

Dear Class of 2024:

As you look back on your years at Elms College, I am sure you will see a winding unique path that you each took to reach this moment. We know that it has been years of hard work and long hours of study, as well as overcoming many challenges to reach graduation. This is a time for all of us to celebrate and honor your accomplishments.

Included in this commencement week brochure is the schedule of official college events and ceremonies. These events are full of celebration and recognition, as well as opportunities to make more memories with your classmates in the final days leading to commencement.

Please don't hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions, studentaffairs@elms.edu or 413-265-2210. Commencement information can be found at commencement.elms.edu. We look forward to celebrating you as you receive your diploma on **May 18, 2024**.

Congratulations!

Best Wishes,



Teresa Winters, M.Ed.
Dean of Students



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Mission Statement

Elms College, a Catholic college, educates a diverse group of students in a supportive, vibrant learning community. Combining a liberal arts education with professional studies, Elms College empowers students to effect positive changes in the community and in the world.

Affirming the founding tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Elms College challenges students to embrace change without compromising principle, to respond creatively to the demands of their chosen careers, and to advocate for people in need. Elms College is a community rooted in faith, educated in mind, compassionate in heart, and responsive to civic and social obligations.



Commencement 2024

Academic and Ceremonial
Events Schedule



commencement.elms.edu



commencement.elms.edu

SCHEDULE OF ACADEMIC AND CEREMONIAL EVENTS - COMMENCEMENT 2024

Spring senior receptions for graduates in off-campus programs will be hosted by the The Sr. Kathleen Kirley '66 School of Continuing Education and held on individual community college sites following Elms College and local campus protocol. Please check your Elms email for specific reception details.

LAVENDER GRADUATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Dining Hall Annex w/ reception to follow in Borgia Gallery

5:30-7:00 P.M. ET

A special ceremony celebrating Elms College LGBTQ+ graduates.

HONORS CONVOCATION AND HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Veritas Auditorium

1:30 P.M. ET

TOAST TO THE CLASS OF 2024

MONDAY, MAY 6

First Floor of Alumnae Library

4 P.M. ET

GRADUATE HOODING CEREMONY*

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Veritas Auditorium

6 P.M. ET

All graduate students and their families are invited to join us. Graduates must wear their gowns and carry their hoods (no caps). Report to Room 207 in Berchmans Hall at 5:30 P.M. for line-up.

BACCALAUREATE NURSING PINNING CEREMONY*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

Veritas Auditorium

6 P.M. ET

Graduates and their families are invited.

**denotes events open to family and friends.*

BACCALAUREATE MASS AND BLESSING OF THE HOODS*

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Veritas Auditorium

5:30 P.M. ET

Baccalaureate Mass, a tradition at Catholic Institutions to celebrate and honor student success, dates back to medieval times. All graduates, regardless of religious affiliation, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Undergraduate students will carry their hoods in the color of their academic program. A special Blessing of the Hoods takes place at the Baccalaureate Mass. Gowns (no caps) are worn by all students, faculty, and staff. Undergraduates should carry their hoods. Students to meet in Berchmans gym at 5 P.M.



#ElmsGrad2024

COMMENCEMENT*

SATURDAY, MAY 18

MassMutual Center

Students must arrive at 8 A.M. to check in and line up. Academic Processional & Ceremony begins promptly at 9:30 A.M. Family and Friends attending the 2024 Commencement Ceremony may enter the MassMutual Center beginning at 9 A.M. Seating is general admission.



COMMENCEMENT INVITATIONS

Invitations will be available in the Dean of Students Office as well as in the Registrar's office and the Sr. Kathleen Kirley '66 School of Continuing Education

COLLEGE PHOTOS & SOCIAL SHARING

Photos taken by Elms College staff during all Commencement related events will be posted on the Elms College Facebook page as soon as they are available (www.facebook.com/ElmsCollege). Follow @elmscollege on Instagram and Twitter, too, and be sure to use hashtag #ElmsGrad2024 when sharing your Commencement memories.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

All financial obligations must be met no later than **Friday, March 15**. Outstanding balances beyond this date will result in a hold on your application for graduation, thus not allowing a diploma to be conferred.

Institutional Surveys

In April, you will receive an email to your Elms email account inviting you to participate in the Satisfaction Priorities Survey which helps us assess our programs. **Students completing the survey will be entered into a drawing to win 1 of 10 \$20 Amazon e-gift cards.**

During finals week, you will also be invited to participate in the First Destination Survey which allows us to gather information related to your plans after Commencement. You are a valued part of our Elms Community and we care about your future even after you step across that stage with your degree. Are you going to graduate school? Do you have a job lined up? Something else? **By participating you will be entered into a drawing to win great prizes!**

Graduation Gowns, Caps, and Hoods

Graduation gowns, caps, and hoods are ordered and picked up in the bookstore. If you have not already done so, please order your gown immediately. Extended bookstore hours include
Monday, May 13th: 10 A.M.– 5 P.M.
Tuesday, May 14th: 10 A.M.– 6 P.M.
Wednesday, May 15th: 10 A.M.– 6 P.M.
Thursday, May 16th: 10 A.M.– 5 P.M.
Friday, May 17th: 10 A.M.– 6 P.M.

Honor Cords

Honor cords are given to undergraduate students who will graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher. Honor cords will be available in the Registrar's Office Tuesday, May 14 through Friday, May 17 between 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. and at the MassMutual Center prior to commencement lineup.

ADA Accommodations

Students attending any of the commencement events who need ADA accommodations are asked to contact Elms College's Student Accommodations and Support Services (SASS) office at least one week in advance with their specific need(s). This includes walking long distances, using stairs, and crossing the stage.

- American Sign Language Interpreters will be at the commencement event on May 18, 2024, and available for all students and guests.
- Handicapped parking options can be viewed on the MassMutual Center's website under Directions and Parking.
- The MassMutual Center has an elevator and handicapped-accessible restrooms.

SASS can be contacted via email at sass@elms.edu and/or phone at 413-265-2333.

Visitor Lodging

For up-to-date info and local hotel accommodations please visit: commencement.elms.edu