Commencement 2022 & Alumni Ceremony

Yale's Commencement is around the corner for 2022 graduates, and for the Alumni Ceremony for 2020 and 2021 grads! We've compiled a few reminders and important links for our international students that will be participating.

Alumni Ceremony for 2020 & 2021 Graduates

Yale is delighted to invite all 2020 graduates to return to campus with family and friends May 13 to 15, 2022. Some schools will also invite their 2021 graduates to return. A traditional university ceremony for Yale College, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, and all professional schools will take place on Old Campus on Saturday morning, May 14, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. Please bookmark Yale's Commencement website [1] for all details regarding the ceremony, and be in touch with your school directly regarding school-specific plans.

Visa Letter

For many international students who are no longer in the U.S., you will not be able to return on your F-1 or J-1 student visa and will need to apply for a B-2 tourist visa. While you may not need it in your visa application, OISS has prepared a letter confirming the commencement ceremony will be taking place. You are welcome to download the letter [2] and use it at your visa appointment.

In order to access the letter, you must log in with your Yale NetID and password. If you have forgotten your NetID password, you can reset it using the Forgot Your NetID Password function. [3]

Copy of Yale Diploma

You may be required to show a copy of your Yale Diploma when applying for your U.S. visa. Review these instructions [4] on how to request a certified copy of your diploma.

Visa Processing Times

Visa processing times vary depending on your location and unfortunately, many places are still experiencing delays. Keep an eye on visa processing times through the U.S. State Department's website [5], and be sure to apply as early as possible once you've made your travel plans.

COVID-19

The university continues to monitor developments in the COVID-19 pandemic. Plans for Commencement remain subject to change based on developments locally, statewide, and nationally, as well as changes in university policy. More detailed information can be found on the university's COVID-19 website [6]. Please also review the international travel COVID-19 resources [7] that Yale has compiled, including vaccination requirements.
Commencement for 2022 Graduates

Yale’s 321st commencement will be held on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. on the historic Old Campus. Monday’s ceremony marks the occasion at which all university and honorary degrees are formally conferred. Diploma ceremonies follow the university ceremony in all residential colleges and at each school. In addition to the university ceremony, Yale College, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and each professional school schedule events over the course of Commencement Weekend. These events usually take place on Saturday and Sunday. A host of public performances and events are also offered on campus throughout the weekend. Follow Yale’s Commencement website [8] for further details.

Visa Letter for Family Members

While not usually required, if your family members are planning to travel to the U.S. and need a confirmation letter of your graduation to support their visa applications, please be in touch with your school's registrar.