

Grambling State University Provides Guidelines, Information for 2018 Fall Commencement Events

Feeding America CEO Claire Babineaux-Fontenot will deliver the commencement address at Grambling State University's 2018 Fall Commencement at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center.

GSU is providing several ways that proud caregivers, parents, relatives and friends can watch commencement. In addition, the university has provided some guidelines and helpful information for those who will attend the ceremony.

CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS

Commencement rehearsal for students participating in the 2018 Fall Commencement ceremony will be held Wednesday, Dec. 12, at Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center. Graduates should arrive at the Assembly Center at 8 a.m., while faculty, staff and students participating in the ceremony will assemble at 8:30 a.m.

POST-COMMENCEMENT RECEPTION

A commencement reception will be held in McCall Dining Hall immediately following the event. Graduates and their guests are invited to participate. Participants attending the reception, which will feature light refreshments, are asked to park in designated parking locations. Violators may be towed.

PARKING

Visitors attending the commencement at the Assembly Center are asked to park in the designated locations. There will be a drop-off and pick-up area in front of the Assembly Center for those who are disabled and those with special circumstances and special needs, but this is not a parking area. Commencement participants are asked to park in the parking spaces near the Eddie G. Robinson Memorial Stadium sign closest to the Conrad Hutchinson Performing Arts Center to allow family and friends to park closest to the Assembly Center. Handicap parking spaces will be monitored and proper credentials must be displayed or vehicle will be towed. No curb parking — violators will be towed.

ARRIVAL/SEATING

The doors to the Assembly Center will open at 7 a.m. No visitors will be allowed to enter the Assembly Center before 7 a.m. All audience members should arrange for their parties to be seated at the same time. **SAVING SEATS FOR OTHERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.** Ushers will be monitoring the rows to ensure that

all seats are filled. While waiting for commencement to begin, please be respectful and courteous to others attending the ceremony, mindful of any instructions made by Grambling employees working at commencement, and listen carefully to any pre-commencement announcements.

CONGRATULATIONS BANNERS/FLAGS/AIR HORNS

Everyone attending the commencement is asked to be respectful of others who want to hear the names of their graduates called, and to see their graduates walk in the procession and walk across the stage. To ensure that this formal event is as enjoyable for everyone as possible, **NO CONGRATULATORY BANNERS, FLAGS OR AIRHORNS WILL BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE ASSEMBLY CENTER.**

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO

Only university-authorized campus and external media will be allowed on the floor of the Assembly Center to shoot and film the event. Only media with university-recognized media credentials will be allowed on the center's floor, and only authorized campus and external media representatives with university-issued media passes will be permitted on the floor. All others will be asked to clear the area.

LIVE BROADCAST

To watch a live broadcast of commencement, visit www.gram.edu and click on the "Watch 2018 Commencement Live" link on the home page. (<http://www.youtube.com/user/GramblingStateUniv/live>, available 10 a.m. CST 12/14/18). In addition, KGRM-FM will broadcast commencement live. Tune in at 91.5 FM starting at 10 a.m. The station will broadcast until diplomas are awarded. Visit www.gram.edu and click on the link on the home page to listen to KGRM live.

EXTERNAL MEDIA COVERAGE

External media are asked to contact the Office of University Communications at mediarelations@gram.edu or 318-243-5012 for further information regarding admittance to commencement and to make interview requests. All external media must park in a designated parking area (the loading dock area at the back of the Assembly Center), and are required to show media credentials to enter the parking area and the back of the building.