



November 14, 2018

Dear Parents and Friends:

On behalf of the Board of Visitors and Governors, faculty, and staff of Washington College, I am pleased to extend to you an invitation to attend the 236th Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 19, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. on the Campus Lawn. We all look forward to this graduation and the celebration of the Class of 2019.

The College is planning numerous events the enclosed bulletin details the tentative schedule of activities for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The Commencement webpage (www.washcoll.edu/calendar/commencement.php) will be updated throughout the year. Please check back periodically for more schedule information.

I also encourage you to make overnight accommodations now if you think you may wish to stay in the area. Our website (washcoll.edu/about/accommodations.php) contains a list of local options. Additionally, a limited number of options will be available for on-campus housing in residence halls. Registration for on-campus housing will begin on April 1. More information is available on the Commencement website.

As a reminder, all students must be certified by the Registrar as having completed all degree requirements before they can participate in Commencement. This certification process begins after all Spring 2019 final grades have been submitted. Students are kept fully informed of their progress and will be notified if they do not to meet graduation requirements.

We hope that Commencement will be uniquely memorable for you and for the members of the Class of 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Patrice DiQuinzio
Provost and Dean of the College

P.S. Please find enclosed with this letter information about details leading up to Commencement and the day itself (back of this sheet). Please also find a general schedule of events for the weekend (separate sheet).

Important Commencement Information

Graduation Application

The deadline to submit the application for graduation was Tuesday, October 16, 2018. After the Spring 2019 registration period concludes, the Registrar will begin processing degree completion audits for students who applied to graduate. Please check with your potential graduate to ensure that they completed this task, along with ordering a cap and gown.

Ordering a Cap and Gown

Caps and Gowns are to be ordered from Oak Hall, directly from their website: washingtoncollege.shopoakhalli.com. Distribution of caps and gowns will take place during the mandatory commencement rehearsal on Friday, May 17, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. The regalia is made from 100% post-consumer recycled plastic bottles and is for students to keep following the ceremony. Payment for regalia is not due at this time; it will be billed as part of the \$300 graduation fee in March.

Diploma Frames and Announcements

Additional graduation-related items, such as formal announcements and rings, may be purchased through the Herff-Jones website <https://collegegrad.herffjones.com>. The Washington College Bookstore provides custom diploma frames for purchase.

Commencement Photography

The College has a contract with Grad Images to take photographs during the Commencement ceremony. Grad Images will contact you following Commencement with photo proofs, which you may order from them directly. For more information, please visit their website www.gradimages.com. It is not possible for each family to approach the platform to take a picture of their graduate.

Commencement Etiquette

Commencement is a time for immense College pride. We want this day to be as memorable for you as it is for the College and all those involved. We ask that graduates wear appropriate business attire and hard sole shoes with their robes on Sunday. Smoking and drinking are not permitted at Commencement. Tobacco products and popping champagne corks can cause serious injury to guests and graduates. Do not bring pets; only service animals are allowed.

Commencement Seating

Only in the event of inclement weather will tickets be needed to attend the ceremony. There is no reserved seating at Commencement. Please visit our Commencement webpage for information about seating, tickets and ADA access. The Campus Events Office (410-778-7888) is available to answer additional questions.

Class of 2019

Commencement Weekend Schedule

We look forward to welcoming you to the 236th Commencement Weekend! Below is a tentative schedule of events for May 17th, 18th, and 19th. Please visit our website for additional details and reservation information <http://www.washcoll.edu/calendar/commencement.php>.

Events for Graduates Only

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Senior Excursion to George Washington's Mount Vernon
12:30 p.m.

Friday, May 17, 2019

Senior Class Luncheon
12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Commencement Rehearsal (Mandatory for students)
Cap and gown distribution will take place at rehearsal. Each student will also be given a graduation packet including 6 tickets to use in the event of inclement weather for Sunday's ceremony. Please visit the Commencement site for additional information.
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Events and Activities for All Guests

Friday, May 17, 2019

Annual Sophie Kerr Announcement and Celebration
7:30 p.m.

Dinner in the Dining Hall
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Students may use their meal plan, all others may pay at the door.

Saturday, May 18, 2019

Chestertown Farmers and Artisans Market
Fountain Park, Chestertown
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Boathouse Open for Water Sports
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Class of 2019
Commencement Weekend Schedule
Events and Activities for All Guests

Saturday, May 18, 2019 (continued)

Continental Breakfast in the Dining Hall

Graduates free with ticket in rehearsal packet, all others may purchase tickets beginning April 1, or pay at the door.

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tour the Chester River on the Callinectes!

\$10 each, tickets can be purchased starting April 1.

Beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Annual Commencement Dinner

Graduates free with ticket in rehearsal packet, all others may purchase tickets beginning April 1, or pay at the door.

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Commencement Bonfire, Music and Fireworks

Admission free, cash bar.

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 19, 2019

Breakfast for Seniors and Families

Graduates free with ticket in rehearsal packet, all others may purchase tickets beginning April 1, or pay at the door.

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Graduates report for line up

9:30 a.m.

236th Commencement

Weather report and location information available by 7:00 a.m. on the College's website and by calling 410-778-2800.

10:30 a.m.

Commencement Reception

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Limited housing is available on campus for families and friends on Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18. Reservations for housing will be available beginning on April 1, 2019 by 10:00 a.m. Visit the Commencement website for more details and the link to the reservation site. All residential students, along with these families, must check out by 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 19, 2019.