

ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE

Graduation 2026 - Frequently Asked Questions

- Do I have to book a place to attend the graduation ceremony?

Yes. All students must have responded to an official invite in order for them and their guests to attend.

- When and how will I receive my invitation? How do I respond to my invitation?

You will receive an invitation via email, within this you will receive a link to book your place and guest tickets. If you have not received an invitation, please email Registry@rad.org.uk or Alumni@rad.org.uk to confirm your current email address and request the invitation be re-sent.

- How much does it cost to attend?

The ceremony is free to attend for graduands. However, please note that you may need to hire academic gowns – please see below for more information on [dress code](#). Should you wish to have guests attend the ceremony, their tickets will cost £43 each for adults and £17 for children aged 12 or under.

- Are friends and family permitted to attend the ceremony?

Your invitation will detail how to book and pay for guest tickets. Please note that due to the number of graduands being invited, you will only be able to bring **two guests**.

After the deadline for students to register their attendance has passed, we will contact those that have noted an interest in additional tickets with further information should there be seats available.

Any queries about guest tickets can be sent to Registry@rad.org.uk or Alumni@rad.org.uk.

- In what language is the Ceremony conducted?

The ceremony will be delivered entirely in English.

- Can graduates defer coming to graduation beyond 2026?

Graduates are not allowed to defer their attendance to their graduation ceremony beyond 2026.

- How long will the ceremony last?

The ceremony should last no longer than 100 minutes.

- Is there late admittance to the graduation ceremony?

We cannot accept graduates into the ceremony after the start time.

- Is there a dress code?

Your invitation will indicate if you will be required to wear academic dress. Those that need academic dress will be able to hire or purchase this from Ede and Ravenscroft whilst also securing their own ticket to the ceremony.

If you are not required to wear academic dress, you should be dressed smartly for the event. If you would like to wear your National/Regional Dress we would be delighted for you to represent your country/region in this way.

We recommend wearing smart and comfortable shoes as students must be able to walk unassisted up and down stairs. Should you have access needs, please contact Alumni@rad.org.uk as soon as possible so accommodations can be made.

- Will there be a guest speaker/programme of events?

A programme for the ceremony is yet to be announced.

- Will there be any photos or recordings of the ceremony that I can access?

We will not be recording the ceremony. We will have professional photographers available on the day to take photos prior to your ceremony and during the ceremony as you process across the stage.

Students and guests are not allowed to take photos or films during the ceremony. We encourage students to record their experience of the day in other areas of the venue.

- When can I get my photograph taken?

Our photographers will be taking photos at the venue prior to the ceremony. You do not need to book a slot for this, however please be aware that there may be a substantial queue. Faculty of Education staff will be available to direct you to the photo stations.

- Will the ceremony be live-streamed? If so, where can I watch it?

We currently do not have plans to live-stream the ceremony.

- When will I receive my certificate?

Those in attendance will receive their certificates on the day. Those who are unable to attend will have theirs posted to them at a later date.

- Is there anything else happening the week of Graduation?

There are currently plans for a special day at the RAD Headquarters to celebrate the graduands on **Tuesday 15 September**, the day following the Graduation Ceremony. More details will be shared in due course.