Commencement Preview/Parking Info

VFTH

4/28/22

Anchor Intro: WKU is gearing up for commencement one week from tonight at Houchens LT Smith Stadium. That will be followed by individual college recognition ceremonies at E.A. Diddle Arena throughout the day on Friday May 6th.

Amy Bingham breaks down the schedule as well parking and traffic information in this week’s View from the Hill.

NO STANDUP

Supers:

Rachel Goodman \ Director, Campus & Community Events

Jace Lux \ Director, Media Relations

[www.wku.edu/commencement](http://www.wku.edu/commencement)

PKG

Traditional commencement activities are returning to the hill for the first time in three years.

5:35 “It’s almost like you dust off your play book from 2019 and then add the things you learned from 2021 when we celebrated last year.”

The Topper Walk will kick off the festivities on Thursday May 5th at 6:30. This year, graduates will be seated on the field rather than in the stands.

6:22 “Two thousand students on a football field just has a feel to it so we are going to use that from 2021 and do it again this year.”

There’s another reason this year’s events have an added layer of significant.

2:55ish “Not only are we recognizing our spring and summer ’22 graduates but this will also be an opportunity to appropriately recognize those fall ’21 graduates whose recognition ceremonies were unfortunately disrupted.”

While Thursday is the official conferring of degrees for the Class of 2022, Friday begins a full day of college recognition ceremonies…marking the first time those have been held on a weekday.

1:06 “There’s going to be a significant uptick in traffic which is great for us but for folks going to work on a Friday morning, our first ceremony starts at eight am.”

Goodman says a lot of planning has gone into how best to utilize the university’s various parking structures to ease the traffic flow.

3:48. “The idea is that the exit doesn’t interfere with the entrance into the structure. Hopefully that’s what we’ve mapped out.”

Guests are encouraged to visit the commencement website, wku dot edu forward slash commencement for detailed parking plans specific to each ceremony. It will even be updated throughout the day next Friday.

5:08 “If a parking lot you were planning on going to is being used for another ceremony it will direct you to the right spot. Those live updates are going to be huge.”

Up to six shuttles will be running on Friday for the recognition ceremonies.

Thursday night’s activities will go on rain and shine and will also include a return to the Big Red Bash following commencement.

3:45 “We will have a celebratory toast on the south lawn, we will have food trucks and other venders, we will have music by a group called Music City Sounds and we will culminate with a fireworks celebration.”

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

Anchor TAG

The full commencement schedule and up to date parking information can be found at wku dot edu forward slash commencement and click on the tab that says Directions and Parking.

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