

April 8, 2009

Dear Family and Friends:

Enclosed please find your invitation to attend the University's 159th Commencement ceremony along with a copy of the Graduation Week Brochure, which includes parking information and a complete listing of all diploma ceremonies.

Listed below is important information regarding the Commencement ceremony. Commencement 2009 will be held on the River Campus Eastman Quadrangle on Sunday, May 17, 2009 for Bachelor's and Master's degree candidates of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering. Please note that the Commencement program is held outdoors, rain or shine. Only the prediction of a dangerous storm or extreme cold will result in a contingency plan. Rochester weather in late May is generally pleasant, but you would be well advised to come prepared for inclement weather. All seating for the ceremony is on the lawn, therefore, guests may find low-heeled shoes more comfortable. Seating will only be reserved for those who have mobility impairments or special needs. Graduates are responsible for obtaining special seating tickets through the Conference and Events Office, if needed. Guests are encouraged to arrive early to be assured of good seats on the quadrangle. Seating opens at 7:45 a.m., and the ceremonial procession begins at 8:45 a.m.

Parking on Sunday will be in Park Lot and Crittenden Lot 1. Continuous shuttle service to the River Campus and the Eastman School of Music will be provided for all guests parking in these lots from 7:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Parking staff will be available to assist in all lots. Guests that require assistance because of physical limitations can be dropped off at the Meliora Lot with golf cart service to the Eastman Quadrangle. Handicapped parking will be available in the Library Lot for guests with a valid handicap permit.

The Commencement Brunch, a festive buffet for graduates and their guests, will be available from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Danforth Dining Center. Tickets are \$14.25 for adults and \$7.25 for children 4-10 years of age when purchased in advance. They will be \$15.75 for adults and \$8.00 for children 4-10 years of age at the door. Children under the age of four are free. Students can purchase advanced tickets from a designated cashier at the Pit in Wilson Commons. Advanced purchase of brunch tickets is recommended, but a limited number may be available at the door.

DVD copies of the May 17 College Commencement Ceremony will be available for purchase online. Visit www.rochester.edu/commencement/webcast/ to pre-order your copy beginning May 1.

If you need additional Commencement information, please visit the Commencement Web site at www.rochester.edu/commencement or contact the Conference and Events Office at (585) 275-4111.

We look forward to having you join us in the festivities for the Class of 2009.

The Commencement Committee