

# Commencement 2013

The 42nd annual UIS commencement ceremony was held on May 11, 2013, at the Prairie Capital Convention Center (The Center) in downtown Springfield, Illinois.



- [Commencement Highlights Video](#)
- [Commencement Time Lapse Video](#)

Purchase [DVD of complete ceremony](#)

Watch [2013 Commencement Highlights on Demand](#)

“We want to not only reflect on the outside but also within our soul. After four years of reflection and application, UIS has helped shaped me into the woman I stand to be today.”

Jinger Sanders, Class of 2013

*Remarks to Fellow Graduates*

## From the UIS Newsroom:

The UIS Commencement speaker will be UIS alumna and award-winning journalist Kathy Best, managing editor at *The Seattle Times* since 2007. [Read more »](#)

- [Hundreds of UIS students celebrate during 42nd Commencement](#)



- Graduating this weekend? Celebrate the occasion by using a [Facebook cover photo](#) we've made especially for you!

## Social:

- [Grad 2013 on Facebook](#)
- Use [#UISedu on Twitter](#)

## Commencement Letters:

- [Commencement Letter #1](#) (pdf)
- [Commencement Letter #2](#) (pdf)
- [Commencement Letter #3](#) (pdf)

## 2013 Media

Purchase [DVD of the complete ceremony](#)

Watch [2013 Commencement Highlights on Demand](#)

Archives [Photos and Stories from 2013 Ceremony](#)

### Social

[Grad 2013 on Facebook](#)

Use [#UISedu on Twitter](#)

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## About Commencement 2013

The 42nd UIS commencement ceremony was held on May 11, 2013, at 2pm, at the **Prairie Capital Convention Center** in downtown Springfield, 9th and Adams streets. See our [Visitors](#) page for directions and information for out of town guests.

- [Speakers and Marshals](#)
  - [Distance Viewing](#)
  - [Tickets](#)
  - [Schedule of Events](#)
- 

## Speakers and Marshals

### Commencement Address

The Seattle Times Managing Editor, **Kathleen Best**

## Speakers

Board of Trustees Representative, **Karen Hasara**

University President, **Robert A. Easter**

UIS Chancellor, **Susan J. Koch**

Student Speaker, **Jinger G. Sanders**

Alumni Association Representative, **Donovan Pepper**

## Marshals



Each year, the faculty and students from each academic program choose a graduating student to serve as program marshal. These students, who best exemplify the goals and spirit of their programs, are identifiable at the ceremony by the gold stoles they wear.

The grand marshal who leads the commencement procession is a faculty member, chosen each year by a vote of his or her colleagues.

- **Professor Keith Miller, Computer Science**
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## Distance viewing



The ceremony will be [webcast live](#) on the UIS website.

- [Download the order form](#) (pdf) to purchase a DVD of the ceremony.
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## Tickets

Tickets are not required for admission into the ceremony.

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## Commencement Week Schedule of Events

Check back here frequently for updates.

\*Denotes by invitation-only

<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Contact</i>
<b>*All Sport Athletic Banquet</b> Friday, April 19, 2013	TRAC	6:30 p.m.	Lexi Kirschbaum (217) 206-7017
<b>*UIS Peoria Center Graduation Reception</b> Friday, May 3, 2013	Embassy Suites, East Peoria	6:30 p.m.	Rhonda Bussell (309) 999-4252 or <a href="mailto:bussell.rhonda@uis.edu">bussell.rhonda@uis.edu</a>
<b>*Beta Gamma Sigma Ceremony</b> Saturday, May 4, 2013	Brookens Auditorium	1:00 p.m.	Kelly Guerrero (217) 206-7872
<b>*Student Affairs Leadership Reception</b> Sunday, May 5, 2013	Sangamon Auditorium Lobby	2:00 p.m.	Cynthia Thompson (217) 206-6665
<b>Diversity Center and International Student Services Graduation Reception</b> Friday, May 10, 2013	SLB Multipurpose Room	4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Jeannie Capranica (217) 206-6584
<b>*College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Honors Ceremony</b> Friday, May 10, 2013	Brookens Auditorium	4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Keith Burton (217) 206-6512
<b>* College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Honors Reception</b> Friday, May 10, 2013	Brookens Concourse	5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Keith Burton (217) 206-6512
<b>*Political Science Reception</b> (Political Science majors and their parents/guests are invited) Friday, May 10, 2013	PAC C/D	5:30 p.m.	Nathan Franklin <a href="mailto:nfran3@uis.edu">nfran3@uis.edu</a>
<b>*CAP Honors Graduation Breakfast</b> Saturday, May 11, 2013	PAC Cafeteria	10:00 a.m. – Noon	Rowena Vail (217) 206-8462
<b>*Online Degree Graduation Brunch</b> Saturday, May 11, 2013	Sangamon Auditorium Lobby	10:00 a.m. – Noon	Carol Bloemer (217) 206-8379
<b>Commencement 2013</b> Saturday, May 11, 2013	Prairie Capital Convention Center	2:00 p.m.	Office of Records and Registration (217) 206-7730 or <a href="mailto:registrar@uis.edu">registrar@uis.edu</a>

More events to come...

\* Denotes by invitation only

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## Commencement Ceremony 2013

## **Processional**

Pomp and Circumstance Nos. I and IV by Elgar  
(Audience is asked to remain seated during the processional)  
Keith Miller, Grand Marshal\*  
Platform Party  
Faculty  
Students

## **Musical Selections**

Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key  
Illinois, Illinois by Archibald Johnson/Charles Chamberlin  
Performed by Denise Yates, 1996 and 1998 Alumna

## **Opening Remarks**

Susan J. Koch, Chancellor

## **Greetings from the University of Illinois Board of Trustees**

Karen Hasara, Trustee, 1972 and 1992 Alumna

## **Greetings from the President**

Robert A. Easter, President, University of Illinois

## **Introduction of Commencement Speaker**

Susan J. Koch, Chancellor

## **Commencement Address**

Kathleen Best, The Seattle Times Managing Editor, 1990 Alumna

## **Introduction of Student Commencement Speaker**

Timothy Barnett, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

## **Remarks to Fellow Graduates**

Jinger G. Sanders, Class of 2013

## **Presentation of Doctoral Degree Candidates**

Lynn Pardie, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

### **Conferring of Doctoral Degrees**

Robert A. Easter, President, University of Illinois

### **Presentation of Master's Degree Candidates**

Lynn Pardie, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

### **Conferring of Master's Degrees**

Robert A. Easter, President, University of Illinois

### **Presentation of Bachelor's Degree Candidates**

Lynn Pardie, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

### **Conferring of Bachelor's Degrees**

Robert A. Easter, President, University of Illinois

### **Presentation of Graduates**

(See "Student Walk Order" section for the sequence in which students will walk across the stage) \*\*

College of Business and Management  
College of Education and Human Services  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
College of Public Affairs and Administration

### **Induction into Alumni Association**

Donovan W. Pepper, Member, Board of Directors,  
University of Illinois Alumni Association, 1994 and 1996 Alumnus

### **Closing Remarks**

Susan J. Koch, Chancellor

### **Recessional**

Pomp and Circumstance Nos. I and IV by Elgar  
(Students and audience are asked to remain seated during the recessional)  
Keith Miller, Grand Marshal\*  
Platform Party

Faculty

\* Grand Marshal is an honorary title conferred each year on a professor by vote of the UIS faculty.

\*\* Graduates' names are read by Brian Mackey, WUIS Statehouse Reporter, and Tim Schweizer, Public Service Administrator, Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

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## Commencement Address - Kathy Best

Prepared Remarks  
University of Illinois Springfield  
May 11, 2013

*(Kathy takes out iPhone, holds it up. slowly turns and films the people seated behind her and the audience in front.)*

Thanks for indulging me. I didn't actually go to my own commencement, so want to be able to share this with my friends on social media.

But you know all about that.

20 years and two weeks ago, the World Wide Web was born. And you became the first generation to grow up with the world at your fingertips.

Starting with that big screen on your desk and graduating to smaller, faster and cooler devices, you took for granted that you could instantly, effortlessly establish connections across borders and time zones.

You could follow real-time revolution in Egypt. Join global chats on climate change or the latest cancer treatments. Get instant images from do-gooder friends building hospitals in Guatemala or houses in Haiti.

Of course, most of you didn't actually use your power that way. You LOL'd on Facebook with your all your friends when your cat coughed up a hairball. You personally added 400 You Tube views to Psy's Gangnam Style video. And you checked in with TMZ daily for the latest on Honey Boo Boo and Mama June.

Tell me, Class of 2013, is this really the way you want to use your power?

I understand that having instant access to almost infinite information can be terrifying.

When I was sent to Washington, D.C., as a summer vacation-relief reporter for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, I almost drowned. Not in the Potomac, but in the tidal wave of information generated hourly by all of those government agencies, all those Congressional offices and all those interest groups.

There was so much coming so fast that I couldn't keep up. I flailed in information overload. I didn't know how to choose. I couldn't focus. I questioned whether I was cut out to be a reporter. And I almost quit.

The only thing that saved me was my passion.

I loved telling stories. I loved connecting dots that others hadn't. I loved explaining complex topics with elegant clarity. I loved calling out hypocrites. Exposing poseurs. Knowing things first and spreading the news.

I loved being a journalist.

And I was lucky, because that lightning bolt struck while I was still in college. Granted, I'd been there a couple of years, moving from pre-med to English to political science and even stopping briefly at oceanography despite being a thousand miles from the nearest saltwater.

I hope that brilliant flash illuminating your life's calling already has happened for you. But if it hasn't, remember this: What you are getting today is a college degree, not a life sentence to do only what that diploma says. This should be the beginning of your quest, not the end.

My passion to make the world a better place by asking questions and telling stories gave me the courage, despite my dismal summer, to come back to Springfield — to the Statehouse press corps — and get better. I looked hard at what I had done successfully, looked even harder at what I really wanted to do and gave myself permission to do it.

The writer and mythologist Joseph Campbell called this “following your bliss.” If you could identify the thing you were most passionate about and give yourself over to its pursuit, he wrote, “you put yourself on a kind of track that has been there all the while, waiting for you, and the life you ought to be living is the one you are living.”

“Follow your bliss and don't be afraid,” he said. “and doors will open where you didn't know they were going to be.”

This is a lot harder than it sounds. You have student loans to pay back. You have parental expectations to meet. You live in a world that measures success by the size of your paycheck. You have boyfriends and girlfriends and children who see you without really knowing you. You want the security of a stable profession; the comfort of a place you know.

I get that. But at 56 looking back to 26 and 24 and 22, I can tell you that if you fail now to follow your passion, you'll walk right by some pretty damned interesting doors.



In my case, those doors led me from Sullivan, Ill., where my brother and nephew still run the family newspaper, to Springfield and St. Louis. Then Washington and Seattle. Then back across the country to Baltimore. And finally, back again to Seattle.

Yes, you could argue, this is evidence that I can't hold a job. But in taking those risks and following my passion, I have had some amazing adventures.

I've covered or edited stories about an historic flood on the Mississippi River, a 6.8 earthquake in Seattle, Hurricane Katrina's physical and social devastation, the revelation of a trillion-dollar boondoggle at the NSA. I've been inside the room in Washington, D.C., where the Supreme Court deliberates and twice at the table where Pulitzer Prize finalists are chosen. I've been to the far northwest tip of the continental U.S., where the Makah Indians held the first legal whale hunt in a century. And I've flown over snowy Iowa on a campaign plane singing Buddy Holly songs with other political reporters as we secretly hoped we would not share his fate.

I helped my newsrooms win some prizes along the way, including the first Pulitzer Prize for breaking news that specifically recognized real-time reporting using our website, Twitter and other digital tools to give frightened readers information about the hunt for a man who walked into a coffee shop and gunned down four police officers. I was the managing editor for digital news and innovation at the time, a job I took with very little Web experience but with a vehement belief that we needed to provide great journalism online to remain relevant – especially to readers like you who no longer get their information on dead trees.

I also met the man I love, following my passion for him across 3,000 miles to see where it would lead. We eloped to Italy, starting an adventure that continues today.

Frequent flyer miles are not a prerequisite for following Campbell's advice. Your passion may take you no farther than your own backyard. And that's OK.

The key is this: When you wake up each day, are you excited about what it may bring? When you come home each night, do you feel like you've made a difference? Because of the work you do, is the world a better place?

Technology has opened the world to you. The wisdom of the ages, once locked in libraries, can be accessed on your cell phone. And the experience of the crowd, once confined to your neighborhood, now extends around the globe.

Mine it. Own it. Follow your bliss.

As a very wise woman once told me, life is not a dress rehearsal.

When you walk out of this hall today and onto your global stage, know that this is it. Your one shot.

Give it everything you've got. Make sure, when the curtain comes down, that you're exhausted – that you've wrung every last drop of joy and wonder and pain and awe from life.

Find your passion. And live it.

Thank you.

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## **Remarks to Fellow Graduates - Jinger Sanders**

May 11, 2013

University of Illinois Springfield is a unique place, a place like no other. The second you walk onto campus you feel the genuine family like atmosphere. The campus is full of opportunity, passion, and excitement. Most importantly, the UIS campus is filled with faculty, administration, and peers that want to see you succeed. I came in as an eager 17 year old ready to embark on my college journey. It seems just like yesterday I was observing the madness of move-in day where upper classmen gingerly pushed carts of dorm room necessities to our rooms and distressed parents prepared to leave their child; it was all becoming real that this was my new home for the next 4 years. Then, a tornado came and I must say class of 2013 had the most exciting move-in day but, like that tornado, the class of 2013 took UIS by storm. We all started out trying to find our place, our purpose, our niche in the UIS community.

One of my favorite songs lyrically is Michael Jackson's "Man in the Mirror" and, as I entered UIS, I wanted to be great and I wanted to be change, but who was I? A 17 year old who wanted to take on the challenges of the world. Well, as the lyrics in the song state, I started with the person in the mirror. We want to not only reflect on the outside but also within our soul. After four years of reflection and application, UIS has helped shaped me into the woman I stand to be today.

Attending UIS has been one of my greatest opportunities. UIS allowed me to enhance my confidence, leadership, and character. This institution has been more than a stepping stone into the next chapter of my life but a place for personal and academic growth. I enjoyed the college experience of attending athletic events, being a Resident Assistant for Necessary Steps, and being a part of the Capital Scholars Honors Program. At UIS, we come together from different regions, cultures, and generations to share one classroom. In the case of UIS, that can be an online classroom, too. I was surrounded by peers with outstanding work ethic and drive. I love my institution. My most intricate role I served in while attending UIS was being the student rep to the UIAA Board of Directors Alumni Association. For 3 years, I was able to bridge the

gap between alumni and current students, establish the service program Uhelp, Ihelp, Springfield, and positively influence my peers.

Most importantly, I was able to see first-hand the love and pride alumni have for this institution. I was exposed to the outstanding individuals who once took the same steps I did and excelled. Not only do we belong to a world-class institution, we have alumni who value it. I am inspired when I see UIS alumni who continue to pour into this university. They made it possible for some of us to be where we are today. The giving back of alumni provides infinite opportunities for students whether financially or exposure to a future career. What we as a class need to take away is that giving back starts today. But don't get excited; I'm not talking about your check book—well, at least not yet! Because Sallie Mae has already called me! I'm talking about something more precious than money and that's time. Time is valuable because you cannot get it back. Invest time into our university just like this university invested in us. As we prepare to be phenomenal assets to society in various fields and careers, please remember the opportunities and exceptional education you attained at UIS. I ask that you reflect on the commitment that alumni and community members have for you and this institution and ponder how they have helped shape you into the individual you are today. I want the class of 2013 to hold this near and dear to our hearts and to stay connected to the community who nurtured us. Recall the significance of the history of our institution and our value to the future Prairie Stars. We must continue to build on this legacy to produce brilliant futures of those to come. I take pride in going forth as an alumni and knowing that I am a life-long member of the UIS family. I look forward to the positive progression the university will make in years to come. During our time here, we celebrated 40 years of excellence, but I predict 40 more years of brilliance because we have the resources, student passion, and leadership to take on anything. And, most importantly, UIS is Leadership lived and that does not stop today.

Congrats and God Bless Class of 2013!

*by Jinger Sanders*

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## Photos

Each year the University of Illinois Springfield celebrates the many outstanding students who earn degrees through stories, video and photographs of the commencement ceremony and commencement events.

- [Black Graduation Celebration](#)
- [Lavender Graduation](#)
- [CLAS Honors Ceremony](#)
- [CAP Honors Graduation Breakfast](#)
- [Online Degree Graduation Brunch](#)
- [Commencement Pre-Ceremony](#)
- [Commencement Ceremony](#)

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# Stories

- WICS-TV 20: Life After College for 2013 Grads
  - [SJR: Local, area colleges sending off graduates](#)
  - WICS-TV 20: Pomp and Circumstance for UIS Graduates
  - [SJR: Let passion be your guide, speaker tells UIS grads](#)
  - SJR: UIS Commencement
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# Information for UIS Faculty 2013

UIS held its 42nd Commencement Ceremony at the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, Illinois on May 11, 2013 at 2pm.



## Faculty Participation/Regalia

The **online Faculty Participation and Regalia form** is no longer available. The deadline to submit the online form was Thursday, February 28, 2013. If you indicated that you will be participating, commencement information will be sent to you prior to the ceremony.

## Parking

If you are a platform party or faculty member participating in the 2013 commencement ceremony, you will be allowed to park in the for the Sangamon County Parking Lot. The Sangamon County parking lot is located at the corner of 9th and Adams Streets with the entrance to the lot off Adams Street. **After 1:30 p.m. this lot will be open to the paying public.**

## Ceremony Information

Please plan to arrive in the Faculty Robing Room by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2013. The Faculty Robing Room will be located on the lower level of Prairie Capital Convention Center (The Center) in Room B11A.

Robe return will be down the hall in Room B11B.

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## Information for Students 2013

The 42nd UIS commencement ceremony was held on May 11, 2013, at 2pm, in the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, Illinois.

## Important Information for All Graduates

- Seating **Stars Marching!** – View a [Flash animation](#) of the procession plan for the ceremony.
- **Ceremony DVD**  
[Download the order form](#) to purchase a DVD of the ceremony. (pdf)
- **Ceremony PHOTOGRAPHS**  
Professional photography on commencement day will be provided by [GradImages](#). Questions regarding photographs following the ceremony should be addressed directly to GradImages.
- **Etiquette**  
Want to know the proper **etiquette** for Commencement? [Download the guide here](#). (pdf)
- **Student Speaker Application Information**  
–  
[Student Commencement Speaker Application](#) (pdf) – The deadline to submit an application form for 2013 was Friday, March 15. Information regarding this year’s student commencement speaker will be available soon.

## Commencement Letters

- [Commencement Letter #1](#) (pdf)
- [Commencement Letter #2](#) (pdf)
- [Commencement Letter #3](#) (pdf)

See the [Visitors section](#) of this website for information about special needs, distance viewing, tickets, events, directions, parking, hotels, and restaurants.

**Congratulations, Graduates!**

GradImages® will be photographing all graduates at the upcoming graduation ceremony. Visit our website, [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com), and click on the **Event Staff Registration**. Once you email and go to 5 events of local area who would like to share in your accomplishment by meeting and ordering your photos. By submitting your information to us early, you can see licensed photo samples will be quickly and conveniently provided to you and all others registered to view as they are available after the event.

**GET \$5 OFF** on orders of \$25 or more just by registering your information with us before your event!

For graduation order info or [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com) is call 800.261.1370. You can't order for GradImages® and capture your graduation!

**GRAD IMAGES**  
EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

The advertisement includes several photographs: a graduate in a cap and gown with an American flag, a group of graduates sitting on a stage, a graduate in a cap and gown, and a graduate in a cap and gown.

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## Graduate Salute Days

Graduate Salute days will be held:

- **March 28, 11:00 am – 7:00 pm**
- **March 29, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm**
- **March 30, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

## Caps, Gowns, and Announcements

You will be able to purchase your cap and gown during the upcoming Graduate Salute in the UIS Bookstore (located on the first floor of Founders Hall). Peoria students will be able to purchase their caps and gowns through the UIS Peoria Center. [Download more information.](#)

Without your cap and gown purchase, we will not know of your intent to participate. Therefore, you **MUST** purchase your cap and gown during Graduate Salute.

If you are making any other cap and gown arrangements (e.g., borrowing a black cap and gown from a friend), you **MUST** contact the Office of Records and Registration by emailing [registrar@uis.edu](mailto:registrar@uis.edu). **Please note that a \$25.00 late fee will be assessed to all students who order their cap and gown after March 30.**

## UIS Ring Program and Tradition

The Official Ring of the University of Illinois at Springfield symbolizes the educational values, heritage, and traditions of the University. The University of Illinois alumni family is united by rich traditions of loyalty, excellence, and service, and we invite you to help carry on this proud legacy through active participation in the UIS Ring Program.

The UIS Ring can be ordered by phone (866/225-3687) or online ([www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com)).

Balfour, the Official UIS Ring provider, will have representatives on campus during Graduate Salute to size and order rings in-person.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Graduation by calling (217) 206-7730 or by emailing [registrar@uis.edu](mailto:registrar@uis.edu).

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## Starting Your Affordable Legacy

It's easy to participate:

- Congratulations on the Brilliant Future ahead of you. As you go forward, please consider helping those who follow with your contributions to the UIS program of your choice. We have many wonderful giving opportunities available at any level of giving. For more information, please go to [www.uis.edu/development](http://www.uis.edu/development).
  - Or Call the Development Office at 217-206-6058.
  - Future graduates will thank you!
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# Welcome Visitors 2013

Welcome visitors, to our most cherished tradition.

The 42nd University of Illinois Springfield Commencement Ceremony will be held at the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, Illinois, May 11, 2013.

The Center is located in downtown Springfield at 9th and Adams streets.

- [Order a Video or DVD](#)
- [Special Needs](#)
- [Directions to the Center](#)
- [Parking](#)
- [Hotels](#)
- [Restaurants](#)

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## Order a Video or DVD

- [Download the order form](#) (pdf) to purchase a Video or DVD of the ceremony.

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## Special Needs

- **Guests** requiring special assistance should make arrangements in advance with Sarah Weaver by calling (217) 206-6666.
- Wheelchairs for transport will **not** be available at the PCCC.
- Graduating **students** who require special assistance should contact Darlene Harris-Kresse by calling (217) 206-8216.

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## Directions to the Center

The Center parking ramp is located at the corner of 7th and Washington streets.

Other special events are being held downtown on commencement day. Therefore, it is highly recommended that you allow extra time for heavy traffic and parking (parking information can be found below).

- **Coming from the SOUTH** on I-55 (St. Louis)  
Take the 6th St. Exit (#92) to Downtown Springfield. Stay on 6th St.; at Washington St. turn right. Go one (1) block.
- **Coming from the NORTH** on I-55 (Chicago)



Take the Clear Lake Avenue Exit (#98). Clear Lake Ave. merges with Jefferson St. Take a left on 7th St. Go one (1) block.

- **Coming from the EAST** on I-72 (Champaign)  
Continue straight ahead on Clear Lake Ave.; it will merge with Jefferson St. Take a left on 7th St. Go one (1) block.
- **Coming from the WEST** on I-72 (Jacksonville)  
Take the 6th St. Exit to Downtown Springfield. Stay on 6th St.; at Washington St. turn right. Go one (1) block.
- **Coming from the CAMPUS**  
Take 11th St. to 6th St. Turn right onto 6th St; at Washington St. turn right. Go one (1) block.

» [Map it with MapQuest](#)



» [Use Google Maps](#)



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## Downtown Parking

### Parking Ramps

- 7th & Adams – Located next to the Convention Center and Pres. A. Lincoln Hotel
- 7th & Monroe – Located next to Hilton Hotel
- 6th & Washington – Located below the Old State Capitol- Open 7am-7pm on weekdays, Sat. 7am-6pm, closed on Sun.
- 6th & Capital
- 4th & Washington- 24 hour access
- 7th & Monroe – Located below Lincoln Library
- Abraham Lincoln Museum – 7am – 7pm, Wed. night open until 10pm

### Parking Lots

- 4th & Washington
- 

## Downtown Hotels

The following hotels have agreed to extend discounted rates to family members and friends attending the UIS Commencement Ceremony. Please mention “UIS Commencement” when calling to make reservations.

- **Crowne Plaza**

3000 South Dirksen Pkwy  
Springfield, IL 62703  
877-227-6963

[Crowne Plaza Room Information/Rates](#)

- **Hilton Springfield**

700 East Adams  
Springfield, IL 62701  
217-789-1530

[Hilton Springfield Room Information/Rates](#)

- **Holiday Inn Express**

3050 South Dirksen Pkwy  
Springfield, IL 62703  
888-465-4329

[Holiday Inn Express Room Information/Rates](#)

- **The State House Inn – An Ascend Collection Hotel**

101 East Adams Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
217-528-5100

[The State House Inn Room Information/Rates](#)

- For additional **hotel** information please contact the Springfield Convention and Visitor's Bureau at (800) 545-7300.

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## Downtown Restaurants

- For detailed information about **restaurants** in Springfield please contact the Springfield Convention and Visitor's Bureau at (800) 545-7300.
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