

**From:** President Morales [president\\_morales@csusb.edu](mailto:president_morales@csusb.edu)

**Date:** Tuesday, September 22, 2020

**To:** [students@groups.csusb.edu](mailto:students@groups.csusb.edu)

**Subject:** Fall Commencement 2020 Announcement



To CSUSB Students:

The recent announcement by Chancellor White informing all CSU-member institutions that instruction for Spring 2021 will be conducted virtually created the need to make a timely determination regarding the Fall 2020 Commencement here at Cal State San Bernardino.

In consultation with campus stakeholder groups, it has been decided the Fall 2020 Commencement ceremonies will be conducted using a virtual format. Graduates who participate in the virtual ceremony will also be invited to participate in-person when we return to that format.

As a University, our top priority continues to be the health and safety of our students and their families as well as our faculty and staff. With the first month of the fall semester already complete, it was necessary to finalize plans in order to allow enough lead time for registration, scheduling and production of these important traditional ceremonies.

While we at CSUSB proudly state that *We Define the Future*, we also realize commencement is truly a defining moment for our graduates, a significant part of the college experience and a reaffirming event for the entire campus community. Postponement of our Spring 2020 ceremonies in June had already slated the Fall

Commencement to be an even greater assemblage of graduates and their families, which also played an influential role in this decision.

Four ceremonies will take place on Saturday, December 12. Students from both the San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses who qualified for graduation in Winter 2020, Spring 2020 and Summer 2020 as well as those eligible for Fall 2020 will be invited to participate.

Students can anticipate receiving an email from the Commencement Office with complete details and instructions for the December event.

I want to make it clear that all of the graduates – whether they choose to take part in December’s virtual ceremonies or not – will have an opportunity to participate in the next in-person CSUSB commencement when conditions permit us to hold it safely.

Student registration for the virtual commencement will open on Monday, September 28 at 8 a.m. Part of registration will include each participant uploading their picture and a comment, both of which will be displayed during their respective ceremony. All participants will receive their diploma cover and commemorative program by mail.

I realize this is not how any of us had envisioned our commencement celebration this December. However, it is the best option available that will allow us to celebrate the tremendous achievement of our exceptional Class of 2020 graduates. I look forward to being part of this amazing experience highlighting our students’ attainment of their academic and personal aspirations.

Sincerely,

**Tomás D. Morales**

President

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