



**TRUMAN**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

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**FALL 2023**  
**COMMENCEMENT**

**Saturday, December 16, 2023**  
**11:00 a.m.**  
**Pershing Arena**

# FALL 2023 COMMENCEMENT

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF GRADUATES

To commence is “to begin,” or “to start.” At the end of their college journey, our students begin a new chapter of their lives, as educated citizens who will protect our democracy and offer creative solutions to local, state, national and global problems.

Commencement is arguably the most exciting time of the academic year, if not of a student’s entire college journey. The Commencement ceremony celebrates the achievements of Truman State University students and honors the accomplishments of distinguished speakers and guests. Here are a few items that might be helpful as you plan your trip to Kirksville!

## Schedule of the Day

10:00 Family and friends may start arriving at Pershing Arena. Guests are encouraged to use the main Arena Entrance on the west side of the building and to park in the parking lots on South Franklin directly west of Pershing Building and the General Services Building and south of Patterson Street. Guests needing handicapped parking may park on the east side of Pershing and enter the east entrance in order to utilize the elevator if needed. The doors will be unlocked promptly at 10:00 and there will be staff handing out programs in the arena.

10:00 Degree Candidates should be arriving to Pershing through the east doors and will gather by the HES Department area. The east doors will open at 9:00 a.m. for degree candidates.

10:30 Faculty arrive via the east doors and rank is closed by the Grand Marshal.

10:50 The Processional begins moving towards Pershing Arena. Please do not block or interfere with the processional.

10:55 The Processional enters Pershing Arena. We ask that everyone stand as the candidates enter the arena. Our faculty will form two lines and greet the students as they enter the staging area. Once the faculty has moved to their seats, the President will begin the ceremony.

11:00 Commencement Ceremony

When the ceremony has concluded, we ask that everyone remains in their seats until the students have exited the arena. Once students have exited the arena, guests are welcome to leave and meet up with their graduate(s).

## Disability Accommodations

If disability accommodations (e.g., signing (ASL), wheelchair access) are required for guests, your graduate needs to contact the Disability Services Office by completing the Disability Seating Accommodation request at <https://disabilityservices.truman.edu/> as soon as possible and no later than 5:00pm on December 12th. There will be no wheelchairs available to use in Pershing Arena. Guests requiring wheelchairs should bring them.

The handicapped parking and entrance are located on the east side of Pershing Building. An elevator is accessible through the east entrance.

# Parking

Parking will be available in the parking lots on South Franklin Street directly west of Pershing Building and the General Services Building and south of Patterson Street.

# Seating

There is NO reserved seating for guests. The doors to Pershing Arena open at 10:00 a.m. for family seating on a first-come, first-seated basis. Guests should enter Pershing through the Arena Entrance on the southwest side of the Pershing Building.

# Broadcast of Commencement

Truman State University's Public Relations Department will live stream the Commencement Ceremony on Truman's YouTube Channel and Facebook page. A link to the live stream will also appear on the [Truman website](#).

# Lodging Accommodations

Baymount by Wyndham Inn & Suites .....	(660) 627-1100
Brashear House Bed & Breakfast .....	(660) 349-8213
Budget Host Village Inn .....	(660) 665-3722
Country Club Inn and Suites .....	(660) 665-8826
Days Inn .....	(660) 665-8244
Depot Inns and Suites (La Plata) .....	(660) 332-4669
Hampton Inn .....	(660) 956-4686
Holiday Inn Express .....	(660) 956-4682
Knights Inn .....	(660) 665-8352
Quality Inn .....	(660) 665-2205
Thousand Hills Lakeside Cabins.....	(660) 665-7119

For accommodations outside of the Kirksville area, please use this link for more information. <http://www.visitkirksville.com/stay/#hotels-motels>.

## Dining Out

Visit <http://www.visitkirksville.com/eat/> on the official Kirksville website for a list of the restaurants and diners in Kirksville and the surrounding areas.

## Useful Websites

Kirksville Chamber  
of Commerce  
Visit Kirksville  
Truman Bookstore

<http://www.kirksvillechamber.com/>  
<http://www.visitkirksville.com/>  
<https://www.bkstr.com/trumanstatestore>

## Questions

Please contact the Registrar's Office, McClain Hall 104, [registrar@truman.edu](mailto:registrar@truman.edu), or (660) 785-4143, with any questions concerning Commencement.