

*****Please note that this message has been sent to the all-student listserv, but is only applicable to second year students slated to graduate (including Summer 2023 and Fall 2023 Graduates) *****

Dear Graduating Students,

We hope you are having a wonderful semester so far! As a reminder, the RSPH Office of Student Affairs will be sending updates for the RSPH Degree Candidate Recognition Ceremony throughout the semester. **All updates will also be posted on the [RSPH Graduation Website](#).**

Summary:

- ✓ Regalia Information
- ✓ Blue Tassel Initiative
- ✓ RSPH Student Speaker Nominations
- ✓ Center for Community and Belonging Graduation Ceremonies
- ✓ Reminder:
 - Graduation Application Due Feb. 16th
 - Diploma Address & Name Change Due Feb. 29th
- ✓ ***Additional information related to the ceremony, including student RSVP and guest ticketing, will be available at a later date.***

Regalia Information

The Oak Hall Shop for purchasing regalia is now open! You may purchase **Master of Public Health Regalia** online [here](#) between now and **Wednesday, March 13, 2024**. Regalia purchased online will be shipped to you. Regalia may also be purchased at the Emory University Barnes and Noble Bookstore, however, sizes will not be guaranteed.

The Rollins Environmental Health Action Coalition (REHAC) will be conducting their annual Regalia Rental Program. Graduating students may rent donated MPH regalia from REHAC. Supplies are limited and students are selected via a lottery process. Please note:

- A \$50.00 deposit is required to rent the regalia. You will be expected to return the regalia after graduation upon which your deposit will be returned.
- If you do not return the regalia after graduation, REHAC will keep your \$50.00 deposit.
- If you are interested in renting regalia from REHAC, please sign up [HERE](#) by **February 19 at 11:59PM**. Recipients will be chosen randomly and notified the week of February 26.
- If you choose to purchase a gown, REHAC will be collecting new gown donations after graduation for future classes.

Blue Tassel Initiative

Even though your student experience at Rollins is ending, the connections you made and the skills you've learned will last a lifetime. Emory is more than an institution of higher learning. It is the place where you've built friendships, effected change, and made lasting impact!

Before you leave campus, the RSPH Advancement and Alumni Engagement Team would like you to consider making a gift to Rollins that will impact the lives of those who will follow in your footsteps. As

an added thank you for your generosity, **all graduating students who make a gift of \$10 or more will receive a commemorative Class of 2024 Blue Tassel! ***

When you invest in Rollins, you invest in our whole community. Your gift supports the faculty who guided you, the programs that trained you, and the friends and colleagues who encouraged you at every step. Thank you for believing in us, just as we believe in you.

[Make your gift online today!](#)

**Gifts can be directed to any fund at Rollins of your choosing. Tassels will be available for pick up at our Emory Day of Giving table on March 27 from 10am-1pm and at various times on campus through May 3.*

RSPH Student Speaker Nominations Open

RSPH is requesting nominations for the RSPH Diploma Ceremony Student Speaker! The Student Speaker will provide remarks on behalf of the graduates. The student will speak for about 3-5 minutes, serving as the graduating class's voice and as a call to action as future public health leaders. The Student Speaker should meet the following criteria:

- Exhibits leadership in the RSPH Community
- High academic achievement and in good standing
- Strong character and integrity
- Exemplary service to the RSPH or greater public health community

Once nominations are received, finalists will be chosen based on quality and quantity of nominations. All finalists will be notified and will submit a writing sample of their speech. A Student Speaker Committee consisting of graduating students and staff members will review finalists' de-identified writing samples.

Please submit your nomination for Student Speaker by Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 5:00PM using [this link](#). Each student can submit one nomination.

Center for Belonging and Community Justice Graduations

Emory University Campus Life hosts Community & Belonging Graduation Ceremonies that are open to undergraduates and graduate/professional students, including:

- **Graduating Women of Promise: March 7, 2024.** An annual celebration that recognizes women, non-binary, and gender-nonconforming students at Emory who have demonstrated leadership, inclusivity, and a commitment to making Emory a better place for all.
[Nominate award recipients here by February 12](#)
- **Lavender Graduation at the Pride Awards: March 27, 2024.** The [Pride Awards](#) honor LGBTQIA students and acknowledge their achievements throughout the university.
[Register to attend the Pride Awards here](#)
[Nominate award recipients here by February 16](#)

- **Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Graduation: *To be announced.*** This graduation celebrates the achievements of the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Community at Emory University.
- **Modupe Dayo: *To be announced.*** An African-themed graduation ceremony celebrating the achievements of Black graduates. The ceremony pays tribute to African ancestors and heritage.
- **C.A.R.A.S.: *To be announced.*** A ceremony that celebrates the achievements of graduating members of the Latinx community at Emory. The event is conducted in Spanish and English and incorporates cultural food and traditions.
- **Emory First Graduation: *To be announced.*** The Emory First Graduation celebrates the resilience, integrity, scholarship, and empowerment of students who are among the first-generation of college graduates in their families.

Reminders: Graduation Application and Name & Address Verification

- **Graduation Applications for Spring 2024 Graduates are due on Friday, February 16.** You will find the online degree application in the Graduation and Commencement tile in OPUS.
- **Verify your diploma address & name in OPUS before Thursday, February 29.** Make changes if necessary.
- **For information, see [Communication #1 on the RSPH Graduation Website](#).**

Thank you for your prompt attention to this message, and please let our team know if you have any questions!

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RSPH Commencement Committee
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