

FINAL INSTRUCTIONS TO Ph.D. CANDIDATES

Before finding your assigned space in the marshaling area, take a moment to decide with your family/guests where you will meet at the conclusion of the Convocation.

Please turn off or mute all cell phones and noise producing electronic devices before the ceremony.

Only candidates wearing **academic regalia** will be eligible to process.

Overview

- Please find your location in the marshaling area no later than 9:30 a.m. for the prompt start of the convocation.
- Follow the directions of the marshals during the processional.
- At the appropriate time, you will be directed by the marshals to move to the stage to have your name called, be hooded, and be greeted by the Dean.
- As you approach the stage, have your name card ready in your right hand.
- Place the hood over your **right** arm with the neck portion on the inside and the velvet trim toward your hand. Make certain that the strap across the back of your hood **is not buttoned**.
- Present your name card to the marshal at the top of the stairs.
- Move directly toward center stage to be hooded.
 - As you approach the hooding area, extend your arm. **Do not attempt to assist the hooder by handing him/her the hood.** After the hood has been lifted from your arm, turn and face the audience.
- The hood will be placed over your head. As soon as the hood is in position, continue across the stage and acknowledge the Dean. **Please wait until you are offstage to shake hands with, or hug, your advisor.**
- Exit the stage using the ramp at the opposite side of the stage. After leaving the stage, return to your seat.
- At the conclusion of the Convocation, please remain in your seat until the platform party exits. There will not be a formal recessional for graduates.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The School of Graduate Studies and the entire Rutgers community are extremely proud to share this very special day with you, your family, and friends.