



# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## Spring 2023 SSW Commencement



SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023  
1:30pm  
The Power Center for Performing Arts  
(121 Fletcher St. Ann Arbor, MI 48109)



**There is no rehearsal. It is important that graduates plan to arrive at The Power Center at 12:30 pm** to receive instructions and be assembled in ample time for the procession. **Graduates should enter The Power Center – Rehearsal Hall from the upper level of the parking ramp door.** Here they will gather to robe, receive a name card for the announcement of your name and photographer's use, get instructions on where to go for the group photo, and to assemble in alphabetical order for the procession. **Students must submit an RSVP for all guests who plan to attend the ceremony (see below).**

**The main entrance doors to The Power Center will not be open until 12:30 pm** and seating for guests will begin at 12:30 pm. Guest seating will be on the main floor, as well as in the balcony. Should your guests need assistance/direction with seating, please have them speak with one of the ushers. Approximate length of program/ceremony: 1 hour and 30 mins.

**NOTE:** *Please inform family and friends to remain seated in the auditorium until after the recessional and the platform party, faculty and all of the graduates have exited the auditorium. After the ceremony, you should plan to have your family and friends meet you at a designated area outdoors or in the main lobby away from the doors to the auditorium so that guests can exit the auditorium in a timely manner.*

**STUDENT GUEST RSVP:** *EACH GUEST MUST SHOW AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION or A PRINTOUT OF THE REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION TO ENTER THE POWER CENTER AUDITORIUM.*

Each MSW graduate may have up to seven (7) guests for SSW Spring Commencement. Please register your guests, family, or friends planning to attend the SSW ceremony by listing their full name below. Registration is required. **The registration confirmation will serve as an event ticket to enter Power Center auditorium, so be sure to forward a copy of the registration confirmation to each of your guests or print a copy to give to them.**

**SSW RECEPTION:** Light refreshments will be available immediately following the Commencement ceremony. The reception will be held in The Power Center Lobby

**MASKING POLICY:** Commencement will operate in conjunction with the current [University masking policy](#) allowing masks to be optional. All students, faculty, and staff must complete the [ResponsiBLUE](#) screening prior to entering campus buildings. Guests must complete the [ResponsiBlue](#) guest screening.

**LIVESTREAM:** The School of Social Work Commencement will be livestreamed on the [SSW website](#) for individuals who do not plan to attend the ceremony in person. Graduates who will not be attending commencement in-person will have their name read and a slide with their photo shown during commencement and via the livestream. Graduates were asked to complete a form to indicate their plan to attend in-person. **We**

**cannot guarantee a slide will be included for students who do not inform us of their plan to NOT attend in-person by April 10, 2023. Please email [ssw.graduation@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.graduation@umich.edu) asap if you have questions.**

**PARKING FOR THE CEREMONY:** The Fletcher street parking structure located at 201 Fletcher Street will also be open to the public for parking at no charge. The Thayer street parking structure located at 216 S. Thayer Street will be open to the public for parking at no charge. Handicap parking is available in both structures. For driving directions & campus maps: <https://campusinfo.umich.edu/campusmap>

**NAME IN PROGRAM & COMMENCEMENT WEBSITE:** All April 2023 graduates who applied for graduation by **April 1, 2023** will have their name in the commencement program and on the commencement website. If you have questions or concerns email [ssw.graduation@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.graduation@umich.edu).

**GRADUATION ATTIRE:** All degree candidates who participate in Commencement must wear academic attire. Graduation attire consists of a Masters gown, Masters hood, cap & tassel. The Masters gown has a different sleeve style than the bachelor's gown. The hood is an academic cowl worn by master and doctoral graduates. If you have a black mortarboard cap of your own, it is acceptable to wear. The colors of the hood & tassel differ based on the particular college/school within the University.

The Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management has a limited number of caps, gowns and hoods that have been donated by previous graduates for students to borrow. **Beginning Monday, March 20, 2023**, graduates may stop by the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management, Room 1748 SSWB, to borrow attire on a first-come first-served basis. NOTE: Students will need to purchase their own tassel, as we do not have these available to borrow.

If you have questions/concerns about graduation attire, email [ssw.graduation@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.graduation@umich.edu).

If preferred, students may purchase their own attire for approximately \$83 for a complete set. Items may also be purchased separately. **Be sure to ask for the "Social Work" hood and tassel.** The color of the tassel is "citron."

Attire is available for purchase at the following locations:

**Michigan Union Barnes & Noble** - 530 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

**Pierpont Commons Barnes & Noble** – 2101 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI 48109

**Herff Jones** will also be making an online purchase option available in early March. More information will be emailed to graduates.

## **CORDS**

The SSW provides all students social justice service cords to honor the work each student completes. Individual pathways do not have distinct individual cords. Some specialty scholar programs may choose to purchase cords on an individual basis apart from the SSW-provided cords. The SSW also does not give specific recognitions for GPA including magna cum laude or summa cum laude.

## **RETURN OF BORROWED ATTIRE OR DONATION OF GRADUATION ATTIRE:**

Graduation attire borrowed from the SSW **must be returned to the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management no later than May 26, 2023.** For graduates' convenience, a drop off box will be available in the graduate robing area at Hill Auditorium and outside the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management on the day of commencement to drop off your attire immediately following the ceremony/reception. **Be sure to attach a note with your name, so we know you returned your attire.**

**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING ALL OR PART OF YOUR GRADUATION ATTIRE** for the use of future graduates if you purchase your attire. You can put it the drop off box with a note or bring it by the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management during regular office hours.

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** A photographer will be available to take individual pictures as graduates cross the stage at the SSW ceremony. Photo instructions will be emailed to graduates prior to commencement. A proof and order card will be emailed to each graduate following commencement. Purchase is optional. Graduates who do not receive a photo proof within two (2) weeks of the ceremony should contact: Graduation Foto, Toll Free: (800) 482-0321, Telephone: (734) 677-3400, Fax: (734) 677-3208, Email: [cs@apmphoto.com](mailto:cs@apmphoto.com)

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Graduating students who have a concern or special need in relation to access to the Power Center and stage, please contact the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management at [ssw.graduation@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.graduation@umich.edu), 1748 SSWB, as soon as possible. NOTE: We will have sign language interpreters at the ceremony and there is ample handicap seating for family/guests.

**UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT:** The University of Michigan will hold a campus level commencement on Saturday, April 29, 2023 (10am) at Michigan Stadium. MSW graduates are welcome to attend this event as well. More information can be found at: <https://commencement.umich.edu/ceremony-venue-details/spring-commencement/>

**DIPLOMA:** The University provides a free standard size (8 ½" x 11") diploma to each MSW graduate. Diploma covers are not provided to students. The diploma is mailed to the graduate's permanent address or one specified on the diploma application which the graduate completes through Wolverine Access. Diplomas **are not prepared** by the University of Michigan Records/Diploma Department and a guaranteed delivery schedule is not possible. Diplomas will be mailed by the University Registrar's Office within four months of graduation. For more information on diplomas, check out the University Registrar's Web site: <https://ro.umich.edu/graduation/diplomas>

**COMPUTING SERVICES AFTER GRADUATION:** Graduating students will no longer be able to use some U-M computing services after they officially graduate (approx. 4-6 weeks after the term ends). **It is important to review details at** <https://its.umich.edu/accounts-access/leaving/graduating-students>. All U-M alumni may use email forwarding at no charge for as long as they choose. Alumni also will maintain the use of their Google Apps UMich email and calendar.

**NOTE:** April graduates will be deleted from School of Social Work official listserves by the end of June 2023.

**LOAN REPAYMENT/PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS INFO:** Student borrowers in federal loan programs are required to complete online [Exit Counseling](#) when they graduate, leave school or drop below half-time enrollment. Students may also be eligible for the [Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program](#). Contact Cerise Carrington, Assistant Director of Financial Aid ([cmcar@umich.edu](mailto:cmcar@umich.edu)) with questions regarding loan repayment and loan forgiveness information.

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK CAREER CENTER:** The School of Social Work's Career Center, 1696 School Social Work Building, assists students and alumni with their job search process, resume/cover letter reviews and social work licensure questions. Licensure test preparation software is available to help students and alumni study for licensure exams. Please call (734) 763-6259 or email [ssw-cso@umich.edu](mailto:ssw-cso@umich.edu) to schedule an appointment. Join us on [LinkedIn](#).

**UNIVERSITY CAREER CENTER:** The University Career Center, 3200 Student Activities Bldg., offers services and resources to aid in the career exploration and job search process for UM students in every academic discipline. Their work often involves collaboration with academic units, employers and alumni/ae. Graduate students are encouraged to take advantage of every resource offered by The Career Center. Their Reference Letter Center can help you manage your reference letters, whether they are used for job applications, admission for advanced education or other purposes. Check out their website at: [careercenter.umich.edu/](http://careercenter.umich.edu/)

**Contact the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management if you have questions about commencement:**

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- Email: [ssw.msw.info@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.msw.info@umich.edu)
- Phone: 734) 936-0961 (please leave a message)
- Chat: You can access our Chat by going to our webpage at [ssw.umich.edu](http://ssw.umich.edu) and clicking on the 'Chat with Student Services' button in the lower right corner.

**Watch your email for updates!**

*Congratulations and Best Wishes!*