

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO

College of Nursing (MC 802)
Office of the Dean
845 South Damen Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60612-7350

February 15, 2008

Dear Students:

Congratulations! The countdown has already begun as we look forward to the College of Nursing Commencement Ceremony on **Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 1:00pm at the UIC Pavilion**. This is an exciting event for the College as it is the one time of year when students from all of our programs and regions are united to recognize their hard work and commitment to nursing.

Some of you have already completed your graduation requirements and are anticipating our May ceremony. Still, there are many of you who have exams to pass, clinical requirements to fulfill or papers to be approved; but take heart, there is an end in sight. We have every faith in your ability to succeed and we have already begun to plan the celebration.

Please mark your calendars and alert your families and friends to the date and time for the College of Nursing Commencement. This event has always been well attended in the past and we would like the tradition to continue. This year the ceremony will be held at the UIC Pavilion at the corner of Racine and Harrison Streets in Chicago. I hope that many of you will be able to attend to share in the celebration. Included with this letter you will find specific information from the Office of Academic Programs providing instructions for the Commencement, directions to the UIC Pavilion and information on parking, hotel locations and area restaurants.

Plan now to attend the event and encourage your fellow students to do the same. This is truly a special occasion and we want everyone to enjoy it. If you have further questions or need more information, please contact Denise Sobotka, via e-mail at denisem@uic.edu or your Regional Manager. Your prompt attention is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Joan L. Shaver, PhD, RN, FAAN
Professor and Dean

University of Illinois at Chicago

Chicago

Peoria

Quad Cities

UIC

Rockford

Urbana-Champaign

College of Nursing
Office of the Academic Programs

February 15, 2008

To: Class of 2007-2008
From: Office of Academic Programs
Re: Instructions for College of Nursing Commencement, Thursday, May 8, 2008

GENERAL INFORMATION

REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE

Please return the "Request to Participate" form and the UIC Alumni Survey Completion Certificate to the Office of Academic Programs **OR** your Regional Office. **The survey website is http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=wfc4bt_2f51wH57_2bu5UztwbQ_3d_3d . Once you have completed the survey, you must print the certificate of completion and submit it along with your "Request to Participate". Please complete the form and survey and **return no later than Friday, March 7th**.**

TICKETS

Tickets will be available in the Office of Academic Programs **OR** at your Regional Office on **Monday, March 17, 2008**. Please keep in mind that food and programs are ordered based on this number so do not order extra tickets. If you request 10 and then need more just come back and request additional tickets rather than ordering 10 and using only 5.

ARRIVAL TIME WITH DIRECTIONS AND PARKING INFORMATION

Please arrive at the UIC Pavilion no later than 12:30pm on Thursday, May 8th. UIC Pavilion staff will be at the entrance to assist you upon your arrival. Parking is available adjacent to the UIC Pavilion and the cost is around \$5.00. If you have a university parking permit, please bring your hang tag and it will be honored. At 12:30pm you will begin to line up for the processional. The faculty will lead the procession, followed by the students.

CAP AND GOWN ORDERING AND PICK-UP

Caps and Gowns will be available beginning April 16th. Purchase your cap and gown from the UIC Health Sciences Bookstore (312) 413-5550. Please check the UIC Commencement website at http://www.vcsa.uic.edu/MainSite/departments/commencement/caps_and_gowns/ for information on the cost and how to purchase the cap and gown.

Gowns may require light ironing and should be removed from the package and inspected prior to the day of the Commencement. Please note that, per university regulations, only academic and student

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organization cords and/or pins are allowed. Jewelry, flowers, or emblems worn on the cap or gown are inappropriate.

Cost of Caps and Gowns:

BSN - \$29.95 MS - \$49.95 PhD - \$79.95

DISTRIBUTION OF PINS TO UNDERGRADUATES

Undergraduate students, who have ordered a College of Nursing pin, must bring them to carry during Commencement, as faculty will pin them during the ceremony.

UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC HONORS

University Honors

University Honors system recognizes three separate distinctions for scholastic excellence in the overall (cumulative) grade point average. The three distinctions are as follows:

Summa cum laude	3.90 and above	gold cord
Magna cum laude	3.75 to 3.89	silver cord
Cum laude	3.50 to 3.74	bronze cord

Transfer students, **those who completed their prerequisites at an academic institution other than University of Illinois at Chicago**, will be evaluated using the following criteria

* A minimum of 42sh at the University of Illinois at Chicago at the end of the term prior to the term of graduation with a minimum of 60 UIC hours upon graduation. **RN/BSN students are eligible for university honors.**

* In addition, transfer students must have a UIC grade point average of 3.50 in order to qualify for university honors.

Please note only first-degree students, who have completed a minimum of 60sh at UIC, are eligible. Cords will be distributed prior to Commencement and a program notation will be made next to the student's name.

College Honors

Undergraduate students who represent the top 15% of the class, including Chicago, Quad-Cities and Urbana students, based on the nursing cumulative grade point average will receive College Honors. An apricot cord will be awarded to these students and a program notation will be made next to the student's name.

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DRESSING FOR THE EVENT

What you wear under your gown is left to your discretion, remembering that this is a highly ceremonial, formal occasion. Keep in mind when selecting your shoes that you will need to walk up stairs, across the platform stage and down stairs. Therefore, high heel shoes are not recommended.

The academic gown you will be wearing fastens up the front. The cap is worn on the top, not the back, of your head. It should be perpendicular to the ground and the tassel is worn on the right quadrant of the cap. You may need hairpins to secure the cap in place. Bring these with you because they will not be available at the ceremony.

If you are a master's student, you will be wearing a master's hood. The hood will be issued with your cap and gown. Below are directions on how to fasten the hood.

1. The hood should be placed over your head so that it drapes off your shoulders and over the back of your gown. The velvet border should be on the outside as shown in the picture.
2. Be sure the lining of the hood is turned out so that the color(s) identifying the institution, which conferred your degree, are prominently displayed. Turning the velvet trim to the outside at the back just below your shoulders can do this. The cord on the back of your hood will keep your hood in place.
3. A cord in the front of your hood is provided to keep the hood away from your neck. Fasten the cord to a shirt or dress button.

If you are a doctoral candidate, you will be hooded on stage during the ceremony. You must deliver your hood to Gail Cook in the Office of Academic Programs by **Tuesday, May 6th**. She will ensure that they are available at the ceremony.

DIRECTIONS

From the South:

- Take I 57 to 90/94
- Exit the Dan Ryan (I-90/94) Expressway at Roosevelt Road.
- West (left) on Roosevelt Road to Halsted Street.
- North (right) on Halsted Street to Harrison Street.
- West (left) on Harrison Street to Racine.

From the North:

- Exit the Kennedy (I-90/94) Expressway at Eisenhower (I-290) Expressway West.
- West (right) on Eisenhower (I-290) to Morgan Street (first exit).

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- South (left) on Morgan Street to Harrison Street.
- West (right) on Harrison Street to Racine.

From the West:

- Exit the Eisenhower (I-290) Expressway at Racine.
- South (right) on Racine to Harrison Street.

From the East:

- Exit the Eisenhower (I-290) Expressway at Ashland Avenue.
- South (left) on Ashland to Harrison Street.
- East (left) on Harrison to Racine.

By Public Transportation:

- CTA buses stop on Harrison Street, west of Racine. For more information, call the CTA at 312-836-7000, or visit their [website www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com) .
- CTA train/subway stop at Racine Avenue (blue line).

HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS

If you will be staying at hotel, please check the following website for local hotels www.hotel.com.

RESTAURANTS

If you will be having dinner in the area after the ceremony, please check the following website for local restaurants <http://chicago.metromix.com/restaurants>

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