

Student Commencement Speaker Application

Name: _____ T Number: _____

Major(s): _____ Oberlin Address: _____

Minor(s): _____ Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Applications must be received no later than **Monday, April 17, 2023** at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. This deadline is firm and late applications will not be accepted.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants must have applied for graduation.
- Applicants must be in good academic and conduct standing.
- By submitting this application all applicants commit to attend and participate fully in the commencement celebration on Monday, May 22, 2023 including a mandatory rehearsal TBD.
- By submitting this application, I agree to meet with the Commencement Class Speaker Search Committee to obtain guidance for the commencement speech delivery.

Deadlines:

- Email all completed application materials as a single PDF file to deanstu@oberlin.edu.
- Must submit a completed application packet by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, 2023**.

The Commencement Class Speaker Search Committee will conduct an initial screening and will collectively review and rank the applicants. The Committee expects to select a speaker and an alternate no later than May 1. You may direct questions to the deanstu@oberlin.edu.

Application Packet must include the following:

1. A brief introduction of the message and focus of your speech (include topic and key points).
2. A full draft of the speech; double-spaced (no bullet points). Please note that the commencement speech is limited to 5 minutes.
3. *A video via YouTube of yourself presenting your full commencement address (*Note: Please test the YouTube link before submitting*) **Submissions without a full video commencement address will not be considered.**
4. Your current resume. Please include your achievements, organizations, and activities you engage in at Oberlin College.

Topics to Consider While Writing Your Speech

- The transformative power of an Oberlin education.
- Information about your personal development and future outlook.
- How your personal experiences shaped your educational journey at Oberlin and developed a desire for you to want to make a change in the world.
- Include examples from collegiate life, course work, co-curricular involvement, service, peer and other relationships developed.

The speech should:

- Utilize sophisticated and inspiring, yet accessible, language.
- Appeal to and capture the attention of a broad audience.
- Include creative and appealing techniques such as metaphors, stories, quotes, or humor.
- Illuminate the universal experience of being a student.
- Be no more than five (5) minutes in length, or approximately 750 to 900 words.

Statement of Integrity

I verify that I am in good academic standing with Oberlin College and Conservatory and give permission to the Dean of Students Office to verify my status as part of the application process. I also certify that the information in this application is complete and accurate.

Applicant Name (printed)

Applicant Name (signature)

Date