
BOSTON COLLEGE

COMMENCEMENT 2012

||||| MAY 21, 2012 |||||

AUGUST 2011

Dear Parents of Graduates:

Our planning for Commencement 2012 is already underway and we are anticipating a special celebration for Boston College's 136th Commencement. It will take place on Monday, May 21, 2012, in Alumni Stadium on campus. The pages that follow include a schedule of Commencement and pre Commencement events as well as other information that we hope will be helpful as you make your plans to celebrate the graduation of your son or daughter from Boston College.

While there are many events that take place in the days leading up to May 21, two are of special importance. On Sunday, May 20, at 12:00 noon the Baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated in Conte Forum. Members of the BC Jesuit Community, Campus Ministers, members of the University Chorale, and many students participate in the Baccalaureate Mass. The University Commencement will be held on Monday, May 21. The main University Commencement Ceremony is held in Alumni Stadium; the academic procession begins at 9:15 a.m. At 12:00 noon each school and college holds its Diploma Ceremony at a campus location.

During the month of May more than 50 area colleges and universities hold their Commencement ceremonies, so it is extremely important that hotel reservations be made as soon as possible. A link to a list of some of the area's hotels, guest houses, and reservation services is included.

We have also included the Boston College Commencement website address as well as other important contact information. We hope you will feel free to call or write with any questions that come up as you begin your planning. Additional information is available on the Commencement website and a brochure with all details will be mailed to you in March.

We look forward to welcoming you to campus in May for this very special Commencement and the graduation of your son or daughter.

Sincerely,



Mary Lou DeLong
Vice President and University Secretary

COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION AND MAILINGS

Undergraduate students will receive the Undergraduate Student Commencement Planning Guide by e-mail in January and in print form in March.

Parents will receive the Guide for Graduates and their Families at their homes in March.

All Commencement information appears on the University's Commencement website:

www.bc.edu/commencement

COMMENCEMENT INVITATIONS

During the month of March, each student will receive access to a specially designed electronic invitation. This invitation may be sent by the student to family and friends.

Personalized printed announcements or invitations are available through the Boston College Bookstore. The Bookstore will provide additional information in January.

DECEMBER GRADUATES

All December graduates are invited to participate in the University Commencement in May 2012.

For undergraduates completing their degrees in December, there will be a Baccalaureate Mass on December 13, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in Gasson Hall, Bapst Library followed by a reception for graduates and their families. No diplomas will be presented at this time. Diplomas will be mailed in early January to the graduate's home address as listed on Agora.

In November, additional information on the December Baccalaureate Mass will be sent to undergraduates graduating in December.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

The Commencement Speaker will be announced by the student newspaper *The Heights* and other University publications in mid April.

RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSING

The University residence halls officially close at 8:00 p.m. on Commencement Day. Any student who requires an overnight extension until Tuesday morning due to the unavailability of airline flights may apply, in writing, to the Office of Residential Life. These extensions will only be granted to international students and to those who reside considerable distances from Boston.

There are special arrangements to facilitate the move-out process. Each graduate should be packed and ready for move-out before Commencement.

SPECIAL AWARDS AND CEREMONIES

Students will be notified in advance if they are receiving a special award from their school or college or if they have been nominated as a Phi Beta Kappa inductee. The presentation of these awards will take place either at a special Award Ceremony on Sunday, at the individual Diploma Ceremonies on Monday, or at the Phi Beta Kappa Initiation Ceremony on Sunday.

CAP AND GOWN RENTAL

Academic Regalia may be rented or purchased from the University's vendor who will be on campus to measure and take orders during the following days and times:

Wednesday, May 16, 12:00 noon to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 17, 12:00 noon to 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 18, 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Those renting will be able to drop their regalia off at a variety of sites after the conclusion of the Commencement activities.

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Each school and college arranges to have a photographer take a photo of each graduate receiving his or her diploma. Information on placing an order will be sent in early April.

PARKING

For the Baccalaureate Mass on Sunday, families and guests of graduates may use the entire parking area on Lower Campus including the two garages.

Since close to 25,000 people attend Commencement on Monday, travel to the campus is extremely slow because of heavy traffic volume. Please allow ample time to reach campus. Lower campus, including one of the two garages, is available for graduates and their guests. However, given the significant number of attendees, there is not adequate campus parking. Two satellite sites, the Brighton Campus and the Chestnut Hill Mall, are available for BC parking and shuttle bus service is provided to the Stadium.

Additional parking information will be included in the March mailing.

STUDENTS AND GUESTS WITH DISABILITIES

There are special arrangements for students and guests with disabilities.

Any student requiring special arrangements should contact his or her Dean as soon as possible.

Guests with Handicapped license plates or placards will be provided with reserved parking in the Beacon Street garage on Commencement Day.

Special seating for those confined to wheelchairs will be provided both at the Baccalaureate Mass and on Commencement Day.

Additional information will be included with the March mailing.

Important Contacts

COMMENCEMENT OFFICE

617-552-4330 ||| www.bc.edu/commencement

OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES

Academic, Financial, and Auxiliary Services

Information about the student's status in fulfilling degree requirements, student financial accounts, and transcripts/records

617-552-3300 or 800-294-0294

www.bc.edu/studentsservices

OFFICE OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE

617-552-3060 ||| www.bc.edu/reslife

STUDENT PROGRAMS OFFICE

617-552-3492 ||| www.bc.edu/seniorweek

BOSTON COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

617-552-0900 or 800-978-0978

www.bc.edu/bookstore

BOSTON COLLEGE POLICE

617-552-4444 for emergencies

617-552-4440 for general inquiries

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

There are many hotels close to Boston College.

It is important that you **make your hotel reservations as soon as possible** as there are many area colleges and universities whose Commencements are held at the same time.

The link below will take you to a comprehensive list of area hotels. The distance from each hotel to Boston College is noted and some will provide a discounted rate to BC parents and visitors. To access this list, please go to:

www.bc.edu/commencementhotels

BOSTON COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY SECRETARY

Heffernan House
110 College Road
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467-3865

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON, MA
PERMIT NO. 54465

BOSTON COLLEGE

Commencement 2012 Calendar

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2012

9:30 a.m.

ROTC Commissioning

10:00 a.m.

Phi Beta Kappa Initiation
Ceremony

10:00 a.m.

Alumni Legacy Reception

12:00 noon

Baccalaureate Mass

1:30 p.m.

Parent/Graduate Reception

2:00 p.m.

Carroll School of
Management Awards
Ceremony

3:00 p.m.

Connell School of Nursing
Senior Convocation

3:00 p.m.

College of Arts and Sciences
Awards Ceremony

3:00 p.m.

Lynch School of Education
Awards Ceremony

5:00 p.m.

Graduate Nurses' Association
Commencement Dinner and
Awards Ceremony

MONDAY, MAY 21, 2012

9:15 a.m.

Academic Procession and
University Commencement

12:00 noon

Individual School/College
Diploma Ceremonies

VISIT US ONLINE AT

www.bc.edu/commencement