

March 1, 2018

Dear Iowa State students and colleagues:

I write to you with important information regarding changes to spring commencement. After much thoughtful discussion and valuable feedback from more than 2100 students via a survey of seniors, we have decided to split spring undergraduate commencement into two ceremonies.

This change best aligns with the wishes of our prospective graduates. It will ensure our graduates and their guests can enjoy the traditional elements of commencement and the desired experience expressed by students, including having their name read as they walk across the stage, space for an unlimited number of guests to attend, having as many colleges represented in a ceremony as possible so graduates can see their friends walk across the stage, and a much shorter ceremony.

The schedule for all spring commencement ceremonies is as follows:

Spring 2018 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony 1

Colleges: Agriculture and Life Sciences, Business, and Liberal Arts and Sciences
Date: Saturday, May 5
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Hilton Coliseum
Speaker: None (President Wintersteen will provide remarks)

Spring 2018 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony 2

Colleges: Design, Engineering, and Human Sciences
Date: Saturday, May 5
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Location: Hilton Coliseum
Speaker: None (President Wintersteen will provide remarks)

Spring 2018 Vet Med Commencement is scheduled for 12:30 p.m., Saturday, May 5, at Stephens Auditorium

Spring 2018 Graduate Commencement is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 3, at Hilton Coliseum.

In addition, college convocations and receptions will take place either Friday or Saturday so as not to conflict with the commencement schedule. Graduates will be permitted to wear academic regalia at their college convocation as deemed appropriate by their Dean.

Information about how the commencement schedule will impact the final exam schedule will soon be shared with the colleges.

I want to thank the Commencement Advisory Committee and Commencement Review Task Force as well as the Office of the Registrar and Facilities Planning and Management for their extraordinary work in developing thoughtful recommendations and coordinating these complex changes.

For more information about graduation, please visit the Iowa State Graduation & Commencement [website](#). Questions can be emailed to graduation@iastate.edu.

Graduation is a wonderful time filled with reflection, celebration, and excitement for the future. I look forward to honoring our graduates who have worked so hard to reach this important milestone!

Sincerely,

Wendy Wintersteen
President

**All campus messages from President Wintersteen are posted online at www.president.iastate.edu/messages*