

## **Class of 2026 Convocation Student Information**

**Wednesday, May 20th**

Jersey Mike's Arena

83 Rockafeller Road, Piscataway, NJ

Livingston Campus

Check-in: 9:00am | Ceremony: 10:00am

The SMLR Convocation recognizes degree candidates in the following programs:

<b>Ph.D. in Industrial Relations and Human Resources</b>	<b>Bachelor of Science in Labor and Employment Relations</b>
<b>Master of Human Resource Management</b>	<b>Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies and Employment Relations</b>
<b>Master of Labor and Employment Relations</b>	<b>Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management</b>

### **ACADEMIC REGALIA**

- All Ph.D., MHRM, MLER and Bachelor's degree participants attending the SMLR convocation **are required to wear academic regalia (cap, gown and hood)**. For information about purchasing academic regalia, please contact the Barnes and Noble Rutgers University Bookstore at 732-246-8448 or [rutgers.bncollege.com](http://rutgers.bncollege.com).
- The **MHRM** degree hood color is dusk, the **MLER** degree hood color is peacock blue, the **Bachelor of Arts** hood color is white, and the **Bachelor of Science** hood color is gold. The tassel of the cap is worn on the right. If you are graduating with a dual major, you should purchase the regalia for the program that is your primary major/program.
- If you are interested in donating your gown for use by a future SMLR graduate, please email [convocation@smlr.rutgers.edu](mailto:convocation@smlr.rutgers.edu).
- If you have any questions or concerns about regalia, contact your respective degree program representative (degree program contacts are listed at the end of this document).

### **ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS**

- All Ph.D., MHRM, MLER, BAHRM, BSLER and BALSER candidates should arrive at Jersey Mike's Arena 9:00am and report to the marshalling area.
- Guests will **not** be admitted to the marshalling area prior to the ceremony. No balloons are permitted into Jersey Mike's Arena. Strollers are not allowed in the lobby area.
- Leave your valuables and coats with a trusted guest prior to entering the marshalling area. While we try to assist our graduates, we cannot be responsible for personal items.

### **NAME CARDS**

- Degree program representatives will distribute pre-printed name cards to graduates in the marshalling area. Keep your name card with you. You will need to hand it to a staff member as you walk across the stage. On the back of the card is a QR code for Island Photography.

## STAGING/MARSHALLING AREA

- All Ph.D., MHRM, MLER, and Bachelor's degree candidates will line up in alphabetical order according to their academic unit.
- Marshals, wearing regalia, will be present to direct the entire procession. The order of the procession will begin with the Dean and faculty. All others in the procession will follow the directions of the marshals.
- All graduates should remain in the marshalling area prior to the start of the ceremony.

## CEREMONY

- All cell phones and electronic noise-producing devices must be turned off during the ceremony.
- For family and friends who are not able to attend the SMLR convocation ceremony in person, a livestream of the event will be available on the school's YouTube channel at: [https://www.youtube.com/live/rQAQBISD\\_tU](https://www.youtube.com/live/rQAQBISD_tU)
- Any candidate physically unable to march in the academic procession should contact Mayelin Torres, [mtorres01@smlr.rutgers.edu](mailto:mtorres01@smlr.rutgers.edu) or Laura Walkoviak, [lauraann@smlr.rutgers.edu](mailto:lauraann@smlr.rutgers.edu) to make arrangements.
- At the appropriate time, graduates to be recognized will be escorted to the platform by the marshal designated for their program. The graduate will hand a staff member their name card. As the graduate walks across the stage their name will be announced, the Dean and others will extend individual congratulations, and a picture with the Dean will be taken.
- Please follow the directions of the volunteers as you exit the stage. You will be directed to have a photograph taken and then be directed back to your seat.

## DIPLOMAS

- Diplomas are issued by the University Registrar. University Departments enter their certifications into the Online Diploma Application (ODA) shortly after the end of the term. When these decisions are entered students receive notification of the decision the same day but this does not mean that a degree has been posted or that a diploma has been printed. Finalization of degrees and the printing of diplomas takes place after all certifications for all departments within the University are in the ODA. For May graduates, all degrees are typically posted by the Registrar no later than the first week in June.
- Printed diplomas are generally mailed out around the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June and are distributed as per the student's instructions given in the Online Diploma Application.
- Rutgers now offers students the ability to receive electronic diplomas through the Michael Sutter Company. Information how to purchase one is sent after degrees are processed.
- Should graduates need confirmation of degree completion before the issuance of the diploma, they can request a Certificate of Completion by sending a message to the One Stop Student Services Center at <https://scarlethub.rutgers.edu/contacts/new-brunswick/>. Graduates should include their full name and RUID with their written request.
- Official transcripts may be obtained at: <https://transcripts.rutgers.edu/transcripts/index.html>. It is important to read through the instructions and information on the website in order to request the final transcript. Keep in mind that the final official transcript is only available after degrees have been posted to the University system.

# PHOTOGRAPHY

## Senior Portraits

- **Lors Photography** specializes in school photography and is being contracted by the Office of Student Engagement for seniors who wish to purchase formal senior portraits. Letters to seniors have already been sent. If you have not received, or misplaced your letter from Lors Photography, you can click this link: <http://www.lorsstudio.com/seniors/schedule-your-appointment/>  
*Click Forgot Login/Password.* This will send the credentials that have been assigned to you. If, for some reason, you are not listed, the link will direct you to Customer Service so you can be added. Lors can be contacted at [customerservice@lorsstudio.com](mailto:customerservice@lorsstudio.com).
- **Island Photography** has been retained to photograph graduates at the ceremony. Follow the directions of the volunteers. You can go to [https://www.islandphoto.com/main/scrolling\\_home](https://www.islandphoto.com/main/scrolling_home), then click on customer signup.
  - Graduates will be photographed as the dean congratulates them on stage. The photographer will have footprints on the stage directing you where to stand.
  - After exiting the stage, staff will direct you toward the back of the arena where an individual photo will be taken.

## RECEPTION

- A light reception for graduates and guests will be available immediately following the ceremony at the **Janice H. Levin Building** across the street from Jersey Mike's Arena.

## SECURITY

- Rutgers police and first aid will be present during the ceremony.
- Bag searches will be conducted upon entering the building. Large bags will not be permitted. Visit the website regarding the bag policy at Jersey Mike's Arena.  
<http://scarletknights.com/sports/2017/6/11/tickets-bagpolicy-html.aspx>
- Once the ceremony is over and you leave the building, you will not be permitted back inside. There will be bathrooms outside.

## GUESTS

- Guest tickets are required for the SMLR convocation. You will receive 20 tickets and they are available now. Instructions for downloading your tickets are available at <https://scarletknights.com/sports/2026/1/13/2026-convocation-ticket-information>. You can also visit our convocation webpage at <https://smlr.rutgers.edu/Classof2026> for information – see the tab for **Ticket Information**.
- Guests will be seated on the sides of the arena. Only graduates are allowed on the floor. The Ph.D. and Human Resource Management graduates will be seated on the north side (left side when looking at the stage). The Labor Studies and Employment Relations graduates will be seated on the south side (right side when looking at the stage) during the ceremony.
- Wheelchair and ADA seating is available in Section 105 on the main concourse level overlooking the arena floor. There will be an elevator for those who require assistance.

## TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING

- Parking is free and available in the [Green Lot](#) and [Yellow Lot](#) behind Jersey Mike's Arena. Handicap parking is also available but limited.

## SMLR CONTACTS

### Academic Advising Contacts

Master's in Human Resource Management	Rebecca Tinkham	<a href="mailto:tinkham@smlr.rutgers.edu">tinkham@smlr.rutgers.edu</a>
Online Professional Master's in Human Resource Management	Allison Kushner	<a href="mailto:allison.kushner@rutgers.edu">allison.kushner@rutgers.edu</a>
Master's in Labor and Employment Relations	Ann Marie Fiorella-Mullen	<a href="mailto:amf322@smlr.rutgers.edu">amf322@smlr.rutgers.edu</a>

Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management	Grace Tien Joy Montuoro	<a href="mailto:stien@smlr.rutgers.edu">stien@smlr.rutgers.edu</a> <a href="mailto:montuoro@smlr.rutgers.edu">montuoro@smlr.rutgers.edu</a>
Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies and Employment Relations	Bill Bailey	<a href="mailto:wbailey@smlr.rutgers.edu">wbailey@smlr.rutgers.edu</a>
Bachelor of Science in Labor and Employment Relations	Anuja Rivera	<a href="mailto:anujab@smlr.rutgers.edu">anujab@smlr.rutgers.edu</a>
Ph.D. in Industrial Relations and Human Resources (IRHR)	Danielle Vroom	<a href="mailto:dvroom@smlr.rutgers.edu">dvroom@smlr.rutgers.edu</a>

Visit <https://smlr.rutgers.edu/Classof2026> for up-to-date ceremony details or email [convocation@smlr.rutgers.edu](mailto:convocation@smlr.rutgers.edu) with any questions.

## UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

**Sunday, May 17, 2026**

**10:00am @ SHI Stadium, Busch Campus**

The 260th Anniversary Commencement will be held Sunday, May 17th at 10:00 am in SHI Stadium and celebrates all members of the Class of 2026 from Rutgers–New Brunswick and Rutgers Biomedical & Health Sciences at one large event. Details about Commencement can be found here: [commencement.rutgers.edu](http://commencement.rutgers.edu).

**Note:** The information in this document pertains specifically to the SMLR Convocation and University Commencement.

Receipt of this document by a degree candidate does not necessarily mean that the recipient will be awarded a degree. The graduation of any candidate cannot be determined until all academic requirements and records are complete.

All candidates are reminded that they must clear all outstanding financial obligations to the university before graduation and return or account for any items withdrawn from the university libraries. Candidates who have been certified for graduation but whose accounts are not clear will not receive diplomas until all is paid.

# School of Management and Labor Relations

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