

COMMENCEMENT
DECEMBER 12, 2009
December Candidates for Graduation

McMurry University
Radford Memorial Auditorium

10:00am
(doors will open for guests at 9:00am)

School of Arts and Letters
School of Business
School of Education

School of Natural and Computational Sciences
Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing
School of Social Sciences and Religion



Candidates for Graduation

Students who have completed or are in the process of completing all course work leading to a degree in December 2009 are candidates for graduation at this time.

Your status as a candidate for graduation is subject to change as academic conditions change.

The following information is provided to help you prepare and plan for your Commencement and graduation experience. Please familiarize yourself with the schedule of events leading up to the ceremony, and make sure that you have completed all requirements for participation.

****** *Each of the following conditions must be met in order to participate in the December 2009 Commencement ceremony. If there is a question about any of the following, please contact the Registrar or the Assistant Registrar immediately to discuss your particular situation.*

**** December Candidates**

- All currently enrolled course work must be completed by December 12, 2009. If an "I" is received in any course at the end of the fall semester, the grade must be in the Registrar's office by January 15th in order for you to remain a December 2009 graduate.
- All Incomplete and NR grades from *previous* semesters were due October 1, 2009, unless permission was granted by the Registrar for a later submission date.
- All substitution forms should be on file at this time.
- All recording fees for Departmental Exams should be completed and on file at this time.
- All final official transcripts from previous institutions (including high school if needed) should be on file in the Registrar's office at this time.



COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL

(ATTENDANCE REQUIRED)

Radford Auditorium

4:15 pm, Friday, December 11, 2009

Dress: Cap and Gown and approved Honor Cords

- No sashes, adornments, corsages, jewelry, carried flowers, etc. will be allowed.
- **Men** should wear dark or black dress slacks, dark or black dress shoes and dark or black dress socks, white dress shirts with collars, and conservative ties.
- **Ladies** should wear conservative dresses or slacks and black shoes. (Tip for the ladies: bobby pins for the caps help greatly, and shoes that don't slip are recommended.)

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

(ATTENDANCE REQUIRED)

Aldersgate United Methodist Church.

Friday, December 11, 2009

Dress: Cap and Gown as previously described

The candidates will process from Radford to Aldersgate UMC at the end of the rehearsal. Baccalaureate is an important part of the McMurry University experience, and attendees should conduct themselves with proper decorum. Your parents and guests are encouraged to attend. The service begins at 5:30 and is approximately one hour in length.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

(ATTENDANCE REQUIRED)

Radford Auditorium

Saturday, December 12, 2009

9:15 am **Line-up in Mabee Room for the processional**

10:00 am **Commencement**

Dress: Cap and Gown as previously described

(No facilities will be available to store purses or other valuables)

GRADUATE RECEPTION

You and your guests are invited to a reception in your honor, immediately following the Commencement ceremonies, in the Mabee room of the Garrison Campus Center.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Cap & Gown and Announcements

Each candidate for graduation is responsible for obtaining the approved academic regalia from the McMurry University Bookstore in the Garrison Campus Center (325-793-4832). Announcements can be ordered through Balfour at www.balfourcollege.com or by calling 1.877.225.3687.

Cords for National Honor Societies

Students who are members of nationally recognized honor societies are allowed to wear honor cords as part of their academic regalia. **Candidates should contact their society's sponsor to obtain the appropriate cord.**

Cords for McMurry Honor Graduates

Cords will be provided for students graduating Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, or Cum Laude, and should be picked up at the Registrar's office at the time that all surveys are completed and forms are returned.

Graduation with Academic Honors

Graduation with academic honors is based on an overall GPA and consists only of McMurry University work. All courses completed at McMurry will be calculated in one's overall GPA, which is not rounded up. The standards for graduation with honors are as follows:

Cum laude: 3.50 to 3.69; Magna Cum Laude: 3.70 to 3.84; Summa Cum Laude: 3.85 to 4.0

A student must have completed a minimum of 57 semester hours at McMurry University to be eligible for graduation with honors. Honors will be noted on your diploma and transcript, based on the final GPA calculation after all final grades are received and computed. Honors printed in the commencement program are based on the available grade point calculation at the end of the previous semester and are subject to change.

Pictures

A **professional photographer** has been contracted to take your picture as you cross the stage. Please inform your guests that pictures without flash may be taken from their seats only. We ask that guests do not enter the aisles to take pictures due to space and safety limitations.

Ceremony Decorum

The McMurry University Commencement ceremony is the formal recognition by the University of your achievement as a student. Please remember that any unwarranted personal celebrations in the public arena of the ceremony itself are inappropriate. Please ask your guests to celebrate with you following the ceremony in such a way that will not detract from the dignity of the day.

Transcripts

Your financial affairs must be in order before official transcripts will be released from McMurry University. Every effort will be made to post your degree to your transcript as soon as possible.

Diplomas

You should expect to receive your diploma by early February 2010, if there are no “Holds” on any of your records with the university.

Graduation *in Absentia*

All candidates are required to be present for Commencement. If it is impossible for you to participate, you must write to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for permission to graduate *in absentia*. No diploma will be released to any candidate who does not attend the Rehearsal, Baccalaureate Service, or Commencement, unless prior written permission is received from the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Requests to graduate in absentia should be directed to:

Dr. Beverly A. Lenoir , Vice President for Academic Affairs
Box 157 McM Station
Abilene, TX 79697
blenoir@mcm.edu

Alumni Services

After your degree has been verified and posted by the Office of the Registrar, you are considered an alumnus of the University and are eligible to participate in any and all Alumni activities. The Alumni Relations Office assists the University and its students in a variety of ways and we encourage you to be a full participant. To better serve you, we need to know where you are and what you are doing. Please inform us of any address changes, professional activities including job changes, family status, and honors or awards you may receive. Additionally, if you are interested in participating in alumni activities, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 325.793.4609.

Guest Lodging

December is an active time of year for visitors to the city of Abilene. Please have your guests secure lodging at one of the local hotels or motels as early as possible to ensure their accommodations for the weekend.



For questions or further information, please contact:
Ms. Carolyn Calvert, Registrar
Ms. Janet Chandler, Assistant Registrar
325.793.3888