



Save the Date

BACCALAUREATE / COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND 2021



February 21, 2021

Dear Members of Clark Atlanta University Classes 2020 and 2021,

Since March 2020, you have met the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, social and racial injustice issues, and weather-related natural disasters with steadfast poise and grace. I am proud of and thankful to each of you, your parents, and your families for your agility and undaunting resilience. Thank you so much for the strength, drive, determination, and positivity you have displayed in moving forward while exhibiting the time-honored Clark Atlanta University motto of “I’ll Find a Way or Make One.”

Last year I promised to ensure that we would celebrate your academic achievements. In fulfillment of this promise, I am pleased to announce plans for our CAU Baccalaureate and Commencement Weekend for the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021.

Based upon your collective recommendations to my Administration, CAU will celebrate on-ground Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies for both classes Saturday, May 15, 2021, on Clark Atlanta University's historic campus in the **Harkness Hall Quadrangle**. It is our hope that the nostalgia of returning *home* will be palpable. Ceremonies also can be viewed via YouTube Live.

Class of 2020 Baccalaureate and Commencement Ceremonies

8:00 a.m. (ET)

Class of 2021 Baccalaureate and Commencement Ceremonies

3:00 p.m. (ET)

Given local and CDC Covid-19 protocols, we will follow safety guidelines as required. While total capacity will be reduced based on CDC guidelines, each exercise will be full of pride and celebration for you, your family, and friends. Due to these guidelines and out of an abundance of caution to protect our CAU family, many of the ceremony's traditional aspects will be modified to fit current conditions.

You also find information related to activities and guidelines on the [Commencement 2021](#) website and [frequently asked questions](#) for both graduating classes to assist in navigating **Commencement Weekend**.

Finally, to be clear, I understand what you have been going through, and as your president I am committed to your success. We all have persevered under the most difficult circumstances of this pandemic. Let us hold true to the essence of our resilience as we continue to **“Face the Rising Sun Together.”**

Yours in Service,

George T. French, Jr., Ph.D.
5th President
Clark Atlanta University