There is no rehearsal. It is important that graduates plan to arrive at Hill Auditorium between 8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. to receive instructions and be assembled in ample time for the procession. Upon arrival, go to the lower level where you will gather to robe, complete a name card for the announcement of your name, as well as one for the photographer’s use, get instructions on where to go for the group photo, and to assemble in alphabetical order for the procession. Tickets are not required for the SSW ceremony.

Graduates should not wear their Masters hood. Hoods should be carried over the left arm. As part of the ceremony, you will be “hooded” (the Masters hood placed over your head) by one of our Hooders. Your tassel should be on the right. The Marshals will give you further instructions and assemble you for the procession. Plan to leave any valuables with family and/or friends prior to the ceremony.

The entrance doors to the Hill Auditorium will not open until 8:30 a.m. and seating for guests will begin at 8:30 a.m. Guest seating will be on the main floor. 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 15 minutes.

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 in the main lobby away from the doors to the auditorium so that guests can exit the auditorium in a timely manner.

RECEPTION: Light refreshment will be available at the Michigan League Ballroom (2nd Floor) immediately following the Commencement Ceremony.

GRADUATION APPLICATION/APPLY FOR GRADUATION: If you have not already completed your graduation application via Wolverine Access, you should do so immediately by logging into Wolverine Access - click on Student Business and then click on “Apply for Graduation” and follow the instructions.

NAME IN PROGRAM: You must submit your graduation application (see above) no later than November 19, 2018 if you want your name to appear in the SSW commencement program. If you submit your application to graduate after November 19th, then your name will not appear in the SSW commencement program.

Contact the SSW Registrar’s Office (ssw.registrar@umich.edu) with any questions regarding your eligibility for graduation.

UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY: The University holds a Winter Commencement Program, which all December graduates are invited to attend. The ceremony will be held Sunday, December 16, 2018 (2pm) at Crisler Center. Tickets are
not required and seating is general admission. Please refer to the [U-M Commencement webpage](https://umcommencement.umich.edu/) for further information.

**GRADUATION ATTIRE:** All degree candidates who participate in Commencement must wear academic attire. Academic attire is available for purchase from the following local bookstores:

- **Barnes and Noble North Campus**
  - 2101 Bonisteel Blvd.
  - (734) 668-6022

- **Ulrich’s Bookstore**
  - 1200 South University Avenue
  - (734) 662-3201

Graduation attire consists of a Masters gown, Masters hood, cap & tassel at a cost of $83.00 for the complete set. Items may also be purchased separately. 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. **Be sure to ask for the “Social Work” hood and tassel.** The color of the tassel is “citron.”

The Office of Student Services has a limited number of caps, gowns and hoods that have been donated by previous graduates for students to borrow. **Beginning Monday, November 12, 2018** graduates may stop by the Office of Student Services, 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.

**RETURN OF BORROWED ATTIRE OR DONATION OF GRADUATION ATTIRE:**
Graduation attire borrowed from the SSW **must be returned to the Office of Student Services no later than January 14, 2019.** For graduates' convenience, a drop off box will be available in the graduate robing area at Hill Auditorium on the day of commencement to drop off your attire immediately following the ceremony. **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 during regular office hours.

**GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Graduation announcements may be purchased at 1) Michigan Union Bookstore or Ulrich’s Bookstore – contact stores directly. Personalized announcements must be ordered in advance. 2) Jostens – visit their website at [college.jostens.com](http://college.jostens.com) or contact customer service at 800.854.7464.

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** A photographer will be available to take individual pictures as graduates cross the stage at the SSW ceremony. Description/mailing address cards will be distributed to all graduates when they arrive at the Hill Auditorium graduate robing area. These yellow cards will be collected from each graduate just prior to going up on stage. 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

**PARKING FOR THE CEREMONY & RECEPTION:** The Thayer street parking structure located at 216 S. Thayer Street will be open to the public for parking at no charge. The Fletcher street parking structure located at 201 Fletcher Street will also be open to the public for parking at no charge. Handicap parking is available in both structures. There is also metered parking available on side streets near Hill Auditorium. For driving directions & campus maps: [https://campusinfo.umich.edu/campusmap](https://campusinfo.umich.edu/campusmap)
ACCESSIBILITY: Graduating students who have a concern or special need in relation to access to the Hill Auditorium and stage, please contact the Office of Student Services (ssw.msw.info@umich.edu), 1748 SSWB, as soon as possible. NOTE: We plan to have a Sign Language Interpreter available at the ceremony and there is ample handicap seating for family/guests.

DIPLOMA: The University provides a free standard size (8 ½” x 11”) diploma to each MSW graduate. 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: umich-regoff.custhelp.com and Search by Keyword: diplomas.

COMPUTING SERVICES AFTER GRADUATION: Graduating students will no longer be eligible for the BCP (Basic Computer Package) after they officially graduate (approx. 4-6 weeks after the term ends). At that time, if you wish to continue using the services provided via the BCP, you must subscribe to U-M Online. 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. See the following website for more information: itcs.umich.edu/leaving/graduating-students.php

NOTE: December graduates will be deleted from the MSW Official CTools site and ssw.msw@umich.edu e-mail group by mid-February 2019.

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 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/

Questions about commencement: Contact the Office of Student Services, ssw.msw.info@umich.edu, 1748 SSWB, phone: (734) 936-0961.

Watch your email for updates!

Congratulations and Best Wishes!!