

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Chancellor
Committee on Commencement
Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



January 6, 2017

Dear Illinois Family Member:

Congratulations! The Office of the Registrar indicates that based on the number of hours completed, your student may be eligible to participate in the May 2017 Commencement of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. If, for any reason, the student is not planning to graduate this spring, please disregard this letter. Materials pertaining to Commencement activities will be sent directly to the student's campus address in late February. Although full details may be found at commencement.illinois.edu, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some information.

The campuswide Commencement ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 13, at 9:30 a.m. in Memorial Stadium. The ceremony will last approximately two hours. All guests must present an admission ticket to enter the stadium. Tickets will be available after Spring Break.

In addition to the campuswide ceremony, many individual colleges, schools, and departments host separate Convocation ceremonies. A listing of these ceremonies is enclosed for your information. Convocations are scheduled for Friday, May 12; Saturday, May 13; and Sunday, May 14. Convocations do not conflict with the campuswide Commencement exercise, allowing students and their families and friends the opportunity to participate in all activities. Tickets and/or advance registration are required for most Convocations, and because of their popularity, some units may restrict the number of guest tickets provided to each student. Students should receive information regarding Convocations directly from the sponsoring unit in March. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to fully participate in Commencement activities may contact the Committee on Commencement at commencement@illinois.edu or 217/333-8834.

You may be interested in other events that are scheduled for Commencement weekend. Brunch will be available on Saturday, May 13, from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Ikenberry Commons. Information regarding pricing and reservations may be found on the Commencement website. La Casa Cultural Latina, the Native American House, and the African American Cultural Program will host formal congratulatory programs. The President and Chancellor will host a reception for all graduates and their families at the President's House, 711 West Florida Avenue in Urbana following the Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 13, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.

A cap and gown are required for participation in Commencement. Herff Jones has been contracted to provide custom rental academic attire for all graduates. The Bachelor's attire consists of a custom University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign blue gown with matching mortarboard, a stole of gratitude, and a tassel indicating the student's college/field of study. Students should order academic attire online at herffjones.com/illinois by Thursday, April 13. To have regalia shipped, orders must be placed by March 22. Additional ordering instructions are provided at commencement.illinois.edu. Announcements may be ordered through the Herff Jones website, the Illini Union Bookstore, or a printer of your choice.

Most hotels begin taking reservations for Commencement Weekend very early and already may be filled in the Champaign-Urbana area. For assistance with accommodations, please visit the Champaign County Convention and Visitors Bureau at visitchampaigncounty.org.

I hope you find this information helpful in making arrangements for Commencement Weekend. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign looks forward to honoring your student.

Sincerely,

Laura Wilhelm-Barr
Senior Director of Special Events