

From: [Michael Taylor](#)
To:
Subject: Important Commencement Update
Date: Friday, May 22, 2020 4:57:02 PM

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Dear soon-to-be graduates,

As you complete your final courses and prepare to graduate, I know this spring is not what you had in mind. While I fervently wish that you could have completed your time at Urban College in a bustling, full campus, the pandemic has made that impossible. When we decided to postpone Commencement, I promised that we would still hold a Commencement ceremony for you. I had hoped that we might be able to do so this summer or fall, but those options have faded as the projections for the pandemic do not indicate that it will be safe to gather in large groups for quite some time.

Given that reality, we have decided to hold our 25th Commencement ceremony – which will celebrate and recognize both the classes of 2020 and 2021 – in early June 2021. We hope that by that time it will be safe to gather together, with your proud family and friends, as a large group in the Cutler Majestic Theatre.

In the meantime, we know that you are eager to receive your hard-earned certificates and diplomas. We are exploring a variety of options to ensure that students receive their certificates and diplomas as soon as possible. We hope to be able to provide graduates with a plan and a timeline by late June but this may be delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions. In the meantime, if you need proof that you have earned a certificate or degree, you can request an official transcript using the following link: <http://www.urbancollege.edu/Data/Sites/1/transcript-request-2020.pdf>. Transcripts that note spring 2020 graduation should be available starting in mid-June.

Please know that the entire College community is tremendously proud of your accomplishments and deeply wishes we could all be celebrating together at the end of May. As I always remind graduates at the conclusion of the Commencement ceremony, “the doors of Urban College are forever open to you”. We celebrate remotely with you now, look forward to a joyous in-person celebration next June, and hope to follow your successes for years to come.

You are a determined, committed group that has weathered many challenges during your time at UCB – capped off by a pandemic during your final semester. The resilience you have shown in the face of adversity will serve you well as you advance your careers and continue to transform your

lives, your families, and your communities.

With gratitude and great respect,
Michael

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