

COMMENCEMENT

Congratulations Class of 2019

The **50th Commencement Ceremony** will be held on **Friday, May 31, 2019, at 10 a.m., Prudential Center, Newark.**

Prudential Center Address & Parking

Address: 165 Mulberry Street, Newark, New Jersey

Parking: Prudential Center is surrounded by many parking garages and lots. You can purchase guaranteed, pre-paid parking for events at Prudential Center <https://prucenter.clickandpark.com/>. Arrival time coincides with rush hour so please allow time for traffic and parking in Newark.

Arrival Time

- **Graduates** should **check-in by 8:30 a.m., and use the Ford Tower Entrance,** on the southeast corner of Prudential Center at Mulberry Street and Lafayette Street.
- **Graduates** should **report to the intake table,** pick up their **Name Card,** and quickly lineup with Academic Department of their Major. The **Processional starts at exactly 9:45 a.m.**
- **Guests** should use the **Investors Bank Tower Entrance,** on the northeast corner of Prudential Center at Mulberry Street and Edison Place. **Doors open at 9:00 a.m.,** and guests must be seated by 9:45 a.m.

Commencement Participation Eligibility

The 2019 Commencement Ceremony is open to:

- Students who completed degree requirements as of August 2018, or December 2018.
- Students completing degree requirements as of Spring 2019 or Summer I 2019.

Graduation Tickets & Caps & Gowns

Graduation invitation tickets and **caps and gowns** will be distributed **from the Enrollment Services Office** according to the schedule below. Graduates do not need to fill out a cap and gown order form. We will fit you for one when you come to pick it up.

Monday	May 20, 2019	(9:30 a.m. – 4: 00 p.m.)
Tuesday	May 21, 2019	(9:30 a.m. -- 6:00 p.m.)
Wednesday	May 22, 2019	(9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
Thursday	May 23, 2019	(9:30 a.m. -- 4:00 p.m.)
Friday	May 24, 2019	(9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
Tuesday	May 28, 2019	(9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
Wednesday	May 29, 2019	(9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
Thursday	May 30, 2019	(9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.)

Each graduate will be given up to **(4) graduation invitation tickets.** Graduates can invite as many family and friends as they wish. **Tickets are NOT required for entry.**

Caps and gowns must be picked up by Thursday, May 30, 2019. There will be no distribution at the Prudential Center.

Graduation invitations, cap and gown are released **ONLY** to the graduating student. If you want to give another person permission to pick up your package, they must present a letter signed by you. The letter should provide the name of the individual and they must present an identification.

Graduation Honors

- **All courses required for degree must be completed.**
- Cumulative Degree Grade Point Average (CDGPA) of 3.50 or better must be achieved. Only college level courses are included in the calculations of graduation honors.

- Students who have completed requirements for a degree, attained 3.50 or better cumulative college degree point average (CDGPA) are eligible to receive an honors designation. Honors designation will be indicated on diplomas and official transcripts.
- Summer I 2019 candidates, although eligible to walk in the ceremony will not receive honors designation until all courses required for their degree are completed.

Graduation Photos & Class Ring

The College has contracted a professional photography company to take your graduation photos. A complimentary proof of your photos will be sent to your e-mail account. There is no obligation to purchase and you are not required to bring a cap and gown, as one will be provided for you during the photo session. All **class ring and photo dates will be held at the Dasher Student Center**. For questions pertaining to graduation photos and class rings contact the Office of Student Life & Activities (973) 877-3208 on the Main Campus.

Photos (Dasher Student Center)

Tuesday	May 21, 2019 (10 a.m. – 7 p.m.)
Wednesday	May 22, 2019 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)
Thursday	May 23, 2019 (10 a.m. – 7 p.m.)
Friday	May 24, 2019 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

Class Rings (Dasher Student Center)

Wednesday	May 1, 2019 (12 p.m. – 4 p.m.)
Thursday	May 23, 2019 (10 a.m. – 7 p.m.)
Friday	May 24, 2019 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)
Tuesday	May 28, 2019 (5 p.m. – 7 p.m.)

Graduation Rehearsal

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at 6 pm,

Place: Essex County College, Gymnasium, Physical Education Building.

Appropriate dress for the ceremony

- Business-casual attire is recommended.
- Comfortable shoes are recommended (no sneakers or slippers).
- Personal belongings should not be brought to the line-up area.

Ceremony

- Graduates should **check-in at 8:30am**. The **Processional starts at exactly 9:45 a.m.** The Ceremony starts at 10:00 a.m. and is two hours long.
- Division Chairpersons will signal students when it is time to walk to the stage. Candidates will hand in their Name Card to the Division Chairperson, walk across the stage, as their name is announced and proceed to center stage to receive their diploma cover.
- The ceremony will also be broadcast online at the Essex County College Website.
- After the ceremony, graduates will be directed to exit Prudential Center via the Ford Tower. Please plan to meet your families outside of the arena on Mulberry Street.

Diplomas

- Diplomas are not distributed at the Commencement Ceremony. All degree candidates will receive a diploma cover when walking on the stage.
- E-mail notifications will be sent to graduates when diplomas are available for pick up.

Request accommodations for persons with disabilities

Graduates: Please contact Dr. Victor Stolberg at (973) 877-3129 by **May 24, 2019**.

Guests: Please visit the Prudential Center website <https://www.prucenter.com/ada-guide> for ADA Guide.

Questions about Commencement and graduation

For more information regarding your graduation status or about Commencement, please visit the Enrollment Services Office **by May 30, 2019**.