

2019 COMMENCEMENT

At the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Commencement is a three -day campus wide celebration. Graduates are recognized at the Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony when degrees are conferred and during Senior Recognition Ceremonies when each graduate is called across the stage to receive their medallion.
Congratulations to all of our graduates!

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

(General Information, Location, Arrival, Tickets, Schedule, Security)

GENERAL COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

(Medallions, Photography, Registrar, Commencement Weekend Schedule)

GUEST INFORMATION

(Dining, Disability Services, Traffic & Parking, Security)

FOR YOU!

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY, Friday May 10, 2019

Warren P. McGuirk Alumni Stadium 4:30 p.m.

Graduates attending the main Undergraduate Ceremony on Friday, May 10th should arrive between 3:30 – 3:45p.m. at the assembly area, Yellow Lot #11, with your cap and gown. Do not enter through the main gates of the stadium.

The ceremony will be held outside, at the stadium, rain or shine.

There is no rehearsal for the main Undergraduate Commencement.

Tickets are not needed at the Undergraduate Commencement ceremony and there is no limit on guests or reserved seating.

Graduates are not permitted to bring/carry bags or backpacks into the stadium. No glass or metal containers will be allowed in the assembly area or on the field. Small purses are permitted, but are subject to search by event staff members.

University regulations strictly prohibit the possession or consumption of alcohol at the stadium.

Metal detectors will be in place to ensure the convenience and safety of our graduates, visitors, and our campus community.

Parking on Commencement day: When you arrive on campus, Police officers will direct you and your party to the closest available parking lot. To get to the stadium, you can walk or take a bus/shuttle. Shuttles will be running in a loop to bring graduates and guests to the stadium.

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY SCHEDULE

3:30 p.m. Arrive at the back portion of Lot 11 Graduate Assembly Area

3:30 p.m.: Commencement Marshals help graduates line up by school/college, walk you through security, and prepare for entrance onto the field. **For those of you attending a senior recognition ceremony prior to the undergraduate ceremony, there will be plenty of time to get to the stadium. Enjoy your ceremony!**

4:30 p.m.: Processional of Degree Candidates.

4:50 p.m.: Faculty Processional begins.

5:00 p.m.: Platform Party Processional.

6:15 p.m.: Formal ceremony ends, and recessional begins - you are free to leave the stadium after the Platform Party leave the stage.

GENERAL COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

Medallions

University medallions are presented to each graduate at their school/college ceremony.

Photography

Commencement Photographs will be taken during the individual school or college celebration ceremonies, Commonwealth Honors College Celebration of Excellence on Thursday, May 9; Friday, May 10; and Saturday, May 11. Proofs of these photographs will be emailed within 48 hours of the ceremony to graduates along with order forms and information for those wishing to purchase prints.

Registrar

Diplomas will be mailed after the grades have been received, recorded, and processed by the Registrar's Office, and the diplomas have been engrossed, which is usually by August. Inquiries may be made to the Registrar's Office, (413) 545-0555.

COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 9

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Commonwealth Honors College - Mullins Center

Friday, May 10

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. ROTC Commissioning - Air Force, Great Hall, Old Chapel

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. ROTC Commissioning – Army, Bowker Auditorium

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Phi Beta Kappa - Campus Center Auditorium

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

School of Public Health and Health Services - Mullins Center

College of Humanities and Fine Arts -Recreation Center
College of Nursing -Fine Arts Center
College of Education -Bernie Dallas Room
University Without Walls - Campus Center Auditorium

4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony

Saturday Ceremonies, May 11

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Engineering - Recreation Center
College of Natural Sciences - Mullins Center
BDIC - Campus Center Auditorium

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Stockbridge School of Agriculture - Bowker Auditorium

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences - Mullins Center
Information and Computer Sciences -Recreation Center

5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Isenberg School of Management - Mullins Center

GUEST INFORMATION

Dining Services

Come enjoy a celebratory dinner in our all-you-care-to-eat Dining Commons. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be available at our stunning, award-winning Dining Commons. At Berkshire Dining Commons, Hampshire Dining Commons and Worcester Dining Commons, families of graduating students who are on any UMass meal plan may join their student for complimentary meals. Other students, families, faculty, and staff may dine at the commons at the faculty/staff rate of \$14.25 for Friday night's dinner, which will feature healthy, sustainable global cuisine showcasing local and regional ingredients. The menu includes regional comfort foods, including appetizers, sushi, a carving station, sustainable seafood, and UMass Bakeshop desserts. On Saturday the commons will be open from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. and serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner; Hampshire DC will serve Sunday breakfast and lunch from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday faculty/staff rates will be \$8.50 for breakfast, \$11.50 for lunch, and \$14.50 for dinner.

Blue Wall Café

The Blue Wall Cafe at the Campus Center will be open Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Enjoy a restaurant-quality meal from one of our many stations including fresh sushi, made to order salads, house roasted lunch meats, hand tossed fresh pizza, or even a grass-fed beef burger with local cheddar. Feel free to indulge a bit at our gelato bar or try some of the house made pastries and cakes. The People's Organic Coffee shop on the concourse and Harvest Fresh Market both open at 8 a.m. as well for coffee, breakfast, and fresh baked organic and all natural treats.

Off-campus dining and lodging options: Please visit our local Chamber of Commerce website at www.amherstarea.com, or the Amherst Business Improvement District website at www.amherstdowntown.com.

Disability Services

Disability Services for mobility or hearing-impaired guests can be reached by calling 545-0892. For guests who are unable to walk long distances, we suggest parking in Lot 22 on University Drive. Shuttle buses will provide transportation to and from the stadium. Wheelchairs are also accommodated. Golf Carts will be available in Lot 22 and at the Stadium to transport guests with accessibility needs.

Guests attending a Senior Recognition Ceremony (also on Friday, May 10) are encouraged to complete the Reserved Accessible Parking Form. When arriving on campus you will be directed to the HP lot closest to the venue of your ceremony. Please visit the website for your graduates Senior Recognition Ceremony for details on location and parking. At the conclusion of your Senior Recognition Ceremony, guests with limited mobility have the choice to take public transportation to the stadium or to take their own vehicles and be directed to parking designated for HP or V plates / placards or vehicles with Reserved Parking Passes. Please note, due to increased traffic, travel between venues will take extra time.

Parking & Shuttle Services

Police officers will direct you to designated parking lots. Beginning at 2:00 p.m., free shuttle buses will circle campus every 15 minutes, taking graduates and guests from parking lots on campus to the stadium, and back to your lot, following the ceremonies. Please make note of the lot number where you park; this will make it easier for your return shuttle trip.

Security

Commencement gives us the opportunity to celebrate our graduates and welcome thousands of guests to our campus. Our security protocols are in place to ensure the convenience and safety of our visitors and our campus community. Metal detectors will be in place at the entrance to Mullins Center and McGuirk Alumni Stadium. Guests are advised to pack lightly for the day because all items taken into either venue are subject to search—the less you are carrying, the more quickly your party will be able to proceed through security. It will be helpful to discuss security measures with the members of your party ahead of time so everyone is aware of what to expect. Although you can expect security measures to take a little time at your point of entry, our staff will be there to welcome you!

All Commencement guests are encouraged to leave any personal bags secured in their vehicles and out of sight. No item may be left at the gate or entrance during Commencement. Any bags that are carried into the Commencement Ceremony are subject to a visual search. To alleviate delays in entering the venue, attendees are asked not to carry in items that will necessitate a search.

For security reasons, graduates and guests are not permitted to bring/carry bags or backpacks into the stadium. No glass or metal containers will be allowed in the assembly area or on the field. Small purses are permitted, but are subject to search by event staff members.

University regulations strictly prohibit the possession or consumption of alcohol at the stadium.

Parking and Traffic

Thursday, May 9 through Saturday, May 11, UMass Amherst welcomes thousands of graduates, families, friends, faculty and guests to campus for Undergraduate Commencement, Commissioning, and Senior Recognition Ceremonies.

Please be advised that, on Friday, May 10th, there will be heavy traffic beginning around 1 p.m. and lasting through the end of the Undergraduate Commencement ceremony around 7 pm. We ask that if you are arriving on campus to attend a senior recognition ceremony that you park, enjoy the ceremony, then take the public transportation provided or walk to McGuirk Alumni Stadium to the Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony. Guests with disabilities or limited mobility are encouraged to contact Disability Services at 413-545-0892 or visit Accessibility Information for additional support/services.

When you arrive on campus, Police officers will direct you and your party to the closest available parking lot. To get to the stadium, you can walk or take a bus/shuttle; the shuttles will be running in a loop to bring graduates and guests to the stadium.

Snacks and souvenirs

A food court will be open before and after Commencement at the Stadium. Snacks and light meals, including a fresh grill selection, salads, fruit, desserts, and beverages, will be sold at the Stadium Food Court at the north end of the stadium before and after the ceremony. Some snacks and beverages will be sold in the stands before the ceremony begins. Souvenirs are available at the University Store tent on the east side of the stadium.

FOR YOU!

COMMEMORATE YOUR GRADUATION YEAR WITH UMASS LICENSE PLATE #UM19

Now, you can show your school pride and commemorate your class year with a chance to win UMass License Plate #UM 19. Get your tickets for this special raffle at \$5 each or 3 for \$10. The winner will be selected on June 1, 2019. Visit UMassAlumni.com/UM19 to purchase your raffle tickets.

UMass license plates are available to all Massachusetts residents. Visit, UMassAlumni.com/licenseplate for more information.

