Dear JD Class of 2024,

Welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable break. I write now with additional Commencement information. Please review the following carefully.

**Graduation Ticket Packet.** We expect to begin graduation ticket packet pickup next week. You must complete the following requirements before you are able to pick up your graduation packet in the Student Affairs suite. Before you pick up your packet, you must:

- Complete the **Post-Graduate Employment Certification**.
  - Each year, all graduating 3Ls must provide their Post-Graduate Employment Certification prior to graduation. The information gathered in this report helps us support both current and future students and is required for the Law School’s mandatory reporting to the American Bar Association. To complete the certification, log into Symplicity. This link will take you directly to the Symplicity certification link. Please contact OCS for assistance if you forgot your password or have difficulty logging on. You must submit this certification before you pick up your packet and no later than May 15, 2024.

- Record your name via **Name Coach**.
  - You will soon receive an individualized link from NameCoach asking you to record a pronunciation of your name as you would like it announced at graduation. You must submit this recording before you pick up your packet and no later than April 15, 2024.

- Complete the **Graduation Events RSVP form**.
  - You must complete this RSVP form before you pick up your graduation packet so that it will include the correct number of tickets you need.

**Children.** Graduates are welcome to invite their young child(ren) to walk with them on stage when they receive their diploma. If you are interested in this, please complete this survey by May 1.

**University Commencement Brochure.** The University has created the attached Commencement 2025 brochure that covers many important details about the University’s ceremony on the morning of May 20. Please review carefully and share with your guests if you plan to participate in the University’s ceremony.

**Post-Graduation Resources.** To help you keep track of the various deadlines and tasks to complete before Commencement, we have gathered all of the information in one place for you on the Student Affairs Commencement page. If you’re looking for more information to help ease your transition from law student to graduate (e.g., alumni resources, campus access, etc.), check out the “Preparing for Life After Sansom Street” drop down tab.
Recap of Important Dates:

- Complete your degree application by March 15. This deadline is set by the University Registrar – not the Law School – and we do not have flexibility to extend it. If you intend to graduate, you must complete this application by today to remain on the May 2024 graduation list.
- Penn Bookstore Grad Fair for in-person regalia ordering is March 20-22.
- Online regalia orders must be placed by March 31.
- Indicate interest in having your child accompany you on stage by May 1.
- Complete the ABA-Required Graduate Employment Certification before picking up your graduation ticket packet and no later than May 15.

Previously communicated Commencement information is updated and pasted below for your convenience, and all graduation communication and planning information is on our graduation page.

Best,
Felicia

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Law School Commencement. The Law School’s Commencement ceremony is on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 3:00pm at the Academy of Music. Each graduating student will automatically receive four tickets to the Law School Commencement ceremony. Graduates do not need a ticket. Tickets, invitations, and the rest of your graduation packet will be available in early April. Additional tickets will be made available through a waitlist that will begin mid-April. The ceremony will also be livestreamed.

Law School Reception. You and your guests are invited to a Graduation Reception on Sunday, May 19, 2024 from 2:00-4:30pm (note this new extended end time) at the Law School. You may request as many tickets as you need for this reception. Tickets will be available when you pick up your graduation packets in April.

Regalia. Caps, gowns, and hoods are not required at the Law School’s Commencement. However, if you would like to order regalia, it is handled through the Penn Bookstore – not the Law School – in two ways:

- Grad Fair. The Penn Bookstore’s annual Grad Fair is March 20-22, 2024. You can order and receive your regalia during these dates on-site at the Bookstore, and Bookstore staff will be available to answer questions. Regalia will be available at the Bookstore after Grad Fair but with limited sizing and options.
- Direct Shipping. You can order your regalia online and have it shipped directly to you for a fee (scroll to the bottom of the page to click the Law School specific link). You must place your order by March 31, 2024 to receive your regalia by Commencement.

If you cannot place your order using either of these two methods, please contact the Bookstore at
215-898-7595 or email capandgown@upenn.edu. Student Affairs cannot answer individual regalia ordering questions. When ordering regalia, please ensure you have a hood with a purple band. The purple band indicates a Law graduate. JD graduates should choose the “Traditional Doctoral Package” but can also order a tam in lieu of a mortar board cap if preferred.

Candidate List. Complete your degree application by March 15. This deadline is set by the University Registrar – not the Law School – and we do not have flexibility to extend it. If you intend to graduate, you must complete this application by today to remain on the May 2024 graduation list.

University of Pennsylvania Commencement. The University-wide Commencement Ceremony is also on May 20 at 10:15 am at Franklin Field. You can find more information about the University’s graduation programming here.

Accommodations. As you might expect, graduation is a very busy time for Philadelphia. Please make travel and lodging arrangements as soon as possible. You can find a list of Penn-preferred accommodations here, some of which have Penn discounted rates. You might also find it helpful to review Penn’s visitor planning guide here.