Commencement Assembly and Directions – Students should enter the Alerus Center through Door #6 on the east side of the building. Report to the Ballroom between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. Remember your cap and gown. Official academic apparel is required. We urge you to purchase your regalia in advance, but the University Bookstore will be available on site to assist with last-minute needs. Your mortar board should be worn flat on your head, parallel to the floor. Undergraduate students should wear their tassels on the right side and move tassels to the left when instructed to do so. Graduate students should wear them on the left and leave them in that position. The procession will leave the Ballroom at 1:20 p.m. and enter the Arena promptly at 1:30 p.m.

Family members and other guests should enter the Alerus Center through the main entrance, Door #1, located on the southeast corner of the building which is the entrance closest to the elevator and to the seating area. The doors to general seating in the arena open at noon.

Posed Photographs - The University has contracted the services of a professional photographer to take a picture of you receiving your diploma scroll from President Schafer. All graduates will have an opportunity to pose for a photograph before the ceremony. This posed photo is optional, but is encouraged to ensure a high quality photo. A few weeks after the ceremony, information and a PIN number will be sent to your official UND campus e-mail address. At that time, you may order pictures online using your PIN number. Visit www.twetensphotography.com for more information about your commencement photographer and to view samples of his work.

Seating Diagram and Stage Instructions - On the reverse side of this sheet, you will find a diagram showing the Alerus Center arena floor seating arrangement for the commencement ceremony. Colleges seated on the right side of the floor will approach the stage from the right and those seated on the left side will approach from the left. After receiving your diploma scroll from your dean and shaking hands with President Schafer at center stage, all graduates will return to their seats using a center-stage ramp. Degrees will be listed by college in the program you receive at the Alerus Center. This will guide your family and friends to the correct section of seating where you will be seated.

Wheelchairs for Guests – Wheelchair seating is very limited so call 701-777-2731 in advance to reserve space. If you would like to use a wheelchair from the Alerus Center, call 777-2731 to reserve one.

Parking at the Alerus Center – Please consider carpooling with friends or family members. Parking at the Alerus Center is free.

Live Television Broadcast and Webcast - On Saturday, May 14, at 12:30 p.m., a pre-commencement program will be aired. The program will include music by the UND Wind Ensemble, and interviews with students and guests. This will be shown on the large video boards in the Alerus Arena and broadcast live on Cable Channel 3.

The General Commencement ceremony will be broadcast live on Grand Forks Cable Channel 3. Guests who cannot attend the ceremony at the Alerus Center or who would rather watch from the comfort of their own homes or hotel rooms in the Grand Cities area may do so by tuning in to Cable Channel 3. The ceremony will be rebroadcast on Channel 3 May 17-20 at 12 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The ceremony will also be Webcast. Log on to www.und.edu on May 14 to find the Commencement ceremony link.

For More Complete Information - More complete information on the 2016 Commencement is available on the UND home page. Go to www.und.edu and search for commencement on the A-Z index or go directly to www.und.edu/commencement.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Office of Ceremonies and University Events at (701) 777-6393.