

# UMass Dartmouth Commencement 2019

Dear Family and Friends of Graduating Students:

The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth extends a most sincere congratulations to our graduating students and their family and friends! Commencement is an important milestone in the lives of our graduating students and in the lives of the family and friends who have supported them. Partners across campus are working to ensure their Commencement Ceremony is memorable and safe for all involved.

## Commencement will occur this year on Cressy Field at UMass Dartmouth, and there will be three separate Commencement ceremonies:

- All **undergraduate students** from the **Charlton College of Business**, the **College of Nursing**, and the **College of Visual and Performing Arts** who have completed their degree requirements will be invited to participate in graduation ceremonies on Friday, May 10, 2019 at 10:30 am.
- All **undergraduate students** from the **College of Arts and Sciences** and the **College of Engineering** who have completed their degree requirements will be invited to participate in graduation ceremonies on Friday, May 10, 2019 at 2:30 pm.
- All **graduate students** who have completed their degree requirements will be invited to participate in graduation ceremonies on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 2 pm.

Family and friends should plan to arrive according to the following schedule:

- May 10, Undergraduate ceremonies: 9 am–10 am; 1 pm–2 pm
- May 13, Graduate student ceremony: 12:30 pm–1:30 pm

### Seating

For both the graduate and undergraduate student ceremonies, there is unlimited seating. All seating is on a first-come basis and the saving of seats will not be allowed.

### Rain plans

The ceremonies will be held outdoors, rain or shine. In the event of severe weather, please refer to emergency notifications at [umassd.edu](http://umassd.edu) for details. Umbrellas are not allowed as they obscure the view of those behind them. Children under 2 years of age may sit on a guest's lap.

### Late arrivals

Family and friends arriving after the ceremony has begun will be asked to wait to be seated until the procession is complete.

### Security

For security purposes, only cameras and items placed in clear plastic bags will be permitted on Cressy Field. Please see the commencement website [umassd.edu/commencement](http://umassd.edu/commencement) for a complete list of prohibited items.

### Courtesy

We ask that all graduating students and their families and friends remain on Cressy Field for the duration of their Commencement ceremony to ensure each and every graduate and their family and friends enjoys the support of all in attendance, free of distractions.

### Post-Commencement receptions

Immediately following the graduation ceremonies, graduates and their families and friends are invited to celebrate their extraordinary achievement at a UMass Dartmouth reception on the tennis courts.

Thank you in advance for working with us to ensure your student, you, and your family and friends have a wonderful event. We look forward to celebrating your student's accomplishments at Commencement!

Sincerely,



Shannon M. Finning, Ph.D.  
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs



# Checklist for Graduation

## Campus Store Hours for cap and gown pick-up:

- **Wednesday** April 24, 9 am–6 pm
- **Thursday** April 25, 9 am–6 pm
- **Friday** April 26, 9 am–5 pm
- **Saturday** May 4, 10 am–2 pm

Each graduate should pick up his/her cap and gown from the University Campus Store at the above listed times. Students must present their student ID. All financial holds above \$500, including parking tickets, need to be cleared prior to receiving a cap and gown.

If for some reason you cannot make it to the store during those times, please go to the commencement website [umassd.edu/commencement](http://umassd.edu/commencement) and select “Caps & Gowns.”

Please be sure to bring your cap and gown with you on the day of the ceremony.

## Mid-year graduates

If your student completed their degree requirements in December 2018 and plans to attend Commencement, please have them contact the Registrar’s Office at [registrar@umassd.edu](mailto:registrar@umassd.edu).

## Persons with disabilities

Vehicles transporting people with disabilities should proceed to Lot 10 on the UMass Dartmouth campus. An ADA placard must be visible. There are ample seating areas for persons using wheelchairs. Sign Language professionals will also be at the ceremonies.

## Flowers and T-shirts for sale

For your convenience, flowers and “Class of” T-shirts will be available for purchase at the ceremony, or at this website:

[thecommentmentgroup.com/umassdartmouth](http://thecommentmentgroup.com/umassdartmouth)



## Commencement security

For security purposes, only items placed in clear plastic bags will be permitted into the graduation ceremonies. A limited number of bags will be available in parking lots on campus. No purses, wrapped packages, or balloons, please!

To see a complete list of our screening procedures, please go to [umassd.edu/commencement](http://umassd.edu/commencement).

## Commencement courtesy

As a courtesy to all graduates and their families, we ask that you plan to remain for the entire ceremony. We understand that many families will have plans immediately following the ceremony, but leaving before the last student walks across the stage is inconsiderate. Please respect the importance of this special day to all of our graduates and their guests by remaining seated until the last degrees are conferred—Corsairs Care!

## Photography

We have secured the services of Commencement Photos, a professional photography team, to take pictures of each graduate receiving his or her diploma, so there will be no need to leave your seat to capture the moment. Therefore, we ask that all graduates, family members, and friends remain seated throughout the ceremony.

## Frequently asked questions

We have posted a great deal of information regarding Commencement on the UMass Dartmouth website at [umassd.edu/commencement](http://umassd.edu/commencement). Under “Frequently Asked Questions,” there is a schedule of the day’s events, directions to UMass Dartmouth, etc.

## Sensible footwear

Wedge heels are recommended over spike high heels, as spikes could sink into the turf on the football field and cause one to turn an ankle.

## Live Stream

For those friends and family unable to attend graduation in person, we will live stream all commencement ceremonies. Please visit [video.umassd.edu](http://video.umassd.edu) to watch the festivities live from your computer.

[umassd.edu/commencement/](http://umassd.edu/commencement/)