



## Commencement for Spring 2021 Graduates

Congratulations! You have been recommended for graduation for the 2021 Spring Semester. The conferring of your degree is contingent upon your successful completion of all degree requirements and your academic department officially certifying you as having met all degree requirements. The commencement ceremony is reserved for those students who have met all degree requirements and have been certified by their departments.

### **COMMENCEMENT**

We extend an invitation to you to participate in commencement as outlined below. To ensure *social distancing*, two (2) ceremonies will be held that are organized by colleges. Each ceremony will be held in the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center.

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#### CEREMONY 1

**9:00 a.m. – Wednesday, April 14, 2021**

*This ceremony is for students earning graduate degrees and undergraduate students who completed the bachelor-level degree programs captured below.*

##### **Graduate Studies**

(Master of Art in Teaching, Master of Education, Master of Science in Nursing, Master of Social Work, Post Master's Certificate)

##### **College of Education**

(Kinesiology, Leisure Studies, Teacher Education degree programs)

##### **College of Professional Studies**

(Criminal Justice, Mass Communications, Nursing, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology)

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#### CEREMONY 2

**9:00 a.m. – Thursday, April 15, 2021**

*This ceremony is for students earning graduate degrees and undergraduate students who completed the bachelor-level degree programs captured below.*

## **Graduate Studies**

(Master of Arts in Social Sciences & Master of Public Administration)

## **College of Arts & Sciences**

(Biology, Chemistry, Child Development & Early Literacy, Computer Science, Cybersecurity, Engineering Technology, English, General Studies, History, Mathematics & Physics, Music, Political Science, Visual & Performing Arts)

## **College of Business**

(Accounting, Computer Information Systems, Economics, Management, Marketing)

### **GUEST PASSES**

To support social distancing, each graduate will be allowed to invite only ***six (6) guests***. All guests should be ***seated 30 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony*** in designated seating. *Guests will be required to wear masks at all times while in the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center. Guests are also encouraged to wear comfortable shoes in case you are seated in the upper level of the arena.*

### **TRANSFER CREDITS**

If you were enrolled in courses at other regionally accredited institutions this semester or there is a hold for another transcript not yet received, please forward the official transcript to [bostonji@gram.edu](mailto:bostonji@gram.edu) so credits may be added to your official transcript for certifying purposes as soon as possible.

### **GRADUATION REGALIA**

Candidates may also contact the University Bookstore at (318) 247-1006 regarding ordering regalia and graduation announcements, or [order online](#).

### **REHEARSAL**

There will not be a rehearsal. All candidates are requested to check-in at the loading dock of the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center at ***7:00 a.m. for temperature checks and to receive your name card***. Candidates will be seated on the arena floor according to their assigned seat. It is important that you arrive on time and stay in your designated seat until the ceremony begins. Some graduates will be required to be seated in the designated spectator section of the arena to practice social distance in compliance with the Open Safety guidelines.

### **COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES**

Commencement is a significant ceremony; therefore, the ceremony is expected to be carried out in a proper and dignified manner. To guide candidates in selecting attire for participation the ceremony, outlined below are suggested forms of dress. Candidates for graduation are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes in case you are seated in bleacher section of the arena.

Cap and Gown  
White or Black Dress

White or Black Slacks  
Light Color Shirt  
Black (or other dark color)Shoes  
***Mask***

Your name will appear in the official commencement program. An official listing of the 2021 Spring Candidates for Graduation will be posted on the GSU graduation webpage. Candidates for graduation will receive their diploma cover when their names are called. All candidates will exit the arena floor to have their official graduation photo taken in Room 167, after graduates will then exit the arena and meet their families outside. Please do not congregate near the entrances or exit to ensure social distancing is practiced.

### **HONOR STUDENTS**

Students who graduate with honors will receive honor cords. There will also be a gold sticker placed on the diploma for all undergraduate honor students.

### **CLEARANCE**

It is imperative that all indebtedness to the University be cleared by Monday, April 12, 2021. The online graduation clearance will begin March 29, 2021. Candidates can monitor the clearance process on-line via BannerWeb. (*The steps for online graduation clearance are found at the end of this document.*). Please allow approximately (3) business days for your clearance to be processed in the system. ***Students who have been identified as having delinquent accounts will not be allowed to participate in commencement exercises.***

### **CANCELLATION OF GRADUATION**

If for some reason you are not graduating this semester, please request permission from your academic dean to cancel your graduation application and they will notify the Registrar's Office. Upon notification, the cancellation will be processed and updated in BannerWeb, and your graduation hold will be released. You will then be eligible to register for the upcoming semester.

### **DIPLOMA ISSUANCE**

Diplomas will not be released after the commencement ceremony. Please confirm your mailing address is accurate to avoid any shipping delays. If your address changed after you applied for graduation, please email your correct mailing address to [registrar@gram.edu](mailto:registrar@gram.edu). Remember to include your name and G#, major and college in any correspondence sent to the Registrar's Office. Diplomas will be mailed approximately 2 weeks after the ceremony via certified mail. If a candidate applied late, please allow 4 to 6 weeks for diploma issuance.

### **GRADUATION PASSES**

Graduation passes (*6 per graduate*) will be issued in the Registrar's Office for guests the evening prior to each graduation ceremony from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for all certified candidates for graduation only. Please call 318-274-2388 if you need additional information. The Registrar's Office is located in Grambling Hall, Suite 18.

Candidates participating in Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:00 A.M. Ceremony- will pick up passes, Tuesday, April 13, 2021 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Candidates participating in Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:00 A.M. Ceremony, will pick up passes, Wednesday, April 14, 2021 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

### **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

If you are a candidate for graduation and have a request for special accommodations or have mobility issues, please call the Registrar's Office at 318-274-2224 as indicated below.

Candidates participating in Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:00 A.M. Ceremony- please call before 3:00 P.M., Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

Candidates participating in Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:00 A.M. Ceremony, please call between 12:00 noon and 3:00 P.M., Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

### **GRADUATE SCHOOL AT GSU**

Have you considered graduate school here at GSU? We encourage you to apply online today at [www.gram.edu](http://www.gram.edu).

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us via email at [registrar@gram.edu](mailto:registrar@gram.edu).

**GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY  
2021 SPRING SEMESTER  
ON-LINE GRADUATION CLEARANCE PROCESS  
(Access via: [www.gram.edu](http://www.gram.edu))**

The following units must clear holds for candidates for graduation, in support of participation in the graduation ceremony and receiving an official graduation diploma.  
Students can monitor the clearance process and identify holds by logging into their BannerWeb accounts. For answers related to specific holds please contact the appropriate unit captured in the table below.

<b>HOLD CODE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>CONTACT DEPARTMENT</b> (If you have questions related to the holds on your account}
<b>GP</b>	<p><b>Placement Graduation Clearance Hold</b></p> <p>Must Complete the Graduation Exit Survey by accessing the following link:</p> <p><a href="https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=v1n43rBNZEGywZ2gVqTvuKiREy4_j91PpSFsJIS2vh9UMjAzSDVZVVdGWEIxMENWVjILQjII0EtYSS4u">https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=v1n43rBNZEGywZ2gVqTvuKiREy4_j91PpSFsJIS2vh9UMjAzSDVZVVdGWEIxMENWVjILQjII0EtYSS4u</a></p> <p><b>All holds will be removed within 1 week after completing the Career Services Exit Survey, thank you for your patience. If you have any concerns, please email Kellye Blackburn, GSU Director of Career Services <a href="mailto:blackburnk.@gram.edu">blackburnk.@gram.edu</a> or call 318-274-3349 or 318-274-3350</b></p>	<b>Career Placement</b>
<b>CJ</b>	<p><b>Judicial Affairs Graduation Clearance</b></p> <p>318-274-3169</p>	<b>Judicial Affairs</b>
<b>GF</b>	<p><b>Financial Aid Graduation Clearance</b></p> <p>Must Complete the Loan Counseling by accessing the following link: <a href="https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action">https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action</a> <b>Exit Spring 2021 Graduates</b> loan counseling must be completed on-line: <a href="http://www.studentloans.gov">http://www.studentloans.gov</a> Sign in (same login used for FAFSA) Select "Complete Loan Counseling" in the Center of Page Select Exit Counseling under the section "Choose Loan Counseling Type" Complete Exit Counseling Session <b>Email a copy of the Exit Counseling Confirmation Page to: <a href="mailto:hammsg@gram.edu">hammsg@gram.edu</a> or <a href="mailto:hatterc@gram.edu">hatterc@gram.edu</a> or call 318-274-6440_ with your GNumber</b></p>	<b>Financial Aid &amp; Scholarships</b>
<b>GA</b>	<p><b>Account Graduation Clearance</b></p> <p>318-274-2087</p>	<b>Student Accounts</b>
<b>GS</b>	<p><b>Service Learning Graduation Clearance</b></p> <p>318-274-2118</p>	<b>Service Learning</b>

	<a href="mailto:pereram@gram.edu">pereram@gram.edu</a> <a href="mailto:hopwoodm@gram.edu">hopwoodm@gram.edu</a> <a href="mailto:bedfordr@gram.edu">bedfordr@gram.edu</a>	
<b>GH</b>	<b>Graduation Hold</b> You do not have to take any actions! This hold will automatically release on 4/16/2021 or upon readmission to the university.	<b>Registrar's Office</b>