



UPDATE: COMMENCEMENT MEMORANDUM TO SENIORS

FROM: Office of the Provost

DATE: April 9, 2021

Please carefully read the following memorandum for important details and logistics for you and your guests' participation in Juniata's 143rd Commencement ceremony.

COMMENCEMENT

Due to the easing of COVID restrictions for outdoor gatherings by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in keeping with longstanding tradition, Commencement will now be held on the campus quadrangle in front of the Halbritter Center for the Performing Arts.

All members of the graduating class (those who completed their work at the end of the fall 2019 semester and those who were candidates in May and August 2020) are invited to participate in the activities of Commencement weekend.

Please note the following:

1. Report for rehearsal at **10:00 a.m., Friday, May 14**, at the Lesher/South Circle.
2. Participation in the Baccalaureate service **at 5:30 p.m., Friday, May 14**, is encouraged. Baccalaureate will also be held outdoors.
3. Participation in Commencement at **4:00 p.m., on Saturday, May 15**, is encouraged. Please let me know whether you plan to attend in person no later than Monday, May 3. You can email provostoffice@juniata.edu or call 814-641-3122 to let us know your plans.
4. Commencement will be held on the campus quadrangle, rain or shine, unless there would be lightening in the area. Graduates will receive an umbrella to use should it rain.
5. Diplomas will be mailed by May 31 to all graduates whether or not you participate in person.

COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Commencement will be held in accordance with state and federal guidelines to protect the campus community as well as all visitors.

Office of the Provost
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- The State of Pennsylvania Department of Health limits those in attendance at large-scale gatherings to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. As such, only those with tickets or who are college officials, faculty, and graduates are allowed to attend the Commencement.
- Do not travel or attend if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms such as congestion, cough, fever, or headache.
- Juniata's COVID-19 safety protocols require everyone to wear a mask at all times, indoors and outdoors, regardless of vaccination status, and maintain appropriate social distance from those who are not part of your family or household.
- Those without tickets will be restricted from gathering along the fences that border the stadium; use of the online/livestream should be utilized for those who are not able to be accommodated with tickets.
- Health guidance will be considered and updated as the date of the event draws nearer, or as guidance from federal and state authorities is adjusted. Please be attentive to further communication with updates on these protocols and requirements.

BACCALAUREATE

The Baccalaureate service is part of the rich tradition celebrating and honoring the undergraduate careers of Juniata College students. It includes a recognition of the many ways in which families, friends, faculty, and administration have profoundly influenced and shaped the lives of the students over the years. The Baccalaureate service is an inter-faith service with readings and personal sharing by members of the graduating class representing a variety of faith traditions.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Commencement participants must have appropriate academic regalia. For those who were not able to attend Senior Salute to receive your academic regalia, please visit Joanne Krugh in the Provost's Office on the third floor of Founders Hall.

Candidates for the bachelor's degree will wear a black gown and a black cap with appropriate tassel: white for B.A. and golden yellow for B.S. Candidates for the master's degree will wear a black gown and black cap with drab tassel. They will be presented with their master's hoods at the ceremony. The academic cap should be adjusted to remain level; the tassel should hang from the right side of the cap. The tassel will be shifted to the left during the graduation ceremony.

TICKETS

To ensure adequate outdoor seating on the campus quadrangle for all families, graduates will be given **four** guest tickets for Commencement at Senior Salute so that we can abide by all Pennsylvania Department of Health COVID protocols. Tickets will be required for admission of all guests; tickets are non-transferrable, and cannot be replaced if lost, so show care in safekeeping and distributing them. For those who were not able to attend Senior Salute to receive your tickets, please visit Joanne Krugh in the Provost's Office on the third floor of Founders Hall.

NAME PRONUNCIATION

You may email the phonetic pronunciation of your name or send a recording of how you would like your name said during the Commencement ceremony to Provost Bowen at bowenl@juniata.edu.

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONS

The order of procession, time and location for candidates for degrees (including August candidates) is as follows:

Baccalaureate	Separated in groups, master's, B.A. and B.S., but not alphabetically	5:00 p.m.	Campus Quad
Commencement	Alphabetically with master's candidates first, B.A. group second, B.S. group third	4:00 p.m.	Campus Quad

On signal from the Faculty Marshal, the procession moves in an orderly manner to the seats on the Quad for Commencement and Baccalaureate, with a space of approximately six feet between pairs. We will abide by social distancing expectations in the processional and with our seating.

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Candidates for the master's degree will rise as a group when directed by the Provost who orally confers the degrees. You are then reseated and directed by rows to receive a diploma cover from the President as the Provost calls each name. You should stop when you reach the President's position and take the diploma cover with the left hand. You will then exit the platform, return to your seat, and be seated. When all have received diploma covers and have returned to their places, the Provost will signal you to rise again for shifting the tassels. You are then reseated.

The same procedure will be used for those receiving the B.A. and the B.S. degree.

August candidates will process in place with all other candidates.

RECESSIONALS

Recessional will be held for Baccalaureate and Commencement at the direction of the Faculty Marshal. Each will follow the pattern of the platform party, the trustees, faculty, and students, in that order.

COMMENCEMENT LIVE-STREAM

Commencement will be streamed live and can be viewed by visiting the Commencement website as part of the Provost Office webpage (www.juniata.edu/academics/provost/). After the event is over, the full-length video will be available for viewing on-demand on the commencement website and Juniata's official YouTube channel, youtube.com/juniatacollege.

MEALS

ALL graduating seniors (whether they have been on the meal plan or not) will be able to receive their

meals at Baker Dining Hall (during posted meal times) by swiping their Gold Card beginning with lunch on Wednesday, May 12. All seniors must have their official I.D. cards to do this. Students who have lost I.D. cards should make arrangements with Public Safety, 2-4 p.m. or 7-8 p.m., 7 days a week.

PARKING

All visitors to campus for the Commencement activities are asked to park in College parking areas, or to carefully monitor and follow posted signs and guidance if parking on Borough streets adjacent to campus. College lots include those behind Good Hall, next to Beeghly Library, South Hall parking area (immediately adjacent), as well as those parking areas adjacent to Kennedy Sports and Recreation Center just north of Ellis Hall. All College parking areas are noted on the [campus map](#).

For those with a **state placard**, some additional spaces have been set aside in the Beeghly Library lot to facilitate Quad access. Please contact Juniata College Public Safety for further information about accessible parking during Commencement.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Accessible seating for those attending Commencement or Baccalaureate is available for those individuals who are hearing impaired and/or disabled. Because of limited seating, **a special ticket is available only for the individual requiring special seating and one other guest. You must have a regular Commencement ticket and special ticket for this area. Special seating tickets will be available at Senior Salute or by contacting Penny Hooper-Conway, Associate Director of Residential Life at 814-641-3323 or conwayp@juniata.edu.**

For the benefit of our guests and graduates, interpretation in American Sign Language will be provided. Commencement will be streamed live and can be viewed by visiting the Commencement website as part of the Provost Office webpage (www.juniata.edu/academics/provost/). After the event is over, the full-length video will be available for viewing on-demand on the commencement website and Juniata's official YouTube channel, youtube.com/juniatacollege.

COMMENCEMENT WEB SITE

For additional or updated information on Commencement activities, please visit the Commencement web site at www.juniata.edu/commencement. For further questions, please call the Provost's Office at 814-641-3122 or email ProvostOffice@juniata.edu.