

Union County College

COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION FOR GRADUATES

Commencement
Thursday, January 9, 2020
2:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Union County Performing Arts Center
1601 Irving Street, Rahway, NJ 07065

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Graduation Fair? The Graduation Fair is Union County College's exciting one-stop shop to help you get ready for the commencement ceremony. See enclosed flyer for more information.

Where do I get a cap and gown?

Caps and gowns for all graduates may be picked up at the Graduation Fair or in the College Bookstores on the Cranford, Elizabeth and Plainfield Campuses. You do not need to order your cap and gown ahead of time; however, you must be eligible and have applied for graduation. You may pick up your cap and gown with a picture identification starting on **Wednesday, December 4, 2019**. Visit the bookstore's websites for pick-up times: www.ucccranfordshop.com, www.uccelizabethshop.com and www.uccplainfieldshop.com.

Where should graduates report?

All graduates should report to the Union County College Rahway Center next to the Union County Performing Arts Center at least one hour prior to the ceremony. Graduates should follow signs to the **check-in** location. Staff will be on hand to assist you.

Degree Designation

Associate in Science – A.S.

Ceremony Time

2:30pm

Report Time

1:30pm

Degree Designation

Associate in Arts – A.A.

Associate in Applied Science – A.A.S.

Certificate of Achievement – C.T.A.

Certificates – C.T.

Ceremony Time

6:00pm

6:00pm

6:00pm

6:00pm

Report Time

5:00pm

5:00pm

5:00pm

5:00pm

How do I obtain tickets for the ceremony?

Graduates can receive up to four (4) commencement tickets and can pick them up from any of the Graduation Fairs on **Wednesday, December 4, 2019**. If you are unable to attend the Fair, you may pick up tickets Mondays – Thursdays 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the following locations:

- December 4, 2019 at the Graduation Fair (All Campuses)
- Cranford Campus, Student Development Building, Student Services Center
- Elizabeth Campus, Lesner Building, Fifth Floor, Student Services Center
- Plainfield Campus, Logos Building, Student Services Center

Ticket distribution ends on **Friday, December 13, 2019**. The ceremony will be streamed live at <https://livestream.com/UCC-TV> and recorded for those who are unable to attend.

How can I request additional tickets?

An event page has been created on the Union County College Facebook page. Students are encouraged to use social media to obtain additional tickets from students who may have extras. Tickets are free, and the selling of commencement tickets is strictly prohibited. We suggest students meet on campus to exchange tickets rather than at off-campus locations. If you still need additional tickets, please email Dean of Students at deanofstudents@ucc.edu with the amount of extra tickets you need. If there are any additional tickets available, we will contact you on or after **Friday, January 3, 2020**.

What if someone attending requires disability accommodations?

Ushers will be available at the ceremony to assist with any accommodations.

Will there be a commencement rehearsal?

Yes, a rehearsal will be held at the Union County Performing Arts Center on **Wednesday, January 8, 2020** at 5:00 p.m. We strongly recommend all students to attend the rehearsal ceremony.

Where should I park?

Parking is available at the Rahway Parking Garage, Hamilton Stage, and street parking.

Hamilton Stage
360 Hamilton St.
Rahway, NJ 07065

Rahway Parking Garage
67 Lewis St.
Rahway, NJ 07065

What will happen if my guests show up without a ticket?

Due to capacity restrictions, all guests must have a ticket in order to enter the Union County Performing Arts Center, including children ages 2 and older.

What should I wear to the Ceremony?

Graduates are encouraged to be comfortable and should understand that they may be standing for long periods of time.

Why should I attend Commencement?

Commencement is a graduation ceremony to celebrate this memorable moment of your success. We urge all to attend, however if it is not possible, your diploma will be mailed to your address on file.

What do I need to bring to the ceremony?

Students must arrive with their cap, gown, tassel and the completed *Name Card* that is included in this packet.

Why do I need the *Name Card*?

The *Name Card* is used to read your name as you walk across the stage. Your name is announced from this card, so please print clearly and if appropriate, spell your name phonetically to assist the reader with the correct pronunciation.

Will I have an opportunity to obtain a professional photograph as I walk on stage?

Yes. Once commencement is over, the photographer will send you information to the email address provided on the *Name Card* included in this packet. The email will include information on how to view photo proofs and place orders. Graduates and guests are invited to take pictures with our President, Dr. Margaret McMenemy, after the Ceremony. These photos will be immediately available at **no cost**.

When will I receive my diploma?

Your diploma will be mailed six-eight weeks after commencement to the address on file as long as you do not have any outstanding financial obligations and all graduation requirements have been met.

Are strollers and balloons allowed in the theatre?

Due to space restrictions, strollers and balloons **will not be permitted** in the theatre. Please leave strollers and balloons in your vehicles.

Can I bring flowers into the theatre?

Yes. Flowers are permitted in the theatre.

Where can I meet my family and guests after the Ceremony?

At the conclusion of the ceremony, graduates will recess out of the theatre and can meet their guests outside. All guests will be required to remain in their seats during the recession of the graduates.

What if there is inclement weather?

In case of inclement weather, please check Union County College's website for information on closures or delays. In the event of a cancellation, the commencement ceremony will be held on **Thursday, January 16, 2020**.

Who can I speak to if I have additional questions?

Questions about eligibility to graduate should be referred to Deadra Holman at holman@ucc.edu or at (908) 707-7160. Questions about the ceremony should be referred to Dean of Students at deanofstudents@ucc.edu.