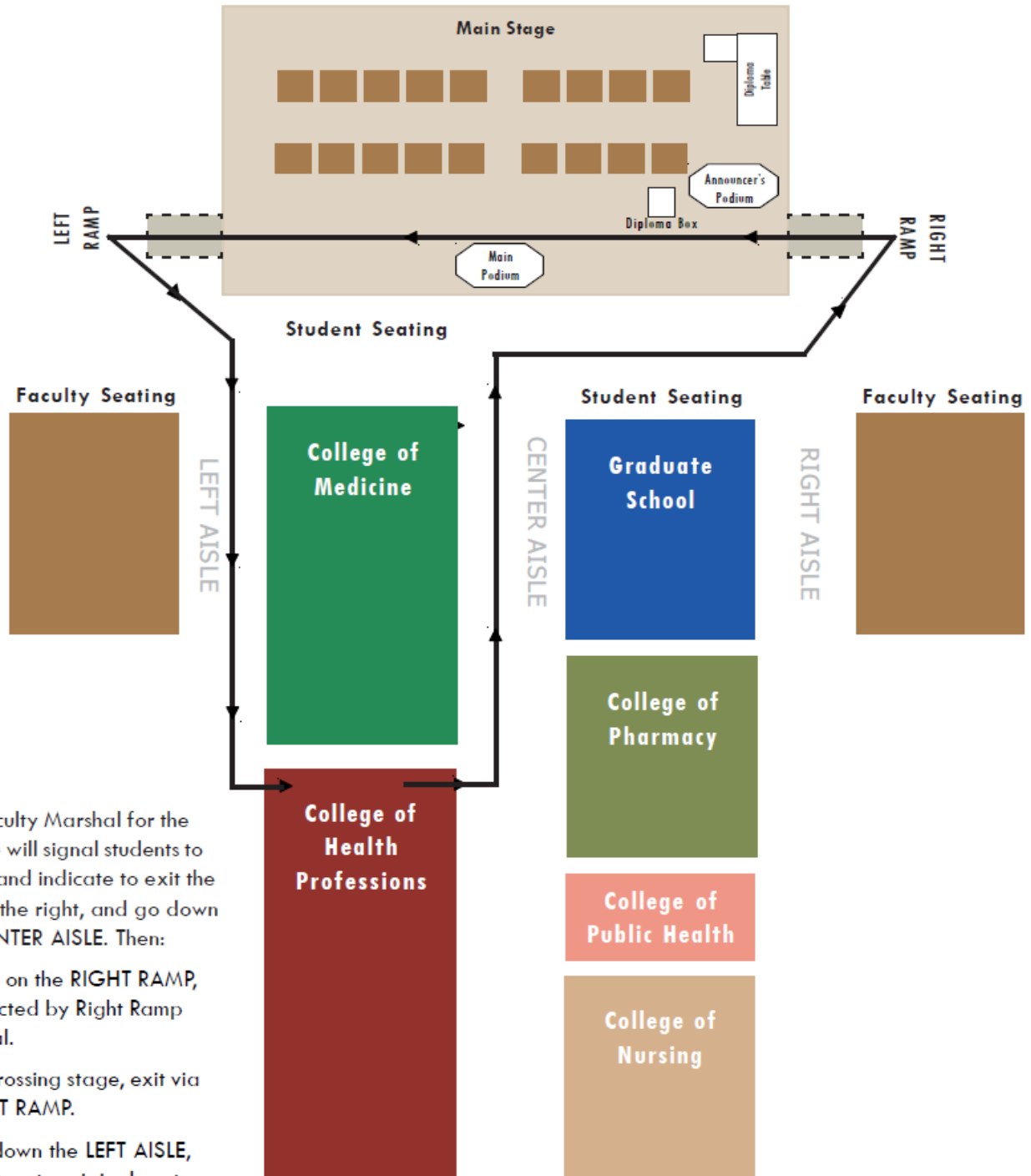
From South Arkansas on Hwy 65/167 (Pine Bluff) Take Highway 65 Northwest to Little Rock. Take I-30 to Little Rock. Take the Broadway, Verizon Arena exit (141B). Turn left onto Broadway at the stoplight. From Broadway, turn left onto Cypress Street. From Cypress, turn right onto Washington Avenue. Verizon Arena will be on your right.

From Southwest Arkansas on I-30 (Dallas, Texarkana) Follow I-30 to Little Rock. Take the Broadway, Verizon Arena exit (141B). Turn left onto Broadway at the stoplight. From Broadway, turn left onto Cypress Street. From Cypress, turn right onto Washington Avenue. Verizon Arena will be on your right.

From North, Northeast Arkansas on Highway 167 (St. Louis, Jacksonville) Follow Highway 167 to Little Rock. Take I-30 Little Rock exit. Take the Broadway, Verizon Arena exit (141B) onto Cypress Street. Proceed through stoplight at Cypress and Broadway. From Cypress, turn right onto Washington Avenue. Verizon Arena will be on your right.

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Diploma Walk: CHP



- The Faculty Marshal for the college will signal students to stand, and indicate to exit the row to the right, and go down the CENTER AISLE. Then:
- Line up on the RIGHT RAMP, as directed by Right Ramp Marshal.
- After crossing stage, exit via the LEFT RAMP.
- Walk down the LEFT AISLE, and return to original seat, as directed by the Left Ramp Marshal.

UAMS Commencement Parking and Entrance

