The 142nd Commencement of Boston College will be held rain or shine on Monday, May 21, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in Alumni Stadium.

Commencement Exercises are a two-part ceremony. All graduates should be in assembly areas by 8:15 a.m. The academic procession into Alumni Stadium for the University Commencement will begin at 9:05 a.m.

At the conclusion of the University Commencement, graduates and their guests will go to the assigned locations for the individual College Diploma Ceremonies at which diplomas are awarded.

*Tickets are not required for admission to the Main Commencement Ceremony nor the Woods College Commencement Diploma Ceremony.

**Sunday, May 20, 2018**

**Baccalaureate Mass**

12:00 p.m.

**Conte Forum**

All graduating students and their families are encouraged to participate in the Baccalaureate Mass.

*Graduating students should be attired in gown but without cap and hood.

Graduates may sit with family and friends during the Mass. All should be seated by 11:45 a.m. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are not necessary.

Reception for Parents, Graduates, and Guests will be held in O’Neill Plaza, at 1:30 p.m. In the event of rain, this reception will be cancelled. No tickets are necessary.

For the Baccalaureate Mass on Sunday, guests of the graduates will have parking available on Lower Campus, including in both garages.
Commencement Day - Monday, May 21, 2018

Timeline

8:15 a.m.  All graduates should be in the assembly areas
9:15 a.m.  Family and guests should be seated in Alumni Stadium
9:15 a.m.  The academic procession for the University Commencement begins
10:00 a.m. The University Commencement begins, Alumni Stadium
11:45 a.m. Students MUST Check-in at St. Ignatius Church lawn
11:45 a.m. Family and guests should be seated in St. Ignatius Church
11:55 a.m. The Academic Procession for Woods College Diploma Ceremony begins
12:00 noon Woods College Diploma Ceremony begins, St. Ignatius Church
1:15 p.m.  Reception at St. Ignatius Church lawn

Map of Activities

- Undergraduate/BA Assembly point
- Graduate/MS Assembly point
- Main Ceremony
- Diploma Ceremony
**Arrival and Assembly – 8:15 a.m.**

All graduating students must be in the assembly areas by 8:15 a.m.

**Undergraduate/Bachelors Assembly point** - Middle Campus, Linden Lane in front of Gasson Hall. You will be met by Dean David Goodman and Michael Paul, Faculty Advisor.

**Graduate/Masters Assembly point** – Conte Forum, North Stands (Rec Plex side). You will be met by Elizabeth Hiles, MSLA & MSSA Program Director and Alfred Hamilton, MHA Program Director.
**Academic Procession – 9:05 a.m.**

The academic procession will begin at 9:05 a.m. Graduating students should wear **cap and gown and carry the hood over the left arm**. Gowns should be closed in front. Decorative jewelry and flowers should never be worn on the academic gown.

Woods College of Advancing Studies will be leading the Undergraduate Procession through the front of the West and North Stands (Rec Plex end) and down the side aisle to their assigned seats.

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**Security Policies**

The Boston College Police Department has issued the following **guidelines** to enhance security and to facilitate the quick entrance of all guests for our Commencement Exercises on May 21.

Luggage, backpacks, briefcases, large bags, and wrapped gifts will not be allowed into or stored at Alumni Stadium or at the respective school graduation sites. We suggest that you leave these items in your car or the student’s room. Normal-sized handbags, purses, clear bags and camera bags will be allowed but will be subject to inspection prior to entry. Those without bags may enter Alumni Stadium in separate lines.

These policies are consistent with security plans at colleges and universities throughout the region and are meant solely to expedite entry into our venues and provide security and comfort for those who will be in attendance. Additional security personnel will also be on hand as a precaution.
Boston College Main Ceremony, Alumni Stadium – 10:00 a.m.

The Commencement Exercises are held outdoors in Alumni Stadium **rain or shine**. There is open seating, no limit to the number of guests, and **no tickets necessary**.

The ceremony begins when all members of the President's party have reached the stage. Graduating students must be seated until the President's entrance is announced. Everyone will stand and men must remove their caps. *Sit only after the President sits.*

**Hooding of Graduates:**
When the representative of the Woods College goes to the stage to receive the degree, **everyone from the Woods College will stand**. After receiving the degree, the representative is hooded by the President. Candidates from that division will then put on their hoods. Male students will then replace their caps.
Alumni Stadium Seating Plan
Woods College Seating Area: in front of the stage, between the 20 and 40-yard lines.

Immediately after the University Commencement Main Ceremony, please walk to St. Ignatius Church lawn, right side facing the main entrance. All graduates MUST check-in and will be asked to line up for the procession.
Woods College Diploma Ceremony, St. Ignatius Church.

St. Ignatius Church is located at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Fr. Herlihy Drive, directly across from the Boston College Green Line T stop.

Timeline

11:45 a.m. Students MUST Check-in - St. Ignatius lawn.
11:45 a.m. Family and guests should be seated
11:55 a.m. The Academic Procession for Woods College Diploma Ceremony will begin
12:00 noon Woods College Diploma Ceremony begins
1:15 p.m. Reception at St. Ignatius Church lawn

Procession

Check-in and Line up – 11:45 a.m.
Tent at St. Ignatious Church lawn, graduating students must check-in and will be requested to line up alphabetically by degree program.

Bachelors to the left
Masters to the right
The procession will be organized in the following order:

a) Deans  
b) Faculty  
c) Graduating students in the following order:
   1. Bachelors of Arts  
   2. MS Applied Economics  
   3. MS Cybersecurity  
   4. Master in Healthcare Administration  
   5. MS Leadership and Administration  
   6. MS Administrative Studies  
   7. MS Sports Administration  

**Procession begins 12:00 noon**

1. Deans will be first entering the church and will continue all the way to the front.  
2. Faculty will stop at the back pew and turn to line the path around the font.  
3. **Students will go all the way to the front and turn just in front of the steps to the altar. They will go around the front pews and down the side aisle. They will enter their appropriate pew from the side aisle.**  
4. When students are seated, Faculty will proceed forward and take their seats on the altar.

**Diploma Ceremony - 12:00 noon**

Formal distribution of Woods College of Advancing Studies diplomas will take place in St. Ignatius Church. *Graduating students should wear academic regalia—cap, gown, and hood.*

**Seating**

Students will be seated alphabetically within their degree program in the front pews.
- Undergraduate/Bachelors will be seated on the left-hand side facing the altar
- Graduate/Masters will be seated on the right-hand side facing the altar

Conferral of Awards

1. The reader will call every award recipient one by one
2. Awardees will proceed to the center where the Dean will hand them their award and the Commencement photographer will take their picture.
3. All awardees must return to their seats after picking up their diplomas and must remain seated until the close of the ceremony out of respect for classmates and families.

Conferral of Diplomas

1. As names are announced, graduating students will approach by row, single file.
2. Graduating students will proceed to the center where the Dean will hand them their diploma and the official Commencement photographer will take their picture.
3. All graduates must return to their seats after picking up their diplomas and must remain seated until the end of the ceremony out of respect for classmates and families.

Honorary Degrees (Certificates of appreciation) will be delivered at the end of the Ceremony.
HELPFUL RESOURCES

Cap and Gown

Graduates must order and pick up academic regalia before Commencement Day. Cap and Gown Headquarters will be in the lobby/bookstore in McElroy Commons will be open on the following days:

- Wednesday, May 16, 2018, 9:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 17, 2018, 9:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m.
- Friday, May 18, 2018, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

**Cap and gown distribution will NOT be available on Saturday and Sunday.**

Returning Your Cap and Gown

The rental outfit must be returned no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 21, 2018. Representatives of University Cap & Gown will be collecting rented academic regalia at McElroy Commons—Beacon Street entrance; The Hillside Shop in Maloney Hall; and Cardigan Alumni Center on the Brighton Campus. Any returns after 5:00 p.m. on Commencement Day must be made the bookstore located in McElroy Commons.

There will be a charge of $35 for outfits returned incomplete or without the appropriate receipt. For detailed information visit Cap and Gown official page [https://www.bc.edu/offices/commencement/preparing/cap-gown.html](https://www.bc.edu/offices/commencement/preparing/cap-gown.html)

Parking and Transportation

Travel to the University on Commencement morning is extremely slow because of heavy traffic. Ample time should be allowed to reach the Campus, especially from the Massachusetts Turnpike at Newton (Exit 17).

**Satellite Parking**

Due to the large number of people attending the University Commencement Ceremony, there will be a shortage of parking space on campus. Shuttle transportation will be provided throughout the day, from 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., to and from satellite parking sites which are located at:

1. The Brighton Campus
2. The Newton Campus
3. The Chestnut Hill Mall
4. 300 Hammond Pond Parkway
Satellite parking locations 1, 3, and 4 are recommended for guests attending the Woods College of Advancing Studies Diploma Ceremony.

- Satellite Parking location maps [https://goo.gl/JQDUwH](https://goo.gl/JQDUwH)
- Shuttle stops and individual ceremonies map [https://goo.gl/mvwmJi](https://goo.gl/mvwmJi)

**Rideshare Services**
Designated taxi, livery car, and rideshare service (Uber-Lift) providers are to drop off at the following locations only:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Ignatius Church</td>
<td>Adjacent to the St. Thomas More Apartments on Commonwealth Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(in front)</td>
<td>St. Thomas More Apartments on Commonwealth Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father Herlihy Drive</td>
<td>Chestnut Hill, MA 02467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chestnut Hill, MA 02467</td>
<td>Adjacent to the St. Thomas More Apartments on Commonwealth Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2150 Commonwealth Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boston, MA 02135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGuinn Gate</td>
<td>140 Beacon Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chestnut Hill, MA 02467</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lyft is providing discounted rides to Boston College friends and family. New Lyft users can enter coupon code BCGRAD18 for $5 off each of their first two rides.

For information about Campus Parking please visit:
[http://www.bc.edu/offices/commencement/transportation/parking.html](http://www.bc.edu/offices/commencement/transportation/parking.html)

**Information for People with Disabilities and Mobility Issues**

**Parking for the Main Ceremony, Alumni Stadium**
Reserved parking is in the Beacon Street Garage which is attached to the stadium. Golf carts will be available to transport to the stadium or to the Diploma Ceremony.

*Please do not request parking if you have a State Issued Plate or placard* as that is sufficient to access the handicapped parking area.

**Seating at Alumni Stadium**
Will be assigned in each end zone, attempting to seat your guest closest to the school of the graduate. Seating will be assigned on a first come first serve basis by the date the request was received.

To request parking and seating at Alumni Stadium please fill out the Handicapped Parking and Seating Request Form here: [https://htmldbprod.bc.edu/prd/?p=6511:1:::](https://htmldbprod.bc.edu/prd/?p=6511:1:::)


To request parking and seating at **the Woods College Diploma Ceremony, St. Ignatius Church** please contact Marisol Godinez, our Commencement Coordinator at marisol.godinez@bc.edu

Accessibility ramps are located to the left side of the Church facing the main entrance, close to the parking lot.

Detailed information about Transportation, Parking, and Information for People with Disabilities can be found at [http://www.bc.edu/offices/commencement/transportation.html](http://www.bc.edu/offices/commencement/transportation.html)

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**Professional Photos**

A professional photographer will take pictures of each graduating student receiving his or her diploma. You will receive information about placing orders from the photographer Commencement Photos, Inc. In the event you do not receive an order form, you may contact the photographer.

**Commencement Photos, Inc.**
1348 Main St. Tewksbury, MA 01876
(978) 851-5924
[http://www.commencementphotos.com](http://www.commencementphotos.com)

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**Dining Services**

For your convenience, Dining Services will have some food services available **Monday, May 21**

**BC DINING**
- Corcoran Commons (Lower) - 6:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Hillside Café at Maloney Hall - 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Stokes Hall Café - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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**Live webcast of Commencement**

To view the live webcast of Commencement, please access the following link to the Commencement home page at [www.bc.edu/commencement](http://www.bc.edu/commencement)