April 3, 2020

Hello Students,

As you know we are experiencing new situations each day because of the spread of the COVID-19 virus. However, your NMSU-A community is doing everything we can to minimize interruption to the progress you are making toward your academic goals.

One of the questions we hear is, “If commencement is postponed does that mean I can’t graduate in May? If you will be completing your academic program in May, and you have successfully met all requirements for your degree, you will indeed be “graduating” at the end of this semester. Here's a little clarification that may help: “Graduation is the completion of all degree requirements as recorded on the official transcript. Commencement is the ceremony that celebrates the completion of a degree.”

What does this mean for you? If you have met all requirements by end of semester, and once final grades are submitted you, will receive your diploma through the mail 4-6 weeks later. This is standard practice and not related to our current situation. To prevent any delays, please go to your MyNMSU account and double-check that your current address is listed correctly. In addition, your transcript will show attainment of your degree.

Unfortunately, we are postponing the “Commencement” ceremony until Fall (tentative date of September 18, 2020). We would still love for you to walk the stage and allow us to recognize your accomplishments at that time. We hope that you will be able to join in the celebration. In the meantime, we will be creating a special webpage which will allow you to celebrate virtually. Details will follow soon, also.

If you still have questions concerning your completion, please don’t hesitate to call Student Services at 575-439-3600. We are here for you.

Keep studying! Stay Safe and Healthy!

Sincerely,

Anne Ricksecker, MA Ed.
Vice President for Student Success