



Preparing for the 2025 Xfinity Center Awards Ceremony

Xfinity Center Address: 8500 Paint Branch Dr, College Park, MD 20740

NHD has worked with the University of Maryland (UMD) to develop streamlined procedures for entry into the Xfinity Center. **Please review this information carefully before you pack for the contest and share it with other attendees.** Xfinity Center gate attendants will enforce this policy.

Bag Policy

Your affiliate/state will receive a specific gate to enter the Xfinity Center. When you enter the gate, you must go through metal detectors, and all items you bring will be screened. If your travel schedule permits, please leave large items and luggage in your hotel, dorm, or car. The check-out time at the UMD dorms is 3:00 p.m., allowing time to return there after the ceremony. If you are staying in a hotel, please ask the hotel to hold your luggage.

Adhering to the bag policy and minimizing luggage drop-off will help avoid slowdowns in the security lines. Please read closely and pack accordingly.

Permitted Items

- **Bags (subject to search):**
 - Clear plastic, vinyl, or PVC bags that do not exceed 12" x 6" x 12"
 - One-gallon clear plastic freezer bag (Ziploc bag or similar)
 - Small clutch bags that do not exceed 4.5" x 6.5", with or without a handle or strap
 - Diaper bags
 - Breastfeeding supplies
 - Medical bags
 - Computer bags
- **Food & Drinks**
 - Metal/plastic bottles
 - To-go cups (coffee, tea, soda, etc.)
 - Pre-packaged food only if distributed individually before security gates
- **Inflatables without helium**
- **Signs/Banners/Flags**
 - Signs, banners, and flags must be event-related, in good taste, and cannot obstruct another guest's view. These items must not contain commercial messages, logos, or political endorsements. Maryland Athletics reserves the right to confiscate signs that violate arena policy.
 - Flags, sign poles, and sign sticks
 - Can be held during the parade

- Can be draped from the seating area to represent the affiliate (state/territory/country) delegation
 - If on poles/sticks, they must be placed on the ground in the seating area once the parade ends.
- **Wagons/strollers (checked in luggage area)**
- **Umbrellas (compact only, stored on the ground, under your seat)**

Prohibited Items

- **Bags:**
 - All other bags are prohibited.
 - A list of prohibited bags includes but is not limited to purses, backpacks, drawstring bags that are not clear, briefcases, coolers, camera bags, and binocular cases.
 - Guests must return unauthorized items to their vehicles or keep them in their hotel or dorm.
- **Food & Drinks**
 - Glass containers
 - Coolers/Costco-sized boxes
 - Bags of fast food, etc.
 - Alcoholic beverages
 - Exceptions will be made for those with medical requirements or special needs.
- **Helium balloons**
- **Pets (excluding service animals)**
- **Skateboards/bicycles/scooters**
- **Illegal Substances**
- **Fireworks/firearms**
- **Weapons (both real and fake)**
- **Flammables of any kind**
- **Laser pointers**
- **Artificial noisemakers**

Important Things to Remember

Luggage

While you are discouraged from bringing your luggage to the ceremony, two UMPD police officers/aides will be available to monitor any luggage brought on-site. This area will be roped off on the 2nd floor near the concession stands. Luggage cannot be brought into the arena and must be left in the luggage drop-off area. **You must pick up any stored luggage by 1:00 p.m.**

Health Services

A First Aid station is behind Section 209 on the Concourse Level (3rd Level) of Xfinity Center.