

Suffolk County Community College

College Brief

NO. 116 April 30, 2020

TO: The College Community

FROM: Dr. Christopher J. Adams
 Vice President for Student Affairs

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SUBJECT: Commencement 2020: Information for Prospective
 May and August 2020 Graduates

The College previously announced that the current health crisis would impact the ability to hold large gatherings. As a result, numerous on-campus events and activities were postponed, including Commencement on May 21, 2020.

We are so proud of our students as they near completion of their SUNY Suffolk experience by graduating from our exceptional college. We do realize the importance of this milestone ceremony in the lives of our students and want to assure everyone that we hope to be able to reschedule this event when we are allowed to gather in celebration once more and can know, with confidence, that the ceremony can be conducted safely for all. In the meantime, we do not want this achievement to go unrecognized during the time when we would normally host this celebration.

Right now, we are working to complete the following:

- Design of a social media photo frame that will be shared with our graduates for use on their social media sites.
- Distribution of a SUNY Suffolk celebration box for graduates. The box will contain a congratulatory letter, the Suffolk County Community College alumni pin and decal, as well as a commemorative gift.
- A video featuring student leaders is being produced, along with a graduate year-in-review photo retrospective. When complete, both will be accessible on our special 2020 graduate celebration website. That site will also include a scrolling list of all graduate names.

Students who have not yet applied for graduation should do so now if they expect to complete the requirements for an associate degree or a one-year certificate by May or August.

- It is mandatory for graduating students to submit a graduation application. Receipt of this application will initiate the review process for degree eligibility and graduation status.

- Students can apply online by visiting my.sunysuffolk.edu and selecting *Apply for Graduation* from the Quick Links for Students menu.
- **Students should submit the application for graduation by May 8th** to guarantee: 1) that the diploma contains the correct information, 2) that the student name will be included among the list of graduates, and 3) so that the Central Records Office can conduct its necessary assessment.
- May and August potential graduates who have already filed for graduation should not file again.

A degree from Suffolk County Community College is important to each student's future academic and/or employment goals. If planning to attend another college, an associate degree may allow for the transfer of more Suffolk County Community College credits than would normally occur. Additionally, this degree can make possible many employment and scholarship opportunities as well as providing access to Suffolk's alumni association benefits. A Suffolk diploma is a testament to hard work and accomplishment of an important educational goal.

We wish our students all the best as they approach graduation.