2020 Virtual Commencement Exercise Information Packet

Spring 2020 Graduates
MEMORANDUM
April 16, 2020

TO: SPRING 2020 GRADUATES

FROM: Claudine Beale
Associate Director of Alumni Affairs

RE: Commencement Exercise

Congratulations to you as you draw near to the completion of your program requirements for the Juris Doctor degree!

Because FAMU is committed to protecting the health of the university community, our families, and friends, we will forego a traditional spring commencement. Instead, the university will host a virtual commencement on Saturday, May 9, 2020.

The purpose of this document is to provide you with an overview of the virtual commencement ceremony and what steps you need to take to participate. While you may have received helpful information from main campus, this document is provided to share details that are unique to College of Law graduates.

If you have any additional questions about the ceremony, or about any other aspect of your graduation, please do not hesitate to contact me at claudine.beale@famu.edu.
What is a virtual commencement ceremony?
A virtual ceremony has many of the same components as a live ceremony. In lieu of walking across the stage to accept your diploma, we create a slide with your photo, degree, honor societies and any personalized messages you provide. It is a great opportunity for you, as well as your family and friends, to attend your commencement from the safety and comfort of your home. An example of a virtual ceremony can be view here.

How do I register for the fully virtual ceremony?
StageClip, the University’s virtual graduation vendor, will send a registration link to your famu.edu email account. Click the link and you will be prompted to upload a photo and thank you note, so that we make sure you are included on a slide in the ceremony. Since most students took graduation pictures in regalia last semester, we suggest using that photo to project a professional and memorable image while participating in the ceremony. If you did not take a graduation picture, you can use a headshot or another professional photo.

What if I don’t want to participate in the fully virtual ceremony?
While we strongly encourage you to take part in this event, participation in the virtual ceremony is not mandatory.

Do I need regalia to attend the virtual ceremony?
Regalia is not required. Again, since most of you took graduation pictures in regalia last semester, we suggest that you use that picture to participate in the ceremony. If you did not take a graduation picture, you can use a headshot or another photo.

When will the virtual Commencement be held?
The University’s campus-wide virtual Spring Commencement Exercise will be held online, Saturday, May 9, 2020 at 10:00 am. If you will have completed all requirements for graduation by the end of the 2020 Spring Semester, you are eligible to participate in the University’s virtual Spring Commencement Exercise.

When will I get my diploma?
Diplomas and diploma covers will be mailed to your permanent address listed in iRattler. We will notify you via e-mail when diplomas are mailed.

If I am graduating with honors, will I have my honors cord in time for the virtual commencement ceremony?
No, you will not have your honors cord in time for the virtual commencement. Along with your diploma and diploma cover, honors cords will be mailed to honor graduates later.

When will I receive information on the rescheduled Hooding Ceremony?
We are monitoring the unfolding public health situation to determine a new date.

Will there be a traditional summer ceremony?
The University will make a decision regarding summer 2020 commencement as it continues to monitor the progress of COVID-19.