

FRANKLIN PIERCE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dear Member of the Class of 2023:

As we near Senior Week and Commencement, we understand that you may have questions regarding the various events and ceremonies. To help ease any confusion, we have compiled answers to the most commonly asked question.

1. Do guests need tickets or to pay admission to attend Commencement, and is there a limit to how many guests can attend?

There is no cost to attend Commencement, and tickets are not required. There is also no limit on the number of guests who can attend. This is your day, and we want you to be recognized and celebrated. The Commencement ceremony will be livestreamed, and we will share the link with you ahead of the ceremony so any family or guests who cannot make it to Rindge can still watch. The event will also be recorded and posted to our Commencement website following the ceremony. *Please note, the recording may not be immediately available.*

2. What time does the Commencement ceremony start?

Graduates will be emailed detailed instructions at a later date, but for your initial planning, graduates are to start checking in for Commencement and lineup around 9:15 a.m. on Saturday, May 13. The bagpipe procession, from the line-up location on upper campus, begins walking down to the Commencement site promptly at 10:15 a.m., and the ceremony begins at 10:30 a.m. We anticipate the ceremony being over by 12:30 p.m.

3. What if one of my guests requires accessible parking?

If you have guests attending the ceremony who need access to accessible parking, you can register up until Thursday, May 11 at 5 p.m., [by following this link](#). They will be emailed information on what to expect upon arriving on campus and will be provided a special placard they will need to print and have with them when they arrive.

4. When will I get my regalia (cap and gown)?

Graduates who are not residential students should receive their regalia via mail by the end of this month. Residential students can pick up their regalia, with their student ID, in the Pioneer Lounge in the Emily Flint Campus Center at the following days and times:

Monday, May 1: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. & 4 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2: 4 - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Any regalia for residential students that is not picked up by 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 3, will be logged as a package in the mailroom and can be picked up there accordingly.

5. What if I am expecting a participation chord or honors with my regalia?

If a graduate is receiving Latin Honors (as defined by the Academic Catalog) those will come with your regalia. Other chords for participation in clubs and organizations should be provided to you by your club advisor.

6. Can I decorate and personalize my Mortar Board?

Yes. If you are artistically inclined, we invite such personalization.

7. How might weather impact the ceremony?

Commencement occurs at the ceremony location, rain or shine. Please prepare and dress accordingly for the weather. Last year, it was close to 95 degrees and sunny, but in years past it has been breezy and cool with rain. Make sure you are encouraging your guests to be prepared as well.

8. What is Baccalaureate?

Baccalaureate is an event that is designed by our Senior Class Delegates for the undergraduate senior class. Guests are normally not invited to attend, but we will livestream and record this event so that you can share it with family and guests. The ceremony takes approximately 40 minutes. Participating graduates are to wear their cap and gowns, and will line-up and process into the Commencement site for this event.

9. If I cannot make rehearsal for Commencement, can I still participate?

Commencement rehearsal is at 10:45 a.m. on Friday, May 12 at the Commencement site at that Lower DiGregorio parking lot. Everyone who is participating in Commencement, and is able, is highly recommended to attend. If you are unable to attend to work, athletics, or other responsibilities, that is okay. When you report for check-in for Commencement, you will receive guidance at that time.

Over the coming weeks, you will receive a number of emails in the lead up to Senior Week and Commencement, and it is imperative that you take the time to read them as they will contain key details and important information about what will be a wonderful celebration of your time at Franklin Pierce. I also encourage you to keep an eye on our [Commencement webpage](#).

Should you have any additional questions or concerns not addressed above, please reach out to me directly at polloma@franklinperce.edu.

Be Well, Ravens,
Andrew Pollom, Ed.D.
Dean of Student Affairs

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Do you have an announcement you would like for us to send out? Maybe an idea for a good news story? Send it to ravenflash@franklinperce.edu.



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