May 2020 Commencement Ceremony Bulletin

Graduate
Gentry Center Complex
Friday, May 1, 2020
5:00 P.M.

&

Undergraduate
Hale Stadium
Saturday, May 2, 2020
8:00 A.M.
May 2020 Commencement Ceremony

Changes in Graduation

➢ Graduate Students at 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 1, 2020 at Gentry Center Complex.
➢ Undergraduate Students at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Hale Stadium.

Graduation Participation

Students wishing to participate in the ceremony must meet the following requirements:

➢ Apply for graduation prior to the deadline date of March 15, 2020.
➢ Complete the Senior Exit Exam (Undergraduate Students Only).
➢ Be enrolled in your final courses to be completed May 1, 2020.
   • You cannot have any courses, exams, test, thesis, dissertations, etc, to complete after May 1, 2020. All incompleted, credit by exams and grade changes must be completed and on file in Banner by May 1, 2020.

Live Streaming of Undergraduate Commencement

➢ Visit www.tnstate.edu/commencement on the day of the ceremony.

Information at a Glance

Academic Regalia

➢ There is no charge for your Academic Regalia.
➢ Your Academic Regalia must be ordered online by March 15, 2020 at the link below in order to be available in time for the Spring ceremony.

JOSTENS’ Representatives will be on CAMPUS at the MARCH GRAD EVENT to personally assist with:
• CAP & GOWN Measuring
• TSU Graduation Announcements
• YOUR Official TSU College Ring
• COOKIES to celebrate YOU

* SPECIAL EVENT DISCOUNTS WILL BE AVAILABLE *

TSU GRAD EVENT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 & THURSDAY, MARCH 12
10AM – 2PM
OUTSIDE THE TSU BOOKSTORE

➢ Students will be able to pick up their cap and gowns beginning April 27, 2020 at The Bookstore in the Floyd-Payne Campus from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday –Friday. The Bookstore will be closed, Saturday, May 2, 2020.
**Attire**
- Full Academic Regalia.
- Black or dark shoes (Everybody).
- Men, dark slacks, appropriate tie and white shirt.

**Behavior**
- No unauthorized costume or ornamentation shall be worn during commencement ceremonies. Candidates will not be able to participate in commencement ceremonies if academic apparel is altered in any way.
- All ornamentation, including but not limited to signs on the top of mortarboards, buttons, etc. are considered extraneous and are not permitted. Students with such ornamentation will be asked to remove it prior to entering the main arena.
- Do not display disruptive behaviors: stumping, dancing, etc. on stage. Thus, any display of behaviors not befitting Tennessee State University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.
- All cell phones must be turned off!
- No children are allowed to sit with you or walk across the stage with you!

**Degrees**
- Regardless of date of ceremony, all Degrees will have the conferred date of May 2, 2020.
- Degrees will be posted and transcripts available by May 22, 2020.
- All degrees will be mailed to the address you provided on your graduation application by June 1, 2020.
- The name printed on your diploma will be the name as it appears on your transcript in mytsu.

**Disability Seating for Candidates**
- If special accommodations are needed for Commencement, please contact the Office of Disability Services at [http://www.tnstate.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.tnstate.edu/disabilityservices/), phone (615) 963-7400 at least one week prior to graduation. Special seating and parking will be arranged. Office numbers are subject to change, contact the main University switchboard at 615-963-5000 for the most current.

**Distribution of Name Cards**
- Thursday, April 30, 2020 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Gentry Center Complex (Near the Ticket Office). **Students must bring a photo ID.** Your pre-printed name card is required for entry into the graduation ceremony and is used for the rehearsal and the ceremony. **Hold onto it.**

**Financial Obligations**
- All fees and other financial obligations to the University must be paid in full in order to receive your diploma and transcript. If you think you are delinquent in any manner, including traffic fines, library fees, and/or other fees, access your “mytsu” account and/or contact the Bursar’s Office (615-963-7521). If at any time you have ever received any type of guaranteed student loan through the University, you **must** attend an exit interview prior to graduating. Please contact the Office of Student Financial Aid (615-936-5701) and/or access “mytsu” if you have
any questions about this requirement.

**Honors and/or Members of the University Honors Programs**
- Honors cords will be supplied by the Bookstore for undergraduate students designated by the Records Office as graduating with honors (*Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude and Summa Cum Laude*). Honor designations will appear on the printout of graduates received from the Records Office by the Bookstore. Honors designation is a minimum of 3.25 cumulative GPA. That designation is based on the student’s *overall inclusive GPA*.

- Students in the University Honors Program, who have met requirements for “University Honors” from the Honors Program will receive Honor Stole through the Honors Office in the Success Center (LRC).

**Parking/Disabilities**
- General parking will be available in the parking lots throughout the campus. Parking attendants will be stationed at all lots to assist and direct guests. Shuttle service will be provided to transport guests from parking lots to the Complex.

- Special parking will be available for guests using wheelchairs and those with physical disabilities who can walk only short distances. Guests will be allowed access via the Centennial entrance and directed to designated parking areas by parking attendants.

- Guests in wheelchairs and/or those with disabilities will be seated in designated sections in the Gentry Center Complex by the ushers.

**Rehearsal**
- Undergraduate Students- Thursday, May 2, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in the Gentry Center Complex.
- Graduate Students- Thursday, May 2, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Gentry Center Complex.

**Sound**
- The Gentry Center Complex has a built-in PA Sound System that is used for sporting events, which can be heard throughout the Complex.

**Time of Arrival for Ceremony**
- All Graduate candidates must arrive by 3:30 p.m. All Undergraduate candidates must arrive by 7:00 a.m.

**Notes**

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