

Dear Graduates of the Class of 2021:

We are excited to welcome you back to the Rindge Campus on Saturday, May 15, to participate in the modified on-ground Commencement exercises. This email is specifically intended for our early/December graduates and graduates from our online program.

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:

- Following our Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 15, we will be holding a series of Senior Send Off activities that afternoon and evening. As members of the class of 2021, you are invited to participate, assuming you have previously been cleared to participate in Commencement, and to stay with us on campus and partake of the celebration activities we have planned. Please be aware that our graduate students and our Class of 2020 participants are not permitted to remain on campus for these activities.
- You are invited to participate in both the Baccalaureate Ceremony and Commencement rehearsal events to be held on Friday, May 14. The Commencement website will provide you with time and location details closer to the events.
- We will not have on-site overnight accommodations for you if you plan to participate. 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 will part of all events, including social distancing and mask wearing.
- 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 14 rehearsal and/or Baccalaureate Ceremony (if you plan to participate) or 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 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 be 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