

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

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Dear August 2024, January 2025, and Prospective May 2025 Graduates of the Camden College of Arts and Sciences and University College—Camden,

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

The Commencement Convocation for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences—Camden will be held at the FREEDOM MORTGAGE PAVILION on THURSDAY, MAY 22, at 10 a.m. During this ceremony, graduates of the Camden College of Arts and Sciences and University College—Camden will have their names read and have the opportunity to walk across the stage. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. The ceremony is expected to last approximately two and a half 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.

All graduates are expected to remain until the end of the ceremony. Diplomas will be available within six to eight weeks after the ceremony. You will either receive it via mail or will need to pick it up from the One Stop Student Services Center, depending on which option you chose on the Diploma Application.

PARKING/DIRECTIONS: The venue has free parking available to those attending commencement. Students and guests may also utilize the NJ Transit River Line. The Freedom Mortgage Pavilion is directly across from the River Line's Entertainment Center stop.

ACADEMIC PROCESSION: Degree candidates should report at 8:30 a.m. to the Benjamin Franklin Lobby at the Freedom Mortgage Pavilion. You will check in and then be directed to your line and your faculty marshal, who will provide complete instructions at that time. Candidates will process by major. Bachelor of Sciences' degree recipients will process first, followed by the Bachelor of Fine Arts' degree recipients, and then the Bachelor of Arts' candidates. Students with two or more majors will process with the major selected on the Diploma Application.

Marshals will start and guide each row of graduates to the stage. The commencement 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 your original seat. 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.

ATTIRE: The dress is the cap, gown and hood; the BS hood is gold, the BFA hood is brown, and the BA hood is white. Visit https://camden.rutgers.edu/commencement/extras#regalia to place your order.

LATIN HONORS (Cum, Magna, or Summa): Students who qualify for honor cords may purchase cords at the University District Bookstore beginning April 22, 2025, the first day of the bookstore's Graduation Fair. The cost is \$17.98. Students who qualify will be notified via email. 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 by the end of the Winter 2025 semester. Students must present picture ID at the time of purchase. After the Spring 2025 semester concludes, Latin honors updates will be available via https://camden.rutgers.edu/commencement.

TICKETS: Students will receive the number of tickets they requested on the Diploma Application. As the graduate, you do not need a ticket. All guests need a ticket for entry (with the exception of children aged 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 8:30 a.m.

There will be two opportunities to pick up tickets:

- May 6, 4 p.m. − 6 p.m., West ABC Conference Room, Campus Center
- May 7, 2 p.m. 4 p.m., West ABC Conference Room, Campus Center

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.

Students enrolled at a partnership campus, such as Atlantic Cape Community College, Camden County College, Brookdale Community College, and Western Monmouth Community College, will pick up their tickets from their campus advisor.

Students requesting extra tickets must visit https://fas.camden.rutgers.edu/commencement/tickets/ to make their request. *Requests must be made by Monday, May 5, by 5 p.m.* The number of extra tickets is limited and not guaranteed.

If your plans have changed and you no longer plan to attend commencement, please email artsci commencement@camden.rutgers.edu.

LIVESTREAMING: The ceremony will be livestreamed. When available, the link will be posted to https://www.camden.rutgers.edu/commencement.

ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: For graduates and guests requiring accessibility accommodations, find more information via https://camden.rutgers.edu/commencement/accessibility-information on accessible seating, interpreting services, service animals, and more. Please reach out to the Office of Disability Services at disability-services@camden.rutgers.edu with additional questions.

PHOTOGRAPHY: GradImages will be the official photographer for commencement. Your proofs will be ready to view online as soon as 48 hours after 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. GradImages sends emails and mails paper proofs, along with optional text message notifications, when your images are available to view. Your information is never shared and privacy is guaranteed.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: Continue your involvement with the university through the Rutgers University Alumni Association. Your journey as a member of the Rutgers alumni community is lifelong. Explore all the benefits, networks, and resources available to you. Take advantage of a new life stage that is full of opportunities and growth: https://rutgersfoundation.org/new-graduates.

Made up of more than a half-million living graduates, the Rutgers University Alumni Association keeps you connected with the global alumni community by engaging you in ways that are personally meaningful to you. Keep your Rutgers relationship strong, and make sure your contact information is updated with us so we can help you tap into this diverse and talented alumni community: https://rutgersfoundation.org/new-grad-update-your-info.

Start your relationship with the Rutgers University Alumni Association now at one or both of the following events. Learn more and register at http://go.rutgers.edu/2025camdengrads.

BRUNCH AND CAP DECORATING

Tuesday, May 13, from 10 a.m. -2 p.m., in the Campus Center's Multi-Purpose Room Stop by for brunch treats, decorate your cap for commencement, catch up with friends - and make new ones! This event is free and includes an R Alumni swag item.

CHEERS AT THE VICTOR

Thursday, May 15, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m., at The Victor's Pub, 1 Market Street in Camden, NJ Join your peers for Cheers at the Victor! A \$10.00 ticket includes heavy appetizers, drink ticket, R Alumni swag item, and music.

SEE BELOW FOR ADDITIONAL WAYS TO CELEBRATE YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS!

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY-CAMDEN AND GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT AND CHANCELLOR'S GRADUATION PICNIC:

Join us for an exciting day of celebration as we honor your hard work and success! Graduates from all degree levels are encouraged to attend this year's Rutgers University—Camden and Graduate School Commencement on Tuesday, May 20 from 1–3 p.m. at the Freedom Mortgage Pavilion.

This ceremony officially confers degrees upon graduates, features the university's keynote speaker, and sets the stage for the School-Specific Commencement Convocations held later in the week. Students from The Graduate School will also be formally recognized at this event.

The celebration continues following University Commencement at the Chancellor's Graduation Picnic from 3–5 p.m. on the lawn of the Freedom Mortgage Pavilion. Enjoy great food, music, and Philadelphia views with your fellow grads and guests. The Chancellor's Picnic is free for graduates and their guests, but registration is required. Visit https://go.rutgers.edu/nrn6sd93

RITES OF PASSAGE: The Rites of Passage Ceremony is a pre-commencement celebration honoring Black and Latino culture. The event recognizes Rutgers-Camden graduating students hard work and dedication, while simultaneously acknowledging the accomplishments of their families and networks of support. The event is scheduled for Friday, May 16, from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m., in the Gordon Theater. Visit https://camden.rutgers.edu/commencement/rites-of-passage to register.

QUESTIONS? Send questions regarding commencement to artsci commencement@camden.rutgers.edu.