

Graduation Ceremonies: Information and Guidelines

Finishing your Biological Science degree at San Jose State University is a lifetime achievement to be shared with family and friends. There are two functions that acknowledge our graduates. The University Commencement is held at Spartan Stadium and recognizes all graduating students for the past academic year. Students may participate in this ceremony a semester prior to official graduation. Reservations are not required, and students enjoy unlimited seating for guests. The Department of Biological Sciences Graduation Celebration is a more intimate venue, typically held after the University Commencement Ceremony. Our faculty attend and acknowledge those graduating biology students individually. As such, the Celebration's popularity has increased to the point that the department is implementing the following guidelines effective Fall 2016:

- 1) The week following Spring Break, a list of eligible students is made available to the Biology office via the Office of the Registrar. Those students are notified, via their SJSU email address, to RSVP in order to attend the ceremony. Signs are also posted throughout Duncan Hall.
- 2) Reminders are sent out weekly until the deadline (generally the first week of May). Once the deadline passes, RSVPs will no longer be taken and students will not be able to attend the Celebration.
- 3) Those students who reserved their seats can request up to four tickets for friends and family. Once those tickets are distributed, any remaining tickets will be given to students on a first come first serve basis.
- 4) Only those students placed on the graduating student list provided by the Registrar's Office are eligible to attend the Biology Celebration. There is no wait list to attend the Celebration, thus, "walking early" will no longer be permitted.
- 5) Please do not attend the ceremony without previously providing an RSVP as you will not be acknowledged individually. The Celebration is choreographed and unanticipated students will disrupt the proceedings.