

4/30/20

Dear Spring 2020 Candidate for Commencement:

Congratulations! We look forward to celebrating the key academic milestone of your education at Palmer College. Because of the extraordinary circumstances we're experiencing this term associated with the COVID-19 crisis, Palmer College is modifying our usual Commencement exercises. We'll celebrate the achievements of our spring 2020 graduates while taking appropriate measures to protect the health and safety of the Palmer community.

If Commencement were held this week, it would be a virtual ceremony. At this point, based on Iowa and Scott County directives, we're prohibited from holding any event of greater than 10 people. However, we remain hopeful that Iowa will move Scott County into an "opening phase," which will allow us to host a limited in-person ceremony on Friday, June 19 at 11 a.m., in Vickie Anne Palmer Hall. Attendance will be restricted to graduates, two guests per graduate, and a limited number of administrators and faculty.

Graduates who are unable to attend will be acknowledged during the ceremony and may choose to participate in the October 23, 2020 Commencement. The June and October ceremonies will be live streamed on Palmer's Facebook page, as well as posted on the Palmer website after the event.

Key points:

1. Each candidate will receive a communication from the Office of the Registrar requesting RSVP information.
2. On June 5, based on guidelines for Iowa and Scott County, a decision will be made on whether we'll proceed with the desired in-person June 19 ceremony, or if we'll need to shift to a virtual Commencement.
3. On Thursday, June 18, regardless of the graduation type (virtual or in-person) a campus photographer and I will be available for photo opportunities. Campus locations and times will be made available at a later date.
4. Specific graduation details, including information on photo opportunities and graduation clearance will be available and posted to the Palmer Portal by May 15, 2020.
5. The graduation banquet scheduled for Thursday, June 18 is cancelled. Awards customarily presented during the banquet will be presented during the Commencement ceremony.

If you're unable to return to campus for June Commencement, the College will send you a package that will include your diploma, diploma cover, honor cord, honor plaques and

certificates, and a commemorative program that recognizes your achievements while at Palmer.

By the end of the term, spring 2020 graduates will have faced not only the usual trials and tribulations of attaining a Doctor of Chiropractic degree, but also will have overcome the unprecedented situation of rapidly transitioning to remote learning in the midst of a global pandemic. We're very proud of all of you, appreciative of your commitment, and grateful for how quickly you've adapted to changing circumstances.

Thank you for the great fortitude demonstrated during this crisis.

I hope to see you at the ceremonies!

Dennis Marchiori, D.C., Ph.D.

Chancellor and CEO