

Dear Class of 2020 Participants:

We are excited to welcome you back to the Rindge Campus on Saturday, May 15, to participate in the modified on-ground Commencement exercises with the graduates of the Class of 2021.

In order to protect the health and safety of our community, this year's Commencement has been greatly modified, and we are not permitting family or outside guests to attend. In addition to the change in guest policy, there are other safety protocols to share as you prepare to join us:

- Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the invitation for participation extends only to our 2021 Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 15. We are unable to safely permit further engagement in Senior Week and other end-of-year activities at this time, and hope to have future opportunities for engagement with the Class of 2020 as it becomes safer to do.
- Graduates from the Class of 2020 are asked to bring their caps and gowns from last year's ceremony to wear this year; however, if you no longer have access to your regalia, please let us know as soon as possible, so we may explore options to assist you.
- We will not have on-site overnight accommodations for commencement participants from the Class of 2020. Additionally, while permitted in the past, due to our guest restrictions this year, please do not make arrangements to stay with a current friend on-campus.
- Health and safety precautions, including social distancing and masks, will be required for the Commencement ceremony.
- We ask that you provide us one of the following so that you can participate safely in the ceremony exercises:
 - A copy of completed vaccination card;
 - Documentation that you have previously tested COVID positive either on or after February 5, 2021; or,
 - A negative PCR COVID test taken within 72 hours of the May 15 Commencement ceremony.

Please email this documentation to healthservices@franklinpierce.edu to remain eligible to participate.

- Alternatively, if you are in the area and would like to coordinate testing on the Rindge Campus, we will offer free COVID testing for the Class of 2020 participants until Thursday May 13 at 12 p.m. to assure we have your results and can medically clear you to participate in Commencement. If you are interested in being tested through our Health Services, please email Nicole Newell at newelln@franklinpierce.edu, and we can coordinate your appointment.

Additional updates and information will continue to be emailed and will available for review on the [2021 Commencement website](#). I invite you to continue to visit our website for the most updated information.

If you have additional questions and concerns, please feel free to contact me.

I look forward to celebrating your accomplishments on May 15.

Sincerely,

Andrew Pollom

Dean of Student Affairs