



Framingham

State University

April 5, 2019

Dear Senior,

The Framingham State University **Commencement Ceremony** will take place **at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA on Sunday, May 26, 2019 at 10 am**. This letter contains important information about this occasion. Please pay special attention to the section titled Commencement Eligibility. You must be cleared by the Office of the Registrar to participate. Please select the following link for Commencement information, <https://www.framingham.edu/academics/commencement/index>.

COMMENCEMENT ELIGIBILITY

Application: If you have not done so already, you must complete an application for graduation as soon as possible (a hard copy of this form can be picked up at the Student Services Center, 5th floor of the McCarthy Center). Participation in Commencement is dependent on completing this form. There is a \$100.00 graduation fee, which should appear on your student account after your application for graduation has been processed.

Degree Requirements: Students who participate in the Commencement Ceremony must have completed all degree requirements and be cleared to participate by the Office of the Registrar. All students must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.00, as well as a minimum 2.00 GPA in their major to be eligible for graduation and to participate in the Commencement Ceremony. Refer to your degree audit if you are unsure as to your status of completion and the GPA requirements. Contact the Office of the Registrar, registrarsoffice@framingham.edu, with any questions regarding your degree audit.

Financial Clearance: All outstanding balances due to the University must be satisfied. Please note that students may receive a refund or have charges placed on their account after graduation. Charges may be generated from athletic fees or residence hall damage charges, for example. Please check your student account on *myFramingham* after graduation.

Loan Exit Counseling (required of Federal Direct, Perkins and Massachusetts NIL Loan recipients):

All students who have helped finance their education through the Federal Direct, Perkins, and Massachusetts NIL (No Interest Loan) programs are required to complete loan exit counseling. Graduating seniors must complete this requirement in order to participate in the Commencement Ceremony. Degrees will only be awarded after an exit interview has been completed (this is a Federal requirement – graduating students everywhere are required to complete the exit process). Please contact the Office of Financial Aid in the SSC (5th floor, McCarthy Center) or at 508.626.4534 for specific details about exit loan requirements. You can also email Financial Aid at financialaid@framingham.edu.

ACADEMIC REGALIA - CAPS & GOWNS

Participation in the ceremony requires that a cap and gown be worn. The base cost of the baccalaureate regalia package is \$31. This includes the customized FSU gown, cap, and black tassel.

Purchasing options:

- Walk into the University bookstore between April 18-May 24 and purchase on the spot for \$31. See a store associate for assistance. Valid ID will be required for pickup.
- Order and pay online by May 10 at <https://framingham.shopoakhalli.com> and choose the option to ship to home for \$46.95 (which includes an additional shipping and handling fee of \$15.95).

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RINGS

To purchase rings or announcements contact the Jostens Company at <http://www.jostens.com/>.

COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL – MANDATORY – May 23rd

All graduating seniors who wish to participate in the Commencement Ceremony must attend a mandatory rehearsal at the **Athletic Center gym on Thursday, May 23rd** (You don't need to bring your cap and gown). During rehearsal attendance is taken, the pronunciation of your name will be recorded, your place in line is designated, and last minute directives are provided. These are only a few of the tasks accomplished during rehearsal. Rehearsal is essential to ensure that Commencement will run smoothly. **Only students with documented emergencies will be excused from the required rehearsal.**

Rehearsal will last approximately two hours. You are assigned a ceremony based on your college. Majors within the Colleges are listed at the end of this letter.

Morning rehearsal begins promptly at 9:30 a.m. - Colleges of Arts and Humanities, Business, and Education

Afternoon rehearsal starts promptly at 12:30 p.m. - Colleges of Social and Behavioral Sciences and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)

SENIOR CLASS BBQ

The BBQ will be held on **Thursday, May 23, from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on Crocker Grove**. This BBQ, sponsored by the Office of the President, is scheduled between the morning and afternoon Commencement rehearsals and gives graduating seniors a chance to have lunch and enjoy some time together on campus. The rain location is in the Dining Commons.

SENIOR TOAST WITH PRESIDENT CEVALLOS

In collaboration with Alumni Relations, the Office of the President will make a toast with the Senior Class on Thursday, May 23, 4:00p.m. in Crocker Grove (by the RAM statue). Rain location will be the McCarthy Center Lobby. RSVP to participate here <https://fsutoast2019.eventbrite.com>

GRADUATION DAY

The Ceremony. The Commencement Ceremony takes place in the DCU Center Arena, 50 Foster St, Worcester, MA 01608. **Graduates must arrive to the South Exhibition Hall no later than 8:30 a.m.** The procession begins at 9:30 a.m. and the ceremony will begin promptly at 10 a.m. The ceremony should last approximately 2 hours. Prior to the ceremony, only graduates are allowed in the line-up area – this helps with the complicated process of arranging graduates in correct marching order. Guests of the graduates should enter through the Main Entrance located at Major Taylor Blvd. and Foster Street. Out of respect for the graduates and the Commencement speakers, we request that all cell phones be turned off during the ceremony and students avoid carrying items.

Parking. There are several paid parking garages and flat lots located within walking distance of the Arena and Convention Center. Ample amounts of disability accessible parking spaces are located around the facility in designated areas for vehicles with a legal disability placard visible in their car.

Seating. All seating will be considered open with the exception of seats that are reserved for participating faculty, alumni, graduates, and special guests of the University. If you have a guest in a wheelchair or with specific needs that require seating considerations, they may sit in DCU Center designated accessible seating. One family member will be allowed to accompany that individual in the accessible seating area, in order to maximize seating opportunities for all guests and attendees. American Sign Language interpreters will be visible in all locations from projection monitors.

Streaming of the Ceremony. We will be streaming the ceremony live on the Commencement Website <https://www.framingham.edu/academics/commencement/>.

Security. To ensure the safety and comfort of all guests attending events at the DCU Center, event attendees may be subject to a search upon entering the facility, including graduates. To see a list of items restricted from the

ceremony, please go to: <https://www.framingham.edu/academics/commencement/undergraduate-commencement-event-information/index>. Please note that any graduates or guests with prohibited articles will be turned away at the entrances.

Photography. The University contracts with Island Photography to take photographs of each individual who crosses the platform during the Commencement Ceremony. These photos will be available for purchase at a later date – Island Photography will contact graduates and provide an order form for their use. Family and friends will not be allowed to approach the arena floor or the stage to take photos or videos; this maintains the dignity of the ceremony and ensures that all present can enjoy the degree-granting moment for their loved ones.

We look forward to your participation in Commencement and extend congratulations to all graduating seniors and their families!

Sincerely,
Meg Nowak Borrego, PhD
Dean of Students

Undergraduate Commencement Rehearsal - Mandatory
Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 9:30 AM
ATHLETIC CENTER GYMNASIUM

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES:

BA	American Sign Language	Liberal Studies
	Art History	Liberal Studies/Interdisciplinary Studies
	Communication Arts	Spanish
	English	Studio Art
	History	World Languages
BS	Fashion Design and Retailing	

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS:

BA	Economics	
BS	Accounting	International Business
	Business & Information Technology	Management
	Finance	Marketing

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION:

BSEd	Early Childhood Education
	Elementary Education

Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 12:30 PM
ATHLETIC CENTER GYMNASIUM

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES:

BA	Criminology	Political Science
	Environmental Studies and Sustainability	
	Geography	Psychology
	Global Studies	Sociology

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM):

BS	Biology	
	Biochemistry	Food and Nutrition
	Chemistry	Food Science
	Computer Science	Health and Wellness
	Earth Science	Mathematics
	Environmental Science and Policy	Nursing