

April 14, 2015

TO THE FAMILIES OF STUDENTS WHO ARE CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION SUNDAY,
MAY 17.

As you complete your plans for this year's Commencement Weekend, the enclosed information may be helpful.

THE BACCALAUREATE CEREMONY

The Baccalaureate ceremony will be held on the lawn in front of Old West on Saturday, May 16. Participants in the procession will line up at 2:15 p.m. in front of the Waidner-Spahr Library and will begin to march at 2:45 p.m. The ceremony will begin at 3 p.m.

Whether the Baccalaureate ceremony will be held outdoors or indoors will be decided several hours ahead of the occasion because of the intensive efforts which must be made to ensure that seating, audio equipment and all other arrangements are in place by the time the families and guests of graduating seniors begin to gather. Should severe weather conditions exist, the Baccalaureate ceremony will be held in the Kline Athletic Center, and seniors will line up on the mezzanine level. In that event, details will be available at the Office of Conferences & Special Events (717-245-1900) and on the college's website [www.dickinson.edu/commencement/] as soon as possible in advance of the ceremony.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Commencement will be held on the lawn in front of Old West on Sunday, May 17. Early in the morning, college staff will reserve seating for the class of 2015 and faculty, and special seating for those who have made arrangements in advance for attendees with physical disabilities. **All other seats are unreserved and may be held after 6:30 a.m.** Participants in the procession will line up at 9 a.m. along the sidewalk adjacent to the south wall of the John Dickinson Campus and will begin to march at 9:35 a.m. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. In the case of severe weather conditions, the ceremony will be moved indoors to the Kline Athletic Center. The same arrangements as noted above for the Baccalaureate ceremony will be in place.

The Commencement ceremony will also be broadcast live at the following indoor campus locations: Althouse 106, Stern Great Room & Stern 102, Bosler 208, Bosler Atrium, Dana 110, Weiss 235, the Quarry and the HUB monitors including Union Station. If the ceremony is moved indoors due to severe weather conditions, there will be no remote viewing locations. For family members who wish to watch the ceremony, but are unable to travel to Carlisle, the college will live-stream the ceremony via the website [www.dickinson.edu/commencement/].

PHOTOGRAPHY

As announced in the Commencement Weekend brochure distributed earlier this year, there will be representatives of an experienced and professional firm taking a formal photo of each graduate before he/she walks down the old stone steps and a candid photo as President Roseman awards each graduate a

diploma. US Candids of Allentown, Pa., will make these photos available on their website [www.uscandids.com] within two to three days of the event. You may also register in advance of the ceremony [www.uscandids.com/dickinson] to receive a direct link to your graduate's photos. If you have any questions, you can contact the company by calling 844-922-6343 or via e-mail [mail@uscandids.com].

Some family members may want to take additional photos at the time their graduate is being granted his or her diploma. In recognition of this interest, a raised platform will be placed so that you may see the graduate accept the diploma and will be designated as a "photo area." The graduates will move across the ceremonial platform one by one in alphabetical order. After each graduate receives a diploma, he or she will descend from the platform and return to the graduates' seating area. College personnel will be stationed adjacent to the photo area to help determine when particular graduates are about to approach the platform. Please assist us in making sure every family has the opportunity to take a photo by sending only one family member per graduate to the photo area. That person should move onto the photo area platform just shortly before the graduate in your family will be coming across the platform to receive the diploma, and then move quickly off the photo area platform so that members of other families will have a similar opportunity. Please note that this area is for photography only, no videos will be permitted to be filmed from the photo area platform as doing so is time consuming and does not allow other families the opportunity to photograph their graduate.

REGALIA

The Office of Institutional Research will be in contact with graduating seniors to request that they submit a Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) Senior Survey. The bookstore will be notified of all graduating seniors who have submitted this survey and those graduates will receive their regalia free of charge. If the survey is not completed, graduates will be responsible for the cost of the regalia, which is \$40. Regalia may be picked up in the bookstore Thursday, May 14-Saturday, May 16. Please note that this regalia is not to be returned to the bookstore, it is for the graduates to keep.

WIRELESS ACCESS

Information on how to log in as a guest to the college's Wi-Fi network will be available at the HUB Information Desk.

GUESTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Special seating arrangements: A limited number of special seating tickets for those who have difficulty walking or need wheelchair access may be obtained by contacting the Office of Conferences and Special Events at 717-245-1900 after May 1. We regret that due to limited space, we can only accommodate the individual needing special seating and one companion in the special seating area.

The college provides the services of a sign language interpreter for both ceremonies. Individuals with impaired hearing who need to be able to see the signer should request special seating through the Office of Conferences and Special Events.

Special arrangements: Those who have difficulty walking or who are using wheelchairs may want to arrange to be driven to the locations of each of the two major Commencement Weekend ceremonies. Drop-off sites close to both the outdoor and indoor locations are identified on the campus map.

The drop-off site for the Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies will be on the circular driveway behind Old West accessible from W. Louthier Street. If the Baccalaureate or Commencement ceremony must take place in the Kline Athletic Center due to severe weather conditions, the drop-off site will be the circular drive off W. High Street, in front of the entrance at sidewalk level.

PARKING

Parking spaces on or adjacent to the Dickinson campus are limited and may be particularly hard to find during Commencement Weekend. A map of the campus is attached and sections of it are marked to identify some of the areas where parking may be available.

We look forward to having you on campus and celebrating the accomplishments of the class of 2015.

Office of the President