



MORE THAN A THOUSAND STUDENTS TO RECEIVE DEGREES DURING PVAMU'S SPRING 2021 IN-PERSON COMMENCEMENT, MAY 15

The university will also hold an in-person celebration for 2020 graduates on Friday, May 14, 2021.

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (May 6, 2021) – Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is poised to celebrate one of its largest class of degree candidates. On Saturday, May 15, 2021, PVAMU will confer 886 bachelor's, 102 master's, and seven doctoral degrees in Panther Stadium. That's 1,015 graduates who will be honored in an extraordinary Spring Commencement, which will be the first in-person commencement since the coronavirus pandemic ensued. Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, a scholar, professor, and best-selling author, will serve as the commencement speaker.

The night before Spring Commencement, the university will welcome all of its 2020 graduates back to campus for a Recognition Ceremony—an in-person celebration for those who experienced virtual graduations last year. PVAMU alumna Loni Love, an EMMY and NAACP Image Award-winning co-host of "The Real," will serve as the ceremony orator.

Special Awards

As part of PVAMU's special weekend for graduates, the university plans to honor Love and Dyson for their distinguished service and achievements in their lives and professions.

- **Presidential Medal** – At the discretion of the president, this medal is awarded to exceptional individuals who have attained the highest levels of success in their respective fields. They have also made significant cultural, social, economic, or scientific contributions that benefit society. Love will receive the honor this year.
- **Honorary Degree** – This selective honor is awarded to individuals of exceptional academic, scholarly, artistic, and philanthropic accomplishments who bring honor and recognition to the university. The honorary degree also identifies the persons' exemplary service to humanity. Dyson has been chosen as this year's recipient. He will be the first person to receive the honor from President Ruth J. Simmons.

Media Credentials

Members of the media planning to cover these two events will need press credentials. All media must register by Thursday, May 13. Register [here](#).

Event: Spring 2021 Commencement

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2020

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Event: Recognition Ceremony for 2020 Graduates

Date: Friday, May 14, 2020

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Panther Stadium

Where: www.pvamu.edu/commencement

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About Prairie View A&M University: Designated an institution of "the first class" in the Texas Constitution, Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest public institution of higher education in the state. With an established reputation for producing engineers, nurses, and educators, PVAMU offers baccalaureate degrees, master's degrees, and doctoral degree programs through eight colleges and schools. A member of The Texas A&M University System, the university is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service. For more information regarding PVAMU, visit www.pvamu.edu.

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