

September 15, 2020

Hello fellow Cougars!

Fall classes are well underway and plans for the Fall 2020 Commencement scheduled for Saturday, December 12, are beginning to take shape. Thus, I want to keep you informed of CUC's commencement plans as they unfold.

With continued deep concern for the health and safety of CUC's students, faculty, staff, and the community, all Fall 2020 Commencement exercises will be held virtually to comply with current federal and state guidelines that prohibit large gatherings exceeding 50 people.

The Fall 2020 Undergraduate Commencement will be held virtually on Saturday, December 12, beginning at 2:00 PM. The ceremony will be streamed online using CUC's livestream ([CUChicago.edu/live](http://CUChicago.edu/live)) and via Facebook Live. So that we can recognize each student's accomplishment, you will be invited to submit a photo that will be shown as your name is read. Photos could be of you wearing your cap and gown (regalia) or another appropriate image. Watch your email for instructions for submitting your photos.

In preparation, here are some things you should be aware of and tasks you need to complete:

***Submit your Intent to Graduate***

Students must complete the Intent to Graduate by October 1. [This is required to graduate](#). Check the portal ([connect.cuchicago.edu](http://connect.cuchicago.edu)) under the Academics tab to complete the Intent to Graduate form.

***Grad Finale (October 5 -7)***

Grad Finale is an opportunity for students to confirm their eligibility to graduate and check or clear balances prior to commencement. Students will have the opportunity to engage with a representative from Business Services and the Registrar's Office to address any questions they may have. Students will receive another email with additional details and instructions to register for the virtual event.

***Caps and Gowns (Regalia)***

Students may order regalia using this link: <https://webforms.cuchicago.edu/student-services/graduation-apparel/>.

- Deadline to order regalia is October 8.
- All orders must be pre-paid at the time of ordering.
- Late orders after October 8 will incur a late fee.
- Students may have orders shipped to their home or shipped to the bookstore for pick up.
- Regalia ordered by the October 8 deadline will be shipped by November 13.

***Graduation Photos/Portraits***

Due to the viral pandemic, the University is unable to host Grad Images to take commencement photos/portraits. CUC continues to work with Grad Images to discuss possible options, which would be communicated in the future.

Be sure to check the commencement website frequently, as updates will also be posted there: [CUChicago.edu/commencement](http://CUChicago.edu/commencement).

*Dr. Kevin Borchers*

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