

**The Commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2020.**

**What is Commencement?**

**Commencement** is a formal event, held twice annually (spring and fall), to celebrate and recognize the milestone of completing (or the anticipated completion of) a program or degree for a respective group of students. Participation in commencement is optional and does not confirm completion of degree requirements. Commencement activities (Graduation & Commencement Expo, President’s Outstanding Student Awards, and Commencement) are facilitated by Student Life & Leadership Development.

**Graduation** is the official confirmation of the completion of all degree requirements, as maintained on your degree audit report, and is recorded on your official transcript, both of which are administered by the Registrar's Office.

**Livestreaming**

Livestreaming will be available the day of Commencement. Viewers can access the livestream by going to: [www.metrostate.edu](http://www.metrostate.edu).

**Ceremony Information**

In an effort to provide a better experience for all graduates and their guests, we have split Commencement into two ceremonies: Green and Red. The tickets each graduate receives will correspond with the ticket color for each ceremony.

<b>Green Ceremony begins at 10am</b>	<b>Red Ceremony begins at 1:30pm</b>
Participants include the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral graduates from the following colleges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College of Management</li> <li>• College of Liberal Arts</li> <li>• College of Sciences</li> <li>• College of Nursing and Health Sciences</li> </ul>	Participants include the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral graduates from the following colleges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College of Community Studies and Public Affairs</li> <li>• College of Individualized Studies</li> <li>• School of Urban Education</li> </ul>

**Graduation Workshop and Commencement Workshop in D2L**

Please work with your academic advisor to fill out the appropriate paperwork to ensure that you are able to register for the D2L Brightspace Graduation Workshop.

Once registered for the Graduation Requirements Workshop, WKSP GRAD, please complete the Commencement Participation Quiz to indicate your intention of participating in commencement. You will then be added to the Commencement Workshop. Once you are enrolled in the Commencement Workshop, you are RSVP'd for Commencement.

### **International Guests Invitations**

The Registrar's Office will no longer provide letters for students with international guests, as the letters are not considered in the VISA process.

Instead, please log in to D2L Brightspace and go to the Commencement Workshop. Once you have logged in, click the "Commencement Participation Certificate" tab and you will be able to download a certificate verifying that you are participating in commencement. Your international guest(s) may submit this certificate as part of their VISA/International Guest Application with their respective embassy. For more information about this process, please contact [student.life@metrostate.edu](mailto:student.life@metrostate.edu)

### **Regalia information**

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, there will not be an in-person Graduation & Commencement Expo Event.

We encourage students to purchase regalia online between September 18 and November 22 at 9am.

Please be sure to order online by November 17, 2020 to have your regalia in hand by the November 22, 2020 photo deadline.

Regalia will be available to purchase until December 4, 2020.

If you would like to purchase, please go to the [Herff Jones website](#) and contact their customer service via e-mail at [gradmidwest@gmail.com](mailto:gradmidwest@gmail.com).

### **Questions about regalia, purchases, returns or exchanges:**

If you have questions about regalia, including returns/exchanges, please contact [gradmidwest@gmail.com](mailto:gradmidwest@gmail.com) and Herff Jones will help you with your questions/inquiries.

### **Custom regalia:**

Custom regalia (stoles or caps) can be purchased through Herff Jones or through the department they are working directly with. Regalia must be approved by Student Life & Leadership Development. To have your stoles or caps approved, please contact: [student.life@metrostate.edu](mailto:student.life@metrostate.edu) .

### **How to wear your regalia:**

Tassels should be worn as follows:

- Doctoral and Masters graduates: Left shoulder side
- Undergraduate graduates: Right shoulder side

Stoles should be worn over your gown. You may wear as many stoles as you would like.

Caps can be decorated, so long as they are not offensive or distracting.

Graduate program hoods should not be worn until a student is hooded on stage.

### **Conferring of degrees**

The University President confers degrees at the end of the ceremony. Graduates are expected to stay until the end of the ceremony.

### **Accessibility at Virtual Commencement**

Virtual commencement will include captioning and ASL interpreting.

For accessibility-related accommodations, contact: [accessibility.services@metrostate.edu](mailto:accessibility.services@metrostate.edu)

### **Frequently asked questions/Additional quest information**

- **Tickets:** Tickets are not needed or required for the virtual commencement ceremony. Please feel free to share the link with your family members, guests, or loved ones. SLLD will e-mail you the ceremony link the week of the ceremony.
- **Ceremony link:** SLLD will share the ceremony link with you the week of virtual commencement. Make sure you check D2L and your e-mail. If you cannot find the information, you can access the link the day of the ceremony at the Metro State Website.
- **Virtual commencement submission information:** SLLD and our virtual commencement vendor will send you e-mails to upload a photo, video, and to verify your information. It will be important for you to check your e-mail, respond, and upload your information within the deadlines.
- **Can I submit my virtual commencement information after the deadline?** The ceremony is pre-recorded, so unfortunately no. Please submit your information by the deadline.

### **Questions**

For questions regarding Commencement, contact Student Life & Leadership Development at: [student.life@metrostate.edu](mailto:student.life@metrostate.edu)