

Good Morning, Graduates!

Commencement is fast approaching, so **please read through this carefully** to ensure you don't miss anything important!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Student Speaker Update](#)

Thank you all for submitting your nominations for this year's Student Speaker! All finalists have been notified and submitted a writing sample of their speech. A committee consisting of graduating students and staff members are currently reviewing finalists' de-identified writing samples.

[Student Song](#)

Every year, the graduating class picks a song to recess (or walk out) to after you graduate. Please [submit your choice](#) for the student recessional song by **Wednesday, May 1st**. Last year, the song was Uptown Funk, by Bruno Mars. The song will be determined by quantity of submissions for a particular song.

[Graduation Gifts](#)

Our Alumni Engagement Team will be distributing **graduation gifts** on the **Skybridge**. Graduating students may pick up graduation gifts during the following dates and times:

- Monday, April 29 from 11:00am - 1:00pm
- Tuesday, April 30th from 11am - 1:00pm
- Thursday, May 2nd from 11am - 1:00pm

If you have any additional questions, please contact Michelle James, Senior Director for Alumni Engagement at the Rollins School of Public Health (michelle.james@emory.edu)

NEW / IMPORTANT COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

The RSPH Diploma Ceremony Website can found [HERE](#) and will be updated regularly.

[RSPH Diploma Ceremony RSVP \(DEADLINE APPROACHING\)](#)

Graduates participating in the Diploma Ceremony are required to RSVP by **Monday, April 29**. It is *mandatory* to RSVP in order to participate in the Rollins Diploma Ceremony. If you do not RSVP, you may not participate in the RSPH Diploma Ceremony.

- The RSPH Diploma Ceremony RSVP for students with an active Emory e-mail address can be found by clicking [here](#).
- The RSPH Diploma Ceremony RSVP for students who **DO NOT** have an active Emory e-mail address (Summer 2018 and Fall 2018 Graduates) can be found by clicking [here](#).

Please Note: *Students must have completed ALL course work and degree requirements to participate in the graduation ceremonies including their thesis and special studies project to participate in the RSPH Diploma Ceremony.*

RSPH Diploma Ceremony Logistics

- **Graduates are to line up on the Third Floor of the Woodruff Physical Education Center (WPEC) at 2:45PM on May 13, 2019.** When you arrive, you will be on the second floor of the WPEC. Go up one floor and go to the sign that corresponds to your last name. Please note that there will be **no line up at RSPH**.
- Please remind your family and guests that seating **WILL NOT BE available at WPEC until 3:00 p.m.** The ceremony will begin promptly at 3:30 p.m.
- Immediately after the ceremony graduates may meet their families and guests on the outdoor track. If it is raining, graduates may meet their families and guests on the second floor of the WPEC.
- There will be no diploma distribution following the ceremony. All diplomas will be mailed to graduates.

Disability Access and Seating

- If you are attending BOTH the Emory Commencement and the RSPH Diploma ceremony, you will need to complete the [disability access and seating request form](#).
- The deadline for requesting disability access seating tickets is **Friday, May 3**. If you are only attending the RSPH Diploma ceremony, please [email me directly](#) with any guests that will require disability accommodations.

Parking (UPDATED INFORMATION)

All decks will be open and free for families/guests of graduates. Please plan accordingly, especially if you have guests with disabilities. For parking purposes, it is recommended that you arrive 1-1.5 hours before the RSPH Diploma Ceremony. **A Parking Guide is attached.**

- Your **recommended parking deck** is the **Michael Street Parking Deck**. **Shuttle service** to the back entrance of the WPEC will be available starting at **1:00PM and will be available until 6:00PM**.
- You may also park at the **Peavine Parking Deck**. While this is the closest parking deck to the event venue, please note that there is another diploma ceremony that will not conclude until 2:30PM. Therefore, traffic and parking may be a challenge.

Name Pronunciation

To review the pronunciation of your name with Hannah Nicol, who will be announcing graduates, please take the following steps:

- Stop by Student Services on **Wednesday, May 8th between 1-3pm** to review your name briefly with Hannah.
- Email your name both as it is spelled AND phonetically to hannah.nicol@emory.edu by May 8th.
- On Commencement day, **write your name phonetically** and as you would like it to be read, on your **white name card**.
 - You **will hand your card to Hannah** right before you walk across the stage to receive your diploma.
 - Please **whisper the correct pronunciation to Hannah** as you hand her your name card.

[REHAC Gown Collection](#)

The Rollins Environmental Health Action Committee (REHAC) is asking all graduates to consider donating their regalia after the RSPH graduation ceremony. Over the past six years, REHAC has collected used regalia to lend to graduating students for free, which is a win-win for students' budget and conserving resources. REHAC's goal is to collect enough regalia to lend to the *entire* graduating class each year, free of charge. REHAC will be collecting gowns after commencement at the WPEC.

If you would like to hold on to your gown for a few days, you may drop your gown off in the Office of Admission & Student Services any time before May 31st. The office is open Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 5:00pm.

PREVIOUS COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

[Regalia \(Cap and Gown\)](#)

Regalia from the Barnes and Noble at Emory University was to be purchased by **Wednesday, March 21**. Regalia may still be purchased from the Bookstore; however, sizes are only available on a **first-come, first-serve basis**. If you have any questions regarding regalia, contact the Bookstore by phone at 404-727-2731 or email Heather La Fleur at hlafleu@emory.edu.

[RSPH Diploma Ceremony Photography](#)

Village Photographers will take professional pictures of *each and every* graduate as they receive their diplomas and exit the stage at the graduation ceremony.

There is no charge for this service and there is no obligation to order.

Free proofs will be sent by mail and e-mail about a week after the ceremony.

To ensure that Village Photographers has the correct address information, please provide your contact information to Village Photographers. You may sign up on-line or contact us by phone or e-mail. Multiple e-mail and mailing addresses may be registered online to allow family and friends to receive a paper proof in the mail and an e-mail with a direct link to the graduate's photos.

To sign-up on line go to:

www.villagephotographers.com.

Just click the *blue button* that says "Sign up for Graduation Proofs".

Thank you and congratulations!

Joanne P. Amposta, MPH, CHES

Assistant Director for Student Engagement

Rollins School of Public Health | Emory University

Grace Crum Rollins Building (GCR) | Suite 164 (1st Floor)

1518 Clifton Road NE | Atlanta, GA 30322

jampost@emory.edu | 404-683-5404

