

MEMORANDUM

To: Evening Studies Candidates for Graduation
From: Adrienne Gaines, Registrar
Re: 2019 Baccalaureate, Commencement, and graduation fee
Date: March 13, 2019

Congratulations on your completion or near completion of your Huntingdon College degree. We are excited about the upcoming ceremony.

The Baccalaureate and Commencement exercises for the Evening Studies Program are on Saturday, May 11, at 6:00 p.m. on the Green.* All Evening Studies Program degree candidates participating in Commencement are required to attend **Commencement practice in Ligon Chapel, Flowers Hall on Saturday, May 11 at 3:30 p.m. Caps, tassels, gowns and hoods are required.** A reception will follow practice at 4:30 p.m. in the **Russell Dining Hall.**

* In case of rain, graduation will be held in the **Catherine Dixon Roland Student Center.**

Caps, gowns, tassels and hoods are required for the event. Information regarding ordering this regalia, as well as invitations and class rings, is available from the Huntingdon College bookstore at (334) 833-4482.

- If you do not order them online through the Herff Jones website prior to the **Friday, March 15, 2019 deadline**, you may order them through the Huntingdon College bookstore beginning **Monday, April 1.** We encourage you to complete this step *as soon as possible*. Although other accessories and appreciation items are offered for purchase, your cap, gown, hood, and tassel are the only items officially endorsed and accepted by the College as appropriate for the ceremony. After ordering, you will pick up graduation regalia in the Huntingdon College Bookstore, Catherine Dixon Roland Student Center, or have it shipped.
- Graduation announcements/invitations may be ordered online at www.herffjones.com/college/hc/. Orders will be accepted via the Herff Jones website until the week prior to graduation. Shipping charges are adjusted as the date of commencement nears.

Eligibility for graduation honors (*summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude* or *cum laude*) is determined the day prior to the Commencement ceremony. The distinction is announced when you march across the stage and is indicated on your diploma and transcript. There is no additional regalia for students who graduate with honors.

ALL confirmed candidates for graduation will be assessed a non-refundable graduation fee of \$50. This charge will be posted to the student account of every graduate (even those not participating in the Commencement ceremony).

The Financial Aid Office has requested this announcement. As required by the Federal Stafford Loan Program and the Federal Perkins Loan Program Guidelines, students who have borrowed under these programs must complete an Exit Interview before being cleared for graduation. These can be done online at <https://studentloans.gov> (for Federal Stafford/Direct Loans) and <https://heartland.ecsi.net> (for Federal Perkins Loans). Please contact the Financial Aid Office at ext. 4428 if you need assistance. If you have taken out student loans during the course of your undergraduate studies and plan to attend graduate school, please be sure to contact your lender(s) to request an in school deferment. This will allow you to defer your student loan repayment while you are enrolled in graduate school. Deferment forms should be obtained from your lender.

Please visit the online National Student Loan Database System (NSLDS) (<https://nslds.ed.gov>). This website contains all of your loan information including your Lender, Servicer, Guarantee agency, interest rates, accumulated interest and balances. Please note that Huntingdon College does not retain the information provided by NSLDS. Therefore, please refer to the website to gather data about your loans.

In order for a student to graduate or have a transcript released, all financial obligations must be settled with the Office of Student Financial Services, and you cannot be defaulted on your student loans. To make inquiries or payments call the Student Account Manager at (334) 833-4404, email studentaccounts@hawks.huntingdon.edu, or visit the office in Wilson 108A.

If your plans change and you are unable to graduate or participate in the annual Commencement ceremony, please email sbpsregistrar@huntingdon.edu or call 334-833-4522 immediately.

For other questions, please visit: <http://hawk.huntingdon.edu/SBPS/registrar/gradQandA%20copy.html> or contact us at sbpsregistrar@hawks.huntingdon.edu.