

## FAQs for iam Graduations

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### **Do we have to wear robes?**

You do not have to wear the robes to graduate although most people do so and is part of the atmosphere of the day.

### **What should I wear?**

Smart casual dress is the standard dress code. The colours of the hood are red and blue, so try and avoid clashing; the robes themselves are black. The robes and hood are quite heavy and need something to cling to at the front – jacket / fitted blouse with a button / heavy top that it could be pinned to. They are also quite warm, so don't wear too much underneath and be too hot.

### **What should my family and guests wear?**

There are no formal dress codes for guests, so please wear what feels comfortable

### **I invited 6 people, am I likely to be allowed that many? And when will I know?**

We guarantee to seat 2 guests per Graduand. Please feel free to request as many additional places as you wish and – subject to capacity – we will inform you as soon as possible how many guests you can bring.

### **Why do we have to be there so long before the ceremony?**

All Graduands need to be robed and (most) photographed. With so many Graduands, at several minutes per photo this means some people have to be there 2 or 3 hours before to ensure we can fit everyone in. Many Graduands arrive early anyway as they want the time to see old friends from when they were studying. We ask those who live the nearest to arrive first, as it is quicker for them to get there, whilst those who have some distance to travel are asked to be there later on. Once you have been robed and photographed, there may be time to go into Central London. If your family is not going to be in the pictures, they do not need to arrive until the ceremony begins.

### **Are there any hotels nearby that you can recommend?**

The best thing to do is look on one of the 'late' booking hotel websites. There are often very reasonable weekend deals. The Royal Overseas League is very well situated and there are many affordable hotels in the vicinity.

Example Websites:

[www.Laterooms.com](http://www.Laterooms.com)

[www.Lastminute.com](http://www.Lastminute.com)

### **What is the price for children?**

Children under the age of 12 can attend free of charge but children over 12 are required to pay for their place.

### Is there anywhere to get anything to eat?

The Royal Overseas League is right in the heart of London, and there are many shops and cafés nearby.

### Special Requirement

If you have any special requirements e.g. disabilities, food allergies etc please email Liz Harris at [liz.harris@instam.org](mailto:liz.harris@instam.org) so that we can make provisions for you.

### What should I do if I am unable to attend the Graduation or if I am running late?

If you are unable to attend then please let us know as soon as possible. If on the day, you are unable to attend or are running late by a reasonable time, then please call the Royal Overseas League on +44 (0)20 7408 0214 and ask for a message to be passed to Liz Harris. This will make sure that we understand that you are either not able to attend or we can make sure that the ceremony does not start without you.

### How to get to the Royal Overseas League?

**By Tube:** take any of the following tube lines to Green Park (Piccadilly, Jubilee or Victoria), take the exit marked Buckingham Palace which is the first exit on the left, once outside continue down the street past the Ritz Hotel turning right into Arlington Street. At the end of Arlington Street there are some steps, take the steps down to the bottom, and the ROSL is just on your right.

**By Bus:** buses stop outside Green Park tube station on Piccadilly, numbers 8, 9, 14, 19, 22 and 38, running west to Hyde Park Corner, Victoria and Knightsbridge, and east to Piccadilly Circus and Holborn.

**By car** - coming west on A4 (Piccadilly), turn right into Duke Street St James's, right again into King Street, and again into St James's Street, left into Park Place to Over-Seas House.

By car - coming from east on Pall Mall and up St James's Street.  
Alternative parking in the NCP Car Park, Arlington Street, SW1A 1RA





If you require further information on any of the events, then please contact Liz Harris at [liz.harris@instam.org](mailto:liz.harris@instam.org)