Penn State College of Medicine (sourced from University of Hawaii)

Name Pronunciation Instructions

In order that your name be read properly at the Commencement Ceremony, it is important that we know the correct pronunciation. Although the pronunciation of many names is obvious, some require special attention. If your name is one that is pronounced in a special way, please use the pronunciation key below to advise us how your name should be pronounced.

Please indicate *either* the phonetic spelling of your name *or a familiar word that rhymes* with your name.

- Syllables are separated by dashes
- Stressed syllables are capitalized

For example:
Raul Gonzalez: rah-OOL gon-SAH-les

Ngoc Nguyen: nahk nuhWEN **or** sounds like “knock” “WIN”

Sophia Lamagna: so-FEE-uh sounds like “lasagna”

KEY TO PRONUNCIATION:

Consonants

Respelling symbol(s)	Example
b	***b**ut, we**b***
ch	***ch**urc**h**, na**t**ure*
d	***d**o, o**dd***
dh	***th**is, brea**th**e, fa**th**er*
f	***f**ool, enou**gh**, lea**f***
g	***g**o, be**g***
h	***h**am, a**h**ead*
j	***g**in, **j**oy, e**dge***
k	***c**at, **k**iss, **q**ueen, s**k**in, thi**ck***
kh	*lo**ch***
l	***l**eft, be**ll***
m	***m**an, ha**m***
n	***n**o, ti**n***
ng	*ri**ng**, si**ng**er, si**n**k*
ng-g	*fi**ng**er*
p	***p**en, s**p**in, ti**p***
py	**pu**pil
r	***r**un, ve**r**y*
s or ss	***s**ee, **c**ity, pa**ss***
sh	***sh**e, **s**ure, emo**ti**on, lea**sh***
t	***t**wo, s**t**ing, be**t***
th	***th**ing, tee**th***
v	***v**oice, ha**v**e*
w	***w**e*
wh	***wh**at*
y	***y**es*
z	***z**oo, ro**s**e*
zh	*plea**s**ure, vi**si**on, bei**g**e*

Other

Respelling symbol(s)	Example
UR	*f**ur**ther*
AIR	*h**air**, b**are***
EER	*b**eer**, h**ear***
OOR	*p**oor***
OR	*d**oor**,f**or***
AR	*c**ar***
IKE	*b**ike***
INE	*l**ine***
ITE	*l**ight**, b**ite***
ICE	*d**ice***
AL	*p**al***
ALL	*b**all***
AIL	*p**ail***
ULL	*h**ull***
OOL	*t**ool***
OAL	*c**oal***
EEL or EAL	*d**eal***
ILL	*p**ill***
ILE	*st**yle**, p**ile***

Vowels

Respelling symbol(s)	Example
a	*tr**a**p, cat*
ah or aa	*p**a**lm, pot*
air	*squ**are***
ar	*st**ar**t*
arr	*m**arr**y*
aw	*th**ough**t, s**aw***
ay, ai	*f**a**ce, **a**pe*
er	*lett**er**, Pet**er***
e, eh	*dr**e**ss, m**e**t*
ee	*fl**ee**ce, tr**ee***
eer	*n**ear***
err	*m**er**ry*
ew	***ew**e, d**ew***
eye	***i**tem*
i or ih (Use ih at end of syllable, esp. if I yields a real word, e.g. "hi", "ski")	*k**i**t, b**i**t*
irr	*m**irr**or*
o	*l**o**t*
oh or oe	*g**oa**t,t**oe**, g**o***
oo	*f**oo**d, b**oo**t, sh**oe***
oor	*c**ure*** or **Eu**rope
ohr	*f**or**ce* or *w**ore***
or or awr	*n**or**th* or *w**ar***
orr	***or**ange*
ou	***out***
ow	*m**ou**th*
oy	*ch**oi**ce, t**oy***
u	*str**u**t*
uu	*foot, p**u**t*
uh	*m**o**ther, comm**a***
ur	*n**ur**se*
urr	*h**urr**y*
ye	*pr**i**ce*