

Dear Parents of Students in the Class of 2020:

It's hard to believe that Commencement is less than three months away. From the many conversations I have had with students in recent weeks, I know that excitement is building in anticipation of this big day. And while many students are still uncertain about where they will be or what they will be doing at this time next year, there is nonetheless a shared sense of confidence and optimism as to what the future has in store.

Anticipation aside, the members of the Class of 2020 still need to attend to the day-to-day business of being a college senior. Some are in the process of wrapping up their senior theses or other capstone experiences; some are enrolled in the final courses required to complete their majors; some are working on applications for jobs or graduate school; some are using the semester as a last opportunity to delve into coursework in previously unexplored corners of the curriculum.

With spring break beginning on Friday, March 6, now is a good time to check in with your student about their graduation plans. I have been reviewing academic histories for the Class of 2020 and have been sending a steady stream of email messages to seniors about graduation requirements, major certification, and how to confirm the name that will be printed on the diploma. Before break, my office will provide each student a packet of ten Commencement invitations to send to family and friends.

The Commencement ceremony itself will begin at 11am on Sunday, May 24; no tickets or reservations are required to attend. Seating is unlimited and available on a first come first served basis, so if you want a good seat, be sure to arrive early. Please be aware that if it rains, the ceremony may be abbreviated and moved under the tent, where seating will be limited. For the full calendar of commencement-related activities that will be taking place the weekend of May 21-24, please consult the [Reunion/Commencement website](#).

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about your student, the senior year, or graduation, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Sincerely,

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