



# COMMENCEMENT NEWSLETTER

## Weekend Highlights

### SATURDAY 5/30/26

#### Saturday Events

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Enjoy a day with your fellow graduates at the University of Arizona Global Campus (UAGC) Saturday Events! For a complete list of activities, see page 3.

### SUNDAY 5/31/26

#### Commencement Ceremony

7 a.m. Doors open

9 a.m. Commencement begins

UAGC Commencement ceremony will take place at the Desert Diamond Arena in Glendale, AZ.

## Saturday, May 30 Details

UAGC Saturday Events will take place at the [Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel and Conference Center](#). This celebration will include a Career Fair, the Grad Fair, photo opportunities, a space to buy UAGC gear, and more!



## HELLO, GRADUATES!

Congratulations! You have come a long way, and the Spring 2026 Commencement Ceremony is just around the corner.

Both graduates and undergraduates will attend one ceremony, which will take place at the [Desert Diamond Arena](#) on Sunday, May 31, 2026.

The day before, on Saturday, May 30, graduates and guests are invited to attend the Saturday Events. They will be hosted at the [Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel and Conference Center](#). A complete schedule of weekend events is found on the following pages.

We look forward to celebrating with you in a few weeks.

Sincerely,

Commencement Committee

By being present at the events held throughout commencement weekend, you release the University of Arizona Global Campus from all claims regarding the use of your likeness and/or image in any print or electronic media including, but not limited to, video, TV, and newspaper. The timing for all events in this newsletter are in the Mountain Standard Time zone (local Arizona time).



## SATURDAY 5/30/26

### Saturday Events and Grad Fair

**9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Solana FGH and Cira AB)**  
Kick off Commencement Weekend at the UAGC

Saturday Events, a dynamic, all-in-one celebration that brings together graduates, programs, partners, and campus communities. Throughout the morning, you can explore the Grad Fair, connect with campus teams, and access resources for your next chapter, network with employers at the Career Fair, participate in early check-in to prepare for Sunday's ceremony, enjoy photo opportunities, purchase UAGC gear, and more!

### Featured Experiences within the Grad Fair include:

#### Golden Key Honor Society Service Event

Support the [Angel Heart Pajama Project](#) by donating a new or gently used children's book, new pajamas (sizes Medium to 2XL most needed), or a new cuddle pillow.

#### Meet your Faculty

Reconnect with the instructors who supported your journey. Take photos, share your appreciation, and reflect on what's next.

For the full schedule of Saturday events and activities, see pag3.

### Discount Rattlers Tickets

**5 p.m. - 7 p.m. (Desert Diamond Arena)**

Graduates and Guests can purchase special discounted tickets to enjoy the Arizona Rattlers vs. Northern Arizona Wranglers Indoor Football League game at Desert Diamond Arena. Seats feature excellent sightlines, oversized leather reserved seating, a VIP entrance, and private restrooms. Availability is limited—be sure to secure your tickets soon!



## Honors Regalia for High Achievers

Congratulations to our graduates for their outstanding academic achievements! For those still completing coursework ahead of commencement weekend, degrees will be reviewed approximately three weeks prior to the ceremony to determine eligibility for University honors. Graduates who meet the criteria at that time will be recognized during the ceremony with temporary honors and will receive the appropriate regalia at check-in.

This recognition includes both honor society members and graduates earning University distinctions such as Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, or Summa Cum Laude. There is no additional cost for honors regalia for previously inducted honor society members, and while new memberships cannot be initiated during commencement weekend, all final honors earned will be officially reflected on your University transcript.

## Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

UAGC is excited to celebrate our doctoral graduates! The hooding ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 30, from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Doctoral graduates will have the opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments with friends and family and will be hooded by academic leadership and doctoral faculty to mark the completion of their doctoral journey. This is an invitation-only event for doctoral graduates, family, and friends. Doctoral graduates are also invited to attend the Commencement Ceremony.

## Early Check-in

To cut down on long lines and wait times during Sunday's check-in process from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., graduates attending Saturday's events are highly encouraged to participate in early check-in for Sunday's ceremony. You will receive your stage card and any applicable honors regalia.

## Get Your Picture Taken with UAGC Academic Leadership

Don't miss your chance to have your picture taken with Dr. Frank Dooley, Special Advisor for Online Initiatives, and others!

**Saturday, May 30**

**10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. (Location - Hallway)**

**11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Location - Hallway)**



EVENT	TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
Ceremony Early Check-in	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Check in early for the Sunday ceremony to get your regalia and Grad Roll card.	Solana E
Campus Store	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Stock up on all your favorite UAGC gear!	Solana E
The Commencement Group	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Pick up or purchase your UAGC Flowers/T-shirts/Kukui Nut Leis.	Solana E
Jostens Graduation Keepsakes	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Purchase keepsakes to commemorate this momentous event.	Solana E
Career Fair	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Launch your next chapter at the Career Fair, where graduates can connect with a dynamic mix of local and national employers recruiting for degree-level career roles. Dress to impress and be ready to network. Professional attire such as a blazer or collared shirt is encouraged. After making valuable connections, stop by for a professional headshot to use on your LinkedIn profile. Be sure to visit Career Services & Alumni Relations and Graduate Enrollment to explore career support, advanced education opportunities, and ways to stay engaged with the UAGC community beyond graduation.	Solana ABCD
Next Destination Survey at the Career Fair	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Tell us where you are after graduation by completing the Next Destination Survey. Whether you're finalizing your plans or still exploring what's next, your experience helps tell the full story of UAGC graduates. The first 500 graduates who show proof of completion, or complete the survey at our booth, will receive a UAGC tote bag.	Solana ABCD
Military Appreciation	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Military-connected graduates and family members are welcome for a high-energy celebration of your journey, your impact, and what comes next!	Cira AB
Honor Societies	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Celebrate your academic excellence and connect with fellow high-achieving graduates at the Honor Societies space. Don't forget to have your picture taken next to your Honor Society gonfalon!	Solana FGH
CHAMPS Peer Mentoring	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Come and see how the CHAMPS Peer Mentoring program builds meaningful connections that support success and lifelong community. Celebrate your journey and explore ways to stay connected as a mentor or leader beyond graduation.	Solana FGH
Honors Program	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	UAGC Honors students don't just earn distinction—they demonstrate leadership, creative problem-solving, global awareness, and civic responsibility that changes institutions and communities. Join us in celebrating graduates who've proven that rigorous thinking and meaningful action aren't separate, and reflect on how your Honors experience prepared you to shape what comes next.	Solana FGH
Strategic Partnerships	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Learn how earning an associate degree from accredited Arizona college or university could save you money on a bachelor's degree from UAGC.	Solana FGH
Early Childhood Education Club	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Early Childhood Students and Early Childhood Club Members! Come celebrate the passion and dedication of graduates in the Early Childhood Education Program who are shaping the future of education. Stop by to connect, reflect, and honor the meaningful impact you are making in the lives of children and families.	Solana FGH
Golden Key Service Event	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Bring gently used or new children's books, new pairs of pajamas (Medium - 2XL are most needed), or new cuddle pillows, to benefit the <a href="#">Angel Heart Pajama Project</a> , a nonprofit providing these items to children who are abandoned, abused, or removed from homes and placed in foster care or live in homeless shelters in Southern Arizona.	Solana FGH
Cap Decorating	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Bring your graduation cap so you can decorate it and personalize it for the big event!	Solana FGH

**Stay connected! #UAGCgrad26**

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#) for up-to-date information, contests, and more.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
**GLOBAL CAMPUS**

## Commencement Ceremony Parking

On Sunday, May 31, Lots G and J, on the east side of the Desert Diamond Arena, will open at 7 a.m. for graduates and guests to park. Parking will be a \$15 charge, cards only. Once you have parked your vehicle, guests can proceed to Gate 4 and graduates to Gate 7. For families staying in hotels in close proximity to the Arena, guests still enter at Gate 4, and graduates can enter at Gate 7.

An accessible drop off area for graduates with pre-arranged accommodations or who experience mobility challenges will be available along the east side of Desert Diamond Arena on Sunrise Blvd. Graduates can then proceed directly to Gate 7. Then your party may proceed to parking lots G or J.

NOTE: Traffic to and from the event can be very congested. Please take this into consideration when planning travel arrangements. It could take 30 minutes to an hour to exit the lot after the ceremony. For up to date road conditions, click [here](#).

## Accommodations and Accessibility

Graduates requesting accommodation(s) for a disability should contact the Office of Student Access and Wellness at [access@uagc.edu](mailto:access@uagc.edu) a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the ceremony in order to ensure all requests may be met. Accessible seating areas will be designated for guests who need them. Please have guests arrive early to ensure access to these seating areas.

## Saturday, May 30 - Parking

Beginning at 9 a.m. graduates can make their way to the Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel and Conference Center. There is parking available at the hotel.

## Sunday, May 31 - Ceremony Planning

### TICKETING

Tickets will not be issued for the commencement. Instead, we will offer open seating. Seating at the Desert Diamond Arena will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

### RIDESHARE INFORMATION

For arrivals and departures throughout Commencement Weekend please ensure pick-up and drop-off locations are at the Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel and Spa.

### DESERT DIAMOND ARENA BAG POLICY

Crossbodies, clutches, wristlets, and wallets are allowed as long as they are no larger than 12" x 12" x 6". Exceptions will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection, including but not limited to oxygen tanks, diabetes kits, allergy pens, etc.

### PROHIBITED ITEMS

Balloons, signs, banners, or flags of any kind will not be permitted.

### WATER BOTTLE POLICY

Factory sealed water bottles, no larger than 17 ounces, are allowed inside the arena. No personal water bottles are permitted.

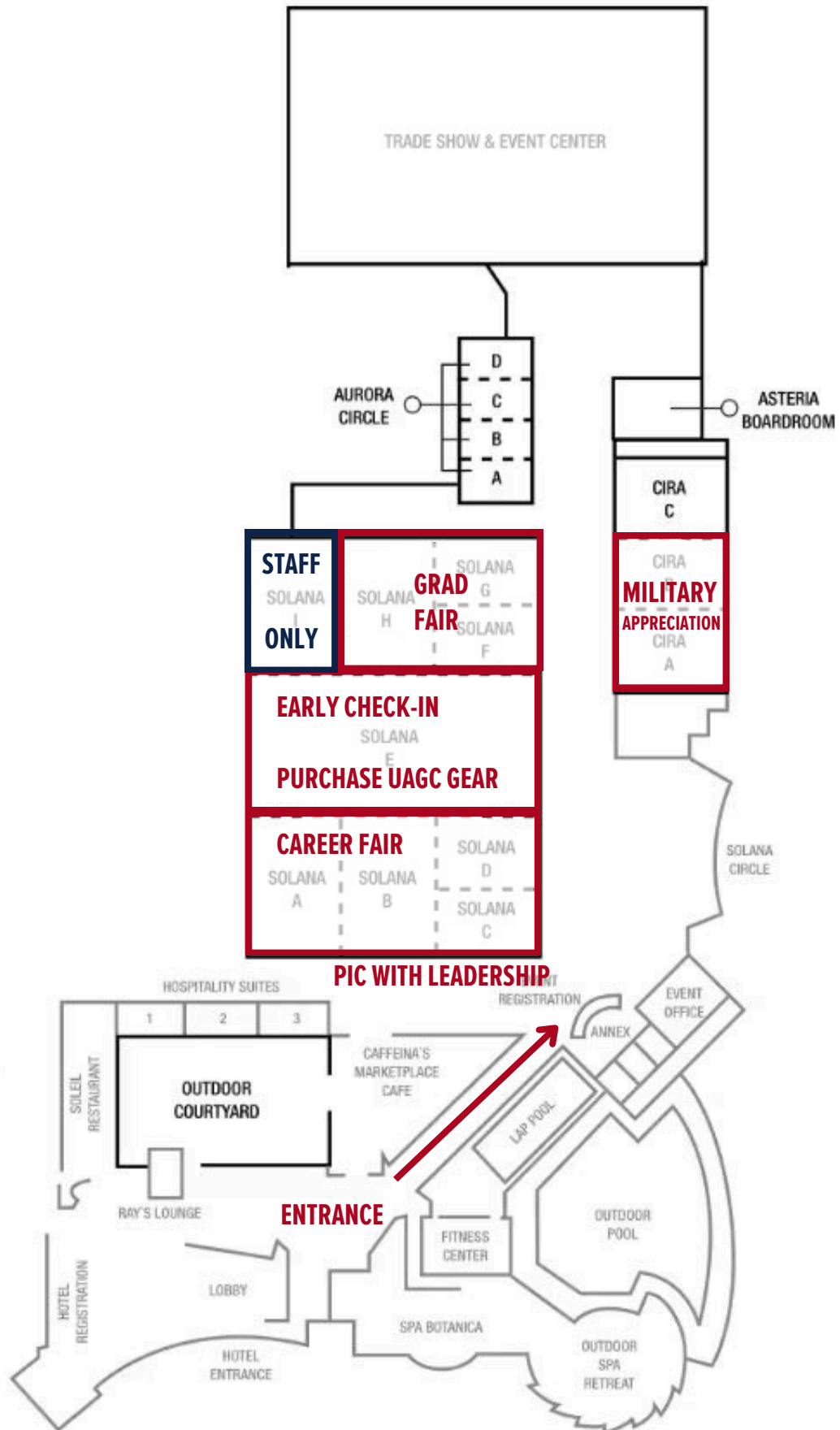
### DESERT DIAMOND ARENA PROTOCOL

Children are not allowed in the graduate staging area or on the Arena floor. All children must be accompanied by an adult. UAGC will be unable to provide any childcare services.

# You've earned it!

Congratulations to the Spring 2026 UAGC graduates!

# Saturday, May 30 Events Map



# How to Enjoy the Commencement Ceremony

## Crossing the Stage

This is your moment! Our goal is to get each graduate in attendance across the stage quickly and safely. Your goal is to follow directions and celebrate! When it is your turn, you'll rise and file to either side of the stage and up the ramps. On the way, you'll have your commencement portrait taken. Once on the stage, you'll hand your Grad Roll card (provided at check-in) to a UAGC representative. Your name will be announced over the loudspeakers and it will appear on the screen at the Desert Diamond Arena. You'll then proceed to shake hands with UAGC Leadership. You'll then exit the stage from the center staircase and proceed back to your original seat.

**Please note: Diplomas will not be issued at the ceremony. Diplomas will be ordered and mailed to your address on file upon completion of all degree requirements and payment of any outstanding balance due to the University.**

## Get Your Grad Fit On (Appropriate Attire)

Yes, you're wearing a robe, but you'll look great if you are thoughtful about what you wear underneath. Consider wearing appropriate business attire, such as dresses, skirts, dress slacks, dress shirts, neckties, etc., but be mindful of the temperatures in and outside the arena. Consider wearing comfortable shoes. You may be standing for long periods of time or walking some distance. Mortar boards (caps) should be worn with the point above the nose and flat so the square part is level. Master's degree candidates should have their tassels on the left side. Bachelor's degree candidates should have their tassels on the right side.

## Photography and Video

Professional photographers will be documenting your experience. Pre-register for your Graduation Ceremony photos! Receive a coupon for 20% off your entire order when you pre-register before graduation day at <https://www.gradimages.com/Preregistration>. Graduates and guests may take photographs during the ceremonies from their seats but are prohibited from taking photos in the aisles or blocking the sight lines of other guests for long periods of time.

## Accessibility

The UAGC is committed to creating an accessible environment and welcomes the participation of all graduates and guests. Graduates requesting accommodation for a disability should contact the Office of Student Access and Wellness at [access@uagc.edu](mailto:access@uagc.edu). Accessible seating is available for guests and graduates. Guests must be able to reach their seats without staff support. There are elevators throughout the Desert Diamond Arena.

## Captioning and ASL Interpreting

The Commencement Ceremony and Doctoral Hooding Ceremony will be live captioned on a video monitor. American Sign Language Interpreters will be present for the Sunday Commencement Ceremony. Requests for interpreting services for the Saturday Events should be sent to [access@uagc.edu](mailto:access@uagc.edu) at least two weeks prior to the Commencement Weekend.

## UAGC Swag and Gear

Items from the University of Arizona Campus Store, Commencement Group, and Jostens will be available on Saturday and Sunday at both the Renaissance and the Desert Diamond Arena.

# Sunday, May 31 Commencement Map

## Lot G

Parking

## Gate 7

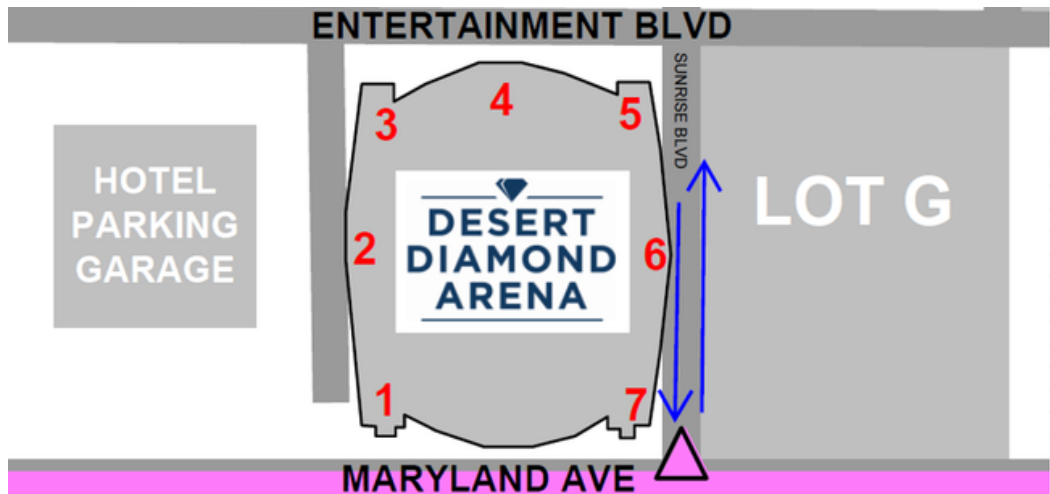
Graduate Entrance

## Gate 4

Guest Entrance

## Sunrise Blvd

ADA Drop-Off



Please reach out to [graduation.information@uagc.edu](mailto:graduation.information@uagc.edu) with any questions.

## Discounted Hotel Rooms

A limited number of discounted rooms are available at surrounding hotels. Reserve yours [here](#).

## First Aid and Medical Assistance

Emergency Medical Services will be on site.

## Live Broadcast

The ceremony will be broadcast live. The link can be found online at [uagc.edu/student-experience/graduation](http://uagc.edu/student-experience/graduation).

## Things To Do in Glendale, Arizona

Wondering what to do or where to eat while you are in Glendale for the weekend? [visitglendale.com/things-to-do/](http://visitglendale.com/things-to-do/) has everything you need to know to make your stay in Glendale a great one. From the website, you can find a list of attractions, restaurants, or activities to keep you busy.

## Questions?

We hope this newsletter answers a lot of your questions. Visit [uagc.edu/student-experience/graduation](http://uagc.edu/student-experience/graduation) for more details on traveling to Glendale, local hotel information, and much more.

If you have any questions or concerns, email [graduation.information@uagc.edu](mailto:graduation.information@uagc.edu).

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