



Student Commencement Speaker Information and Selection Guidelines

1. Selection of Spring 2019 Commencement Student Speaker
 - Student speakers may be nominated but must complete the application
 - Eligible students must be graduating by the end of the spring term.
 - All applicants should follow the directions on the speaker information guidelines, including all the required information on an outline of the speech he/she plans to make, if selected.
 - Only one student speaker will be selected by the Selection Committee appointed and chaired by Lena Phelps, Chair, Library Services.
2. Timeline
 - Notice of the opportunity to speak at commencement will be posted at all college sites, on the **college website**, www.southflorida.edu, and on **Panther Central** beginning **January 25, 2019**.
 - Information forms will be available at the DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands and Lake Placid Campuses, and all academic deans' offices.
 - A detailed outline of the speech is **due March 6, 2019** and may be turned in to:
Community Relations - Building F-110
Dean of Arts and Sciences Office - Building B-207
Student Services Advisor or Director at the DeSoto, Hardee, or Lake Placid Campuses
The Academic dean will review the outlines and make comments as appropriate prior to sending them to the Selection Committee.
 - The Selection Committee will read the detailed outlines and select finalists by **March 20, 2019**
 - Finalists will present speeches to the Selection Committee on **March 28, 2019**.
 - The commencement speaker finalist will be notified by **April 1, 2019**.
3. Speech Requirements
 - The speech should not exceed 10 minutes.
 - The Commencement Speaker should use appropriate examples, stories, and/or instances of humor for a graduation ceremony and the audience. The audience will range from small children to senior adults, the graduates, the SFSC Board of Trustees, students, faculty, and staff.
 - Applicants must select their own topics. They may wish to make points in the message that are relevant to college graduates. Some **possible** topics might be the value of education, specifically at SFSC; the role that education will play in the graduates' futures; or ways that education changes people's lives, etc. These are only examples.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER APPLICATION INFORMATION

Due March 6, 2019

Thank you for considering being an applicant for SFSC commencement speaker spring 2019.

You must BE ABLE TO complete all graduation requirements by the end of the spring term of 2019 to be eligible. The Selection Committee will review all applications, finalists will be selected by **March 20**, and they will present their speeches to the Selection Committee on **March 28, 2019**.

Finalists will be notified of the speaker selection on or about **April 1, 2018**.

The Commencement Ceremony is **Tuesday evening May 7, 2019**.

Applicants must select their own topic. They may want their speeches to (1) address topics of interest to graduates and the audience, (2) include humor, and (3) be no longer than 10 minutes in length.

Your speech is your application, please provide a detailed outline of your speech with the following **required information**:

- ✓ **Name**
- ✓ **Student ID#**
- ✓ **Address**
- ✓ **City/State**
- ✓ **Phone Number(s)**
- ✓ **Email address**
- ✓ **Degree or Certificate Program**
- ✓ **Graduation Date**

Return your speech to one of the following locations on or before close of business **March 6, 2019**.

Community Relations - Building F
Dean of Arts and Sciences Office - Building B-207
Student Services Advisor or Director at the DeSoto, Hardee, or Lake Placid Campuses

You may contact:

Dean Timothy G. Wise, Student Services, (863)784-7107, WiseT@southflorida.edu
For additional information.