



## Accessibility Information for Commencement Guests

### Parking, Entrances, and Tickets

There are **no special tickets** for those using wheelchairs or other assistive devices. Please be aware, even upon request, this office **does not reserve seating**.

The front doors of the ARENA will open approximately 90 minutes before the start of the event, so please plan on waiting in line if you arrive earlier.

The **accessible parking lot** is located on Cedar Street, from Elm Street. If the accessible parking lot is full, it would be best to drop off the person with an accessibility need, as well as a family member on Lake Avenue, nearest to the **front entrance**.

There will be **additional accessible parking** for those with a state issued accessible placard/license plate on either side of Chestnut Street (one-way street). From there you may walk to the **Accessible Entrance**, in the rear of the SNHU ARENA. Once inside the arena, section 116 is closest to this entrance, followed by 123/124. The elevator to the upper level is also near this entrance.



## Visual and Hearing Access

For anyone needing an FM system for assistance with **hearing** the event, check with the Accessibility Information table at the front entrance. Note that there will be giant monitors over the stage and hanging from the stadium roof, so that everyone will have visual access to the ceremony. **CART** (Real time **captioning**) can be viewed on the giant monitors for those with hearing impairments.

**American Sign Language Interpreters** will be present for the event. For best viewing of ASL, check with the Accessibility Information table for where to sit.

## Wheelchairs

If you or your family member is in need of a **wheelchair**, there are several options.

1. If your family member already has a wheelchair, they may use it in the SNHU ARENA.
2. Local companies for renting wheelchairs:  
[Charron Medical Equipment](#), Nashua, NH, 1-800-660-7221  
Martel's Self-Care Products, Allenstown, NH, 603-485-3490
3. Check in at the **Accessibility Information** table upon entering the main entrance and request assistance to the seating area. A SNHU ARENA staff member would transport your family member in a SNHU ARENA wheelchair to a seat in an accessible area. They then take the wheelchair back out for use with other attendees and return at the end to transport you or your family member to the front exit.

## Seating Types

The map below shows accessible areas for **wheelchair and walker platform seating**



with the wheelchair symbol: These areas have platforms for wheelchairs and several fixed seats for those who cannot descend several stairs, as well as **companion seating** nearby.

- For wheelchair platform seating, please *limit the number of people to two*: One with a disability and one companion. Those who cannot walk any stairs take priority for platform seating.
- Companion seating is available near the platforms.
- Accessibility Seating staff are available in each area to assist with seating for individuals with accessibility needs and their families
- Accessible and Companion seating will be held until 15 minutes after the start of the ceremony, at which point it will be available for general seating.

## Seating Locations

Section 101 is farthest from the stage, but it is closest to the front entrance and exit and within walking distance for most people. This area is mostly a large platform with a few companion chairs. Most of your family would need to sit in the adjacent “companion seating” sections (102 and 126), some of which will be reserved for this purpose (see SEATING TYPES above). The entrance to section 101 is on the same level as the main entrance and will have a large black curtain across, so that fewer

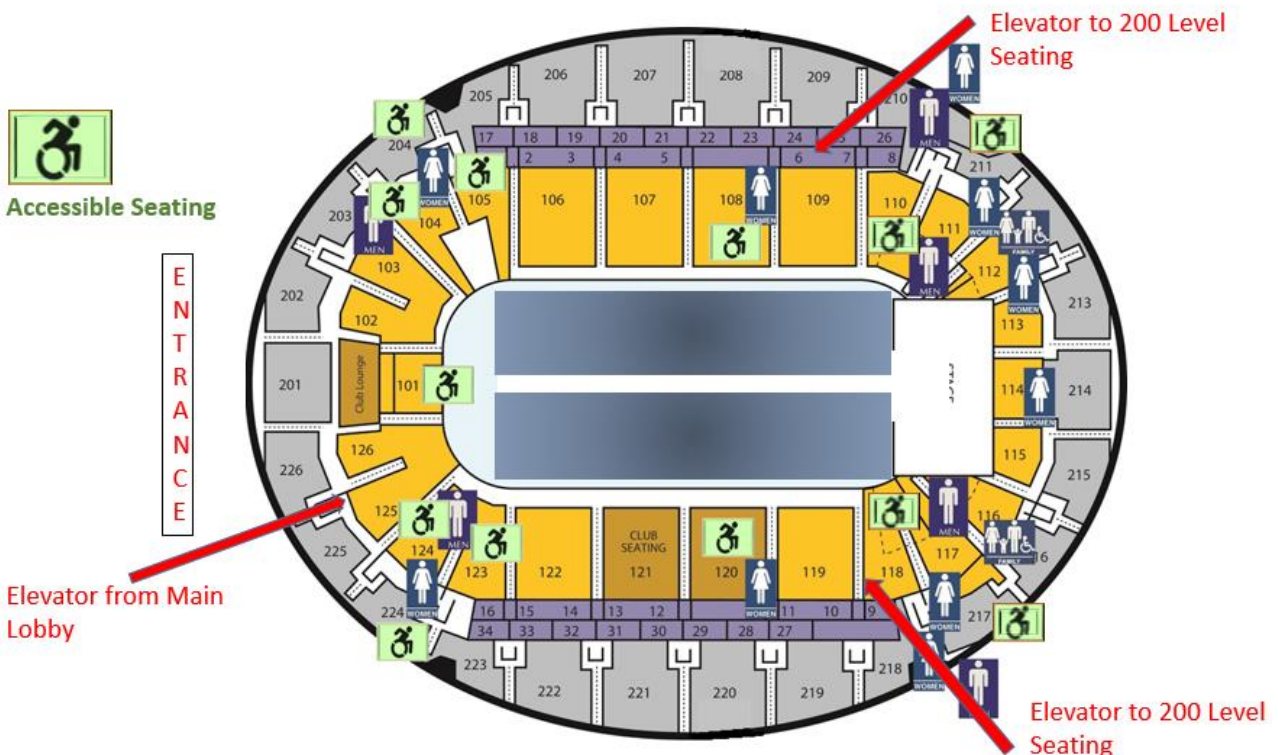
people will enter there. Simply speak with either the SNHU Arena staff or Accessible Seating Assistant in this section if you and a companion choose to sit here.

When entering through the main front entrance, **elevator access** to the first floor seating (sections 104/105, 108, 110/111, 117/118, 123/124) is to the right and is clearly marked on the map. There is also accessible seating on the upper level as well. Elevators to the second level are also marked on the map.

For **larger audience members** who have difficulty with the armrest spacing, there are folding chairs without armrests on the accessible platforms in sections 104/105, 108, 110/111, 117/118, 123/124. There are also seats at the top of each section usually in Row Q that have the aisle side arm removed.

For those needing an **electrical outlet** to plug in their personal oxygen machine for breathing assistance, the SNHU ARENA is equipped with electrical outlets at the accessible platforms (for wheelchairs and walkers) at sections 101 and 108.

The **Section 120 Accessible Platform** is reserved for VIP ticket holders only, until 10 minutes prior to the start of Commencement ceremonies. Accessible Seating Assistants reserve the right to seat guests in this section on a first come first serve basis.



Commencement Accessibility Services  
Southern New Hampshire University

[Stephanie Ames](#) - Campus Accessibility Center  
[Shannon Lockwood](#) - Online Accessibility Center