

# Fall 2020 Commencement Ceremony Bulletin



**November 28, 2020**

**Virtual Commencement**

**9:00 a.m.**

# Commencement Ceremonies – May and December

Currently, two ceremonies are held each year. They are:

- May
- December (November due to COVID-19)

## Commencement Ceremony Reminders

- One ceremony – **Virtual, November 28, 2020, 9:00 a.m.**
- Degrees will not be distributed on the day of commencement.

## Graduation Participation (Due to COVID-19, subject to be changed)

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

- Apply for graduation by the deadline date of **October 15, 2020**.
- Complete the Senior Exit Exam (*Undergraduate Students Only*).
- Complete all required courses, test and hours for your degree. If you get an “I”, you have not met requirements for that term and must re-apply for graduation.

## Information at a Glance

### Academic Regalia

- Your Academic Regalia must be ordered by October 15, 2020.

<https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1077210/Tennessee-State-University/>

**JOSTENS’ Representatives will host a VIRTUAL GRAD EVENT OCTOBER 21 & 22, 2020, to personally assist with:**

- TSU Graduation Announcements
- YOUR Official TSU College Ring

**\* SPECIAL EVENT DISCOUNTS WILL BE AVAILABLE \***

- There is no charge for your Academic Regalia.
- Academic Regalia will be mailed by the University Bookstore beginning November 2020.
- The Records Office does not have access to Academic Regalia.

### Attire

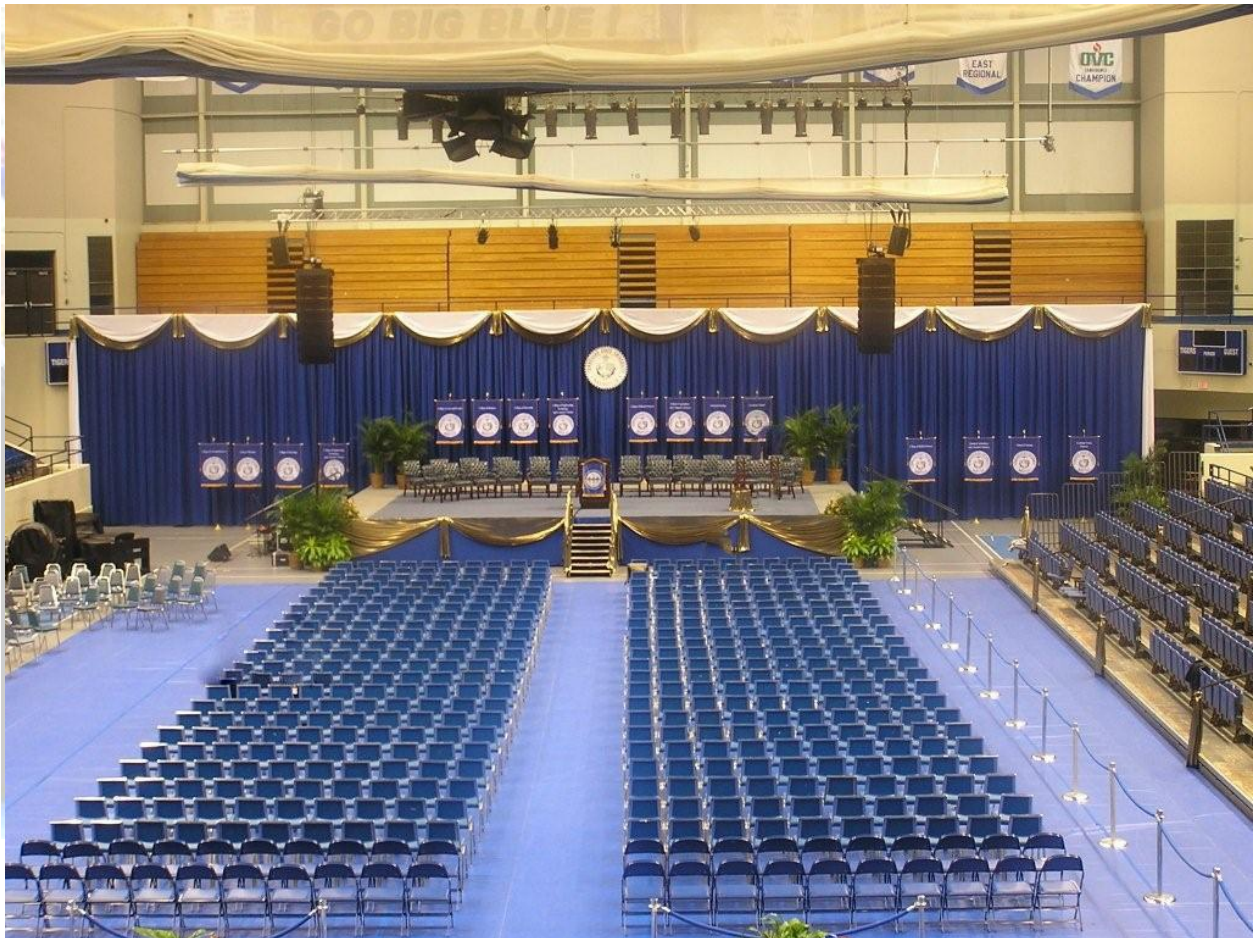
- Full Academic Regalia.
- Black or dark shoes (Everybody).
- Men, dark slacks, appropriate tie and white shirt.
- Ladies, please wear shoes that are appropriate for walking (Heels may pose problems).

### 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!

## Gentry Center Complex Layout



### Degrees

- Degrees will be awarded and transcripts available by Friday, January 15, 2021.
- Degrees will be mailed Friday, January 29, 2021, to the address you selected on the online graduation application.
- The name printed on your diploma is the name of record on your TSU transcript.
- The conferral date on all Fall 2020 diplomas will be December 5, 2020.



## Disability Seating for Candidates

- If special accommodations are needed for Commencement, please contact the Office of Disability Services at (615) 963-7400 or e-mail [amcgaha@tnstate.edu](mailto:amcgaha@tnstate.edu) at least one week prior to graduation. Special seating and parking will be arranged.

## Distribution of Name Cards

- **TBA. Students must bring a photo ID. Virtual Ceremony**

## Financial Obligations

- All fees and other financial obligations to the University must be paid in **full** in order to graduate. If you think you are delinquent in any manner, access your “mytsu” account and/or contact the Bursar (963-7521), including traffic fines and other fees and/or the library (963-5211) for library fines. 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 (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 overall cumulative GPA.
- Students in the University Honors Program, who have met requirements for “University Honors” from the Honors Program will receive Honor Cords 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 venue
- Special parking will be available for guests using wheelchairs and those with physical disabilities who can walk only short distances.
- Guests in wheelchairs and/or those with disabilities will be seated in designated sections in Gentry by the ushers.

## Rehearsal

- **Virtual Ceremony**

## Time of Arrival

- **Virtual Ceremony**

## Emergency Contacts

- TSU Police 615-963-5171
- Disability Services 615-963-7400

➤ Emergency Management 615-963-1246

## **Spring 2021 Commencement Ceremonies**

### **Graduate Student**

Friday, April 30, 2021

5:00 p.m.

Gentry Center Complex

(Due to COVID-19, subject to be changed)

### **Undergraduate Students**

Saturday, May 1, 2021

8:00 a.m.

Hale Stadium

(Due to COVID-19, subject to be changed)

### **Notes**

