



# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## Spring 2024 SSW Commencement



SATURDAY, May 4, 2024

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 Noon** 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 open at 12 Noon** and seating for guests will begin at 12 Noon. Guest seating will be on the main floor, as well as in the balcony. Guests that need accessible/special seating should plan to approach an usher at 12 Noon for assistance. 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.**

**Link:** <https://ssw.umich.edu/assets/rsvp-request/index.php?page=register&id=W697>

Each MSW graduate may have up to five (5) guests for SSW Spring Commencement. Please register your guests, family, or friends planning to attend the SSW ceremony by **March 15, 2024**. 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.** Following March 15<sup>th</sup>, students may reach out to [ssw.graduation@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.graduation@umich.edu) to request additional guest registrations, if needed, which will be granted in April if space is available.

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

**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. Captioning will be available. 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 will be 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**

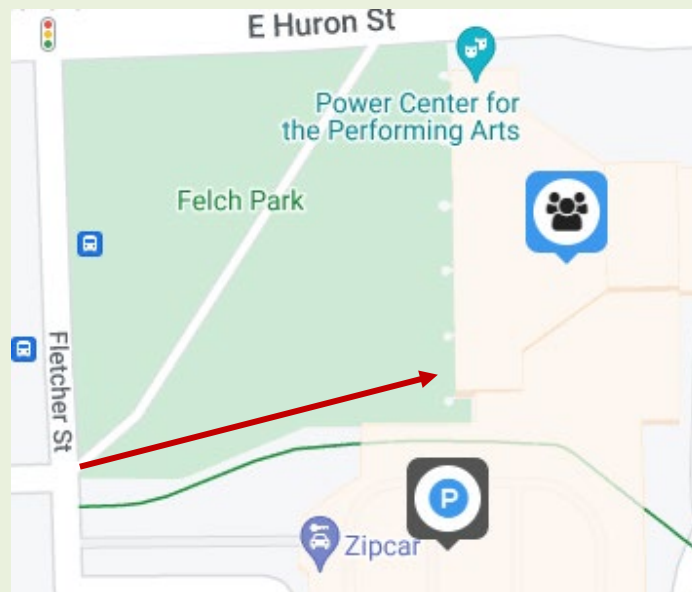
**their plan to NOT attend in-person by April 7, 2024. Please email [ssw.graduation@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.graduation@umich.edu) asap if you have questions.**

**TRAVEL FOR THE CEREMONY:** Check the local [Visitors' Bureau website](#) for hotel information. It is advisable to make reservations as early as possible due to the wider University ceremony held the same day. 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>

**ACCESSIBILITY:** The University of Michigan School of Social Work strives to ensure that all graduates and guests can participate fully in commencement. Graduating students who have a concern or special need in relation to access (wheelchair use, difficulty navigating steps, require other support services, etc.) to the Power Center, please contact the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management at [ssw.graduation@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.graduation@umich.edu) by **April 7th, 2024**.

### Mobility

Graduates and guests with special mobility needs can be dropped on Fletcher Street near the sidewalk leading up to main entrance to The Power Center. Guests will then be guided to accessible seating or the student robing room. There is ample accessible seating for family/guests.



### Real-Time Captioning and Sign Language

Real-time captioning is available for those with hearing impairments. In addition, a sign language interpreter will be present during the ceremony.

**NAME IN PROGRAM & COMMENCEMENT WEBSITE:** All May 2024 graduates who applied for graduation by **April 7, 2024** 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 masters caps, gowns and hoods that have been donated by previous graduates for students to borrow. **Beginning Monday, April 8th, 2024** 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. Students will need to be present to try on attire as it is height specific. NOTE: Students will need to purchase their own tassel, as we do not have these available to borrow.

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**- See flyer attached to email

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

### **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 June 1, 2024.** For graduates’ convenience, a drop off box will be available in the graduate robing area at the Power Center 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. A ‘Commencement Name Card & Graduation Foto Information’ card will be available for each graduate when they arrive in the Power Center graduate robing area. The QR code for photos will be on the back side of your name card. You will need to use the photographer QR code to electronically fill out your information so the photographer can identify, contact you, and send you the proofs for possible purchase. Photo instructions will be emailed to graduates prior to commencement. There is no obligation to purchase the pictures. 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)

**UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT:** The University of Michigan will hold a campus level commencement on Saturday, May 4th, 2024 (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:** May graduates will be deleted from School of Social Work official listserves by the end of June 2024.

**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:**

- 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!*