

Commencement Presentation at PAT 9/20/2023

The Commencement Committee has been hard at work. There will be one ceremony on December 20 at the Civic Center. The regalia for the bachelor and master graduates will now be maroon with tabs containing the SU logo. The doctoral regalia remains as is. We will also be adding a few things to the program – a letter from the president – “Congratulations to the class of 20__”; the SU Mission & Values Statements; information about the pageantry and procession (order, mace, presidential medallion, seal, and academic regalia); and a dedication page acknowledging faculty retirees and marshals.

We are looking at other enhancements, but nothing has been decided yet. Specific enhancements being considered are:

- Pre-recording the names help to address the issue of names being mis-pronounced
- Working with the Civic Center to have a ramp on and off the stage so that we can accommodate students with mobility challenges
- Provide a reserved seating section and reception for employees and legacy graduates
- Providing cords for first-generation students and acknowledging them during the ceremony

Students are always asking why commencement is not held on campus. This is a beautiful campus and students want their last event to be held here. The commencement committee has been asked to determine if it is possible to move the ceremonies to campus. What would it look like? What are the costs? What facilities could be used? Is it even possible?

Important dates that have been shared with the December graduates include:

- Cap & Gown Ordering Event (September 26-28)
 - Order cap and gown, sashes (for sports, clubs, international travel, etc.), rings, announcements, diploma frames, etc.
- Grad Fair Distribution Event (November 8-10)
 - Pick-up cap and gown, stoles, cords, tickets, etc.
 - Coordinate for senior portraits to be taken
- December Ceremony (December 20 @ 10:30 a.m.)
 - Will be held at the Civic Center