2015 Commencement Information
(Please Read Thoroughly)

Commencement Details

- **Date:** Saturday, May 16, 2015
- **Location:** Tinley Park Convention Center, 18451 Convention Center Drive, Tinley Park, Illinois
- **Times:** Two Commencement Ceremonies
  - **10 a.m.:** College of Business and Public Admin. and College of Health and Human Services
  - **5 p.m.:** College of Arts and Sciences and College of Education

**Graduate Check in is at 8 a.m. North Pavilion (enter at North Entrance)**

- Late graduates will be held in the rear of the auditorium and escorted at the appropriate time

**GRADUATES MUST ASSEMBLE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE COLLEGES**

- **Eligibility:** graduates from fall 2014, and applicants for graduation for spring and summer of 2015.

- **Tickets:** Participants will receive **seven (7)** four (4) tickets for the ceremony and two (2) parking passes. At this time, extra tickets are NOT available. Ticket pick-up will take place on **May 5 from 8 am to 2 pm** and **May 6 from 11 am to 7:30 pm** in the Cafeteria Annex. A photo ID will be required. Check the Commencement website for more information.
  - All guests must have tickets to be seated (including children 2 years and older)
  - Infants and toddlers may be seated in the lap
  - Children may not sit with graduates
  - A family friendly seating area will be available to guests with children

- If you (or your guests) have a physical disability and are in need of special services, please contact Robin Sweeney, Disability Services, at 708.235.3968 or rsweeney@govst.edu.

- **Parking is limited**
  - Carpooling is strongly encouraged
  - Observe all parking signs to avoid being ticketed or towed
  - Parking lots fill up quickly.
  - Display parking pass in car window

- **Alternate parking** will be available at:
  - 80th Avenue Metra Train Station, 7760 Timber Drive, Tinley Park
  - Central Middle School, 18146 Oak Park Avenue, Tinley Park
  - Shuttle Buses will be available for transport to and from the convention center – near NORTH ENTRANCE.

- **Updates/Information:** Check the Commencement website www.govst.edu/commencement for updates and information regarding Commencement. Information will also be communicated through Facebook and Twitter.
Commencement Day Reminders

• **For Graduates**
  - Plan to arrive early
  - Inform guests of the college/program you are graduating from to assist with seating (i.e. College of Health and Human Services; Nursing)
  - Pre-arrange a meeting location to meet family and guests after the ceremony outside of the auditorium.
  - Please leave personal items (such as purses) with your guests or leave locked in your vehicle. Neither GSU nor the convention center is responsible for lost or stolen items.
  - Only GSU approved honors cords and stoles may be worn with regalia.
  - Graduates should not leave the ceremony floor until the appropriate time. Only Platform Guests, Faculty/Staff, and Marshals will recess out. **All graduates are to remain seated throughout the ceremony unless directed otherwise by the commencement marshals or master of ceremonies.**

• **For Guests**
  - Doors open at 8:30 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. respectively
    - Saving seats is not permitted
    - Seats are not guaranteed for late arrivals
    - Admission will be temporarily suspended at 9:50 a.m. and 4:50 p.m., respectively in preparation for the procession of graduates.
    - Remain in seats for the entire commencement ceremony
  - A family friendly seating area will be available to guests with children
  - Grad Flowers will be making variety of fresh cut flowers available for guests to purchase between the West and South Entrances
    - All flowers will be offered in a variety of colors as half dozen or full dozen
    - They will also be hand wrapped on location with baby's breath and greens with a choice of custom school colored bow.
    - Flowers are to be given to graduates AFTER the ceremony is complete.
  - No balloons or large gifts are allowed in the convention center.
  - No photographs or videotaping in the front, side or middle aisles.
    - A live webcast will be available through GSU’s website on commencement day
    - DVD’s of both ceremonies can be purchased in advance or on the day of the ceremony from http://www.tgsvideo.com/Graduations.asp
  - The Follett Bookstore will offer a 10% discount to all graduates and guests at the convention center.

• **For everyone:**
  - Ceremonial Etiquette:
    - The University wants to ensure that commencement is a dignified academic ceremony enjoyed by both the graduates and guests. **Please refrain from yelling, shouting, or whistling until all graduates have been individually acknowledged on stage.**
  - Cell phones should be turned off and remain off during the ceremony.
  - **NO BACKPACKS, NO CONCEALED WEAPONS AND NO FIREARMS.**