Dear October 2016, January 2017, and Prospective May 2017 Graduates of the Camden College of Arts and Sciences and University College–Camden,

Congratulations on your impending graduation! This festive occasion should be one of the highlights of your college experience and this information will ensure that you know how the ceremony will proceed.

The Commencement Ceremony for the Camden College of Arts and Sciences and University College–Camden will be held at the BB&T PAVILION on WEDNESDAY, MAY 17th, at 6 p.m. The ceremony is expected to last approximately two hours. The Center is not climate controlled and may be cool when outside temperatures are below 60 degrees. Please note that there is no rehearsal for commencement.

If you have changed your commencement attendance status that was originally noted on your Diploma Application, you must contact ticket-questions@camden.rutgers.edu by April 26.

All graduates are expected to remain until the end of the ceremony. Diplomas will be mailed to your home address within four to six weeks after the ceremony. If you wish to receive it sooner, please visit the Office of the Registrar during normal business hours (Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; closed weekends).

PARKING/DIRECTIONS: Free parking is available at the lots adjacent to the BB&T Pavilion, on campus, and at the Camden County Parking Deck. Those who park on campus or at the parking deck will be able to utilize shuttles to take them to the BB&T Pavilion. More information, including directions to the center, is available at http://www.camden.rutgers.edu/commencement/parking-directions.

TICKETS: Each graduating student is eligible for 10 guest tickets. All guests need a ticket for entry (with the exception of children ages two and under, who must sit on someone’s lap). All tickets are general admission – there are no assigned guest seats. Guests enter through the Walt Whitman Lobby and will be seated beginning at 4:30 p.m. Only graduating students will be allowed to pick up tickets. Students must have photo ID in order to pick up tickets. Rutgers ID cards are preferred, but other forms of photo ID will be accepted.

There will be three opportunities to pick up tickets:
- May 3, 12 p.m. – 6 p.m., Campus Center Lounge
- May 10, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Campus Center Multi-Purpose Room
- May 17, 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Will Call Window at BB&T Pavilion

It will be determined if extra ticket(s) will be available after May 10. If extra tickets are available, students will be notified via their Rutgers University email address on May 15. If extra tickets are available, the distribution will be prior to the graduating student reception, on May 16, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., in the Campus Center Lobby.

For “overflow” guests, the commencement ceremony will be live-streamed in the MPR. There will be seating for 200, and it will be first-come, first-seated. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: Graduating students and guests who require special assistance such as wheelchair access must register online by Friday, May 5th. Visit http://www.camden.rutgers.edu/commencement/special-accommodations to register and for additional information.

PHOTOGRAPHY: GradImages will be the official photographer for commencement. Your proofs will be ready to view online as soon as 48 hours of the ceremony. If you have any questions after the ceremony about your photos, please contact the GradImages Customer Service Department at 800-261-2576 or giservice@gradimages.net. In order to notify you when your images are available, GradImages
sends emails and mails paper proofs, along with optional text message notifications. Your information is never shared and privacy is guaranteed. Pre-registering is simply a way to make sure your contact information is up-to-date with GradImages so they can provide your complimentary proofs as quickly as possible. Although there’s never any obligation to order, you’ll save 20% off any order of $50 or more for your participation. By pre-registering, you’ll also be entered into a $5,000 sweepstakes giveaway! To pre-register for your commencement proofs, please visit http://GradImages.com/Preregistration.

ACADEMIC PROCESSION: Degree candidates should report at 4:30 p.m. to the Benjamin Franklin Lobby at the BB&T Pavilion. Marshals will provide complete instructions at that time.

CANDIDATES WILL PROCESS BY MAJOR. Bachelor of Sciences degree recipients will process first, followed by Bachelor of Arts’ degree recipients. Students with two majors process with the major that is alphabetically first, i.e. an English and Psychology major marches with English majors.

CONFERRING DEGREE: Degrees will be conferred by major. Marshals will start and guide each row of graduates to the stage. Here a reader will announce the name of each candidate. Do not advance until your name is read. After you shake hands with members of the administration, switch the tassel of the cap from right to left and return to their original seats. We ask that you behave courteously toward other graduates. No air horns or any disruptive noisemakers will be permitted. Graduates are also expected to remain for the duration of the ceremony. Diplomas will be mailed to your home address within four to six weeks after the ceremony.

ATTIRE: The dress is the cap, gown and hood; the BA hood is white and the BS hood is gold. The regalia for bachelor’s degree candidates cost $100.00; tassels are $12.00. Regalia may be purchased at the University District Bookstore until May 17th. The bookstore is located at 601 Cooper Street and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday - Thursday, and Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Questions may be directed to the bookstore at 856-968-1200 and sm8006@bncollege.com.

LATIN HONORS: Students who qualify for honor cords may purchase cords at the University District Bookstore once final grades are determined. Cords will also be available for purchase prior to the processional line-up at commencement. The requirements for honor cords are 45 credits earned at Rutgers University and a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above. The cost of cords is $25.00. Students must present picture ID at the time of purchase.

GRADUATING STUDENT RECEPTION: The Office of the Chancellor, the Office of Student Affairs, and the Rutgers University Alumni Association—Camden will also host a Graduating Student Reception on Tuesday, May 16th, from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. in the Emerge Plaza, which is located between the Paul Robeson Library and the Admissions Building. This event is for graduating students only, and will give you the change to enjoy a jazz quartet, hors d’oeuvres, and a toast to celebrate your achievements. Register at ralumni.com/camdengradreception2017.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: All Rutgers University graduates are automatically members of the Rutgers University Alumni Association (RUAA), the university-wide organization of more than 461,000 alumni. There are no membership dues to pay and no forms to complete. Visit Ralumni.com for information on programs and benefits and to keep your contact information updated.

Additional information about commencement can be found at https://www.camden.rutgers.edu/commencement.

Best wishes as you graduate from Rutgers—Camden. We hope the years you spent with us were enjoyable and that you maintain your connection as an alumnus!