What is a hoder?

A hoder is the person or persons who place the doctoral hood over the graduate’s head at Commencement.

What is a hood?

A hood is a looped piece of fabric (or cowl) with colored trim and panels that signify the degree earned and the institution from which the degree has been earned.

The hood is one of three pieces that make up a full set of academic regalia for graduating medical students at the UVM Larner College of Medicine. Full regalia also includes a robe and tam (ceremonial hat).

How and when is a medical student hooded?

At the UVM Larner College of Medicine, graduating medical students are hooded as part of the Commencement Ceremony.

As each graduate’s name is called, they ascend the stage stairs with their hood draped over their left arm and take a seat on the “hooding stool.” Traditionally, Dr. Christa Zehle and Dr. Tania Bertsch will then place the hood over the graduate’s head. Once the graduate has been hooded, they will then receive their diploma and exit the stage.

Who can be a hoder?

At the UVM Larner College of Medicine Drs. Bertsch and Zehle are traditionally the hodders. However, students can choose to invite a guest hoder to assist Dr. Zehle if they so choose. Students may only invite a guest hoder who falls within one of these categories:

- Faculty of the UVM Larner College of Medicine (including Emeriti Faculty)
How do I ask someone to be my guest hooder?

If you decide you would like a guest hooder, it is most appropriate to ask them in person or via a phone call.

When you invite someone to be your guest hooder, you should let them know that they will have to attend the Commencement Ceremony on May 17, 2020 and must be at the Ira Allen Chapel no later than 2:00 pm EST.

Your guest hooder must also wear regalia in order to participate in Commencement. If they do not have regalia, they can order some. Please find out how faculty and guest hooders can purchase or rent regalia below.

Who do I tell if I want a guest hooder?

If you decide you would like to have a guest hooder, you must email Liz Dohrman at elizabeth.dohrman@med.uvm.edu no later than Monday, April 6 with their name, degree, title, and contact information.

I’m a guest hooder and need regalia. What should I do?

All hooders must have full regalia in order to participate in Commencement. Full regalia includes a robe, tam* or mortarboard, and hood.

**Faculty of the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine**

Hooders who are faculty of the UVM Larner College of Medicine may receive rental regalia at no cost. To rent regalia, you must contact Lila Sullivan at 802-656-8920 no later than Monday May 4, 2020. She will need your height, weight, highest degree, and the name of the degree-granting institution.

*Please note faculty typically wear tams and not mortarboards.

**Other Faculty of the University of Vermont**

Hooders who are faculty of the University of Vermont can rent regalia from the UVM Bookstore for $65 (gown, hood, mortarboard/tassel) or $95 (gown, hood, and tam/tassel*). To rent regalia, please contact Brendan Andrews at 802-656-0989 or bandrews@uvm.edu.

All faculty have the option to purchase inexpensive GreenWeaver regalia or custom regalia by contacting Brendan Andrews at 802-656-0989 or bandrews@uvm.edu.
Custom regalia orders must be placed no later than March 20, 2020. GreenWeaver regalia orders must be placed no later than May 6, 2020.

Alumni of the UVM Larner College of Medicine who are not faculty

Hooders who are not faculty but who are alumni of the UVM Larner College of Medicine (or, previously, the UVM College of Medicine) can rent regalia or purchase regalia through the UVM Bookstore.

To rent or purchase regalia, you must contact Brendan Andrews at 802-656-0989 no later than May 6, 2020. He will need your height weight, highest degree, name of the degree-granting institution, and payment information.