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Dear Class of 2020,

We hope this letter finds you well, and you are as excited as we are to celebrate Commencement 2020 in person on August 8. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a few slight changes to the original schedule that Westminster College sent on July 2. For your convenience, an abbreviated schedule is found below.

A more detailed schedule with further safety instructions can be found on our [website](#). By visiting our site, you will know exactly what to expect on your special day. As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused a number of disruptions in our lives, and we want to make sure your graduation is as memorable and safe as possible — and that means making sure we have carefully implemented a number of necessary changes to the ceremony to ensure physical distancing and safety guidelines.

Please access our [website](#) for details on how, with your help, Westminster is managing this outdoor-only event during this unprecedented time.

## Commencement and Columns Ceremony Schedule: August 8, 2020\*

### 7:15 a.m.: Families May Begin Check-In Upon Arrival at the Circle Drive Entrance/C.F. Lampkin Drive

Westminster Avenue will be blocked off in front of campus. Please park in areas around the campus.

### 8:45 a.m.: Check-In Complete

Graduates will receive instructions from the Skulls of Seven.

### 9 a.m.: Graduating Seniors Proceed to the Historic Gymnasium

### 9:30 a.m.: Participating Faculty Robe Inside Westminster Hall

### 10 a.m.: Commencement 2020 Begins

### Columns Ceremony

Immediately following Commencement, the Skulls of Seven will lead each graduate *individually* to the Columns, physically distanced from one another.\*\*

### Program

For health and safety reasons, printed programs will not be available at the ceremony but will be available online on our [graduation page](#) before Commencement 2020.

### Some Final Thoughts

Please remember to bring your cap and gown if you previously requested those items be mailed to your home, and ***note that each graduating senior will be assigned only three seats — two for family members and one for the graduating senior — with absolutely no exceptions.*** This practice ensures adequate physical distancing and allows Westminster to carefully follow recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Callaway County Health Department, and the American College Health Association.

With federal and state health recommendations in mind, we ask you to stay home if:

- You are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or are otherwise not feeling well.
- You have been in close contact with someone who is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, has tested positive for COVID-19, or is otherwise not feeling well.

Finally, if you previously did not RSVP to our July 1 letter, please fill out [this form](#) immediately to guarantee your three seats at Commencement 2020 or to request ADA or other accessibility accommodations.

Please contact Emily McKinzie, Director of Alumni Engagement, at [Alumni@WCMO.edu](mailto:Alumni@WCMO.edu), if you have any questions or concerns.

Congratulations to each and every one of you, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

*\*All Commencement 2020 activities are subject to change. In the case of inclement weather, the ceremony may be delayed or canceled.*

*\*\*A letter sent to graduates on July 2 indicated families would walk through the Columns together. It has since been determined that allowing only the graduates, one at a time, through the Columns is the best practice for optimal physical distancing.*