

**Subject:** Important Instruction and Student Services Updates and Questions Answered – May 12, 2021  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021 5:52:04 PM

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Greetings.

Finally! The big day is almost here. At 6 p.m. tomorrow, May 13, we get to celebrate the outstanding achievements of HACC students eligible to graduate in the spring and summer 2021 semesters at our spring 2021 virtual Commencement ceremony.

The ceremony will include brief remarks from a faculty member, student, alumni and HACC leadership. Like me, I think you'll find the student speaker's story to be inspiring.

Following are resources to help you celebrate virtually:

- [YouTube link](#) - Please use this link to tune in to the ceremony at 6 p.m.
- [Spring 2021 virtual Commencement ceremony webpage](#) - Please use this link to view our Commencement program book and learn about the ceremony speakers.

Please share your excitement on [social media](#) using #HACCproud and #HACCgraduate.

Also, I will host a **Zoom session for HACC students on May 19, 2021**, from 3-3:30 p.m. All HACC students are invited to attend.

- Please use the following Zoom information:
  - **[Zoom information is redacted for security purposes.]**

Please note the following protocols for these Zoom sessions:

- Please log in at least five minutes before the session begins. The Zoom meeting will be closed to new participants at 3:05 p.m.
- Please use the chat feature to ask questions, and HACC employees and I will respond.

As you have come to expect, following are the commonly asked questions and our responses to them. Please note that some of these responses are tentative and subject to change.

If you have additional questions and you do not see the answers on the [website](#), please submit the online form located on the website. Please see the webpage section called “Information for Students.”

We will continue to update you regularly via email and the aforementioned website.

*Thank you!*

John J. “Ski” Sygielski, MBA, Ed.D.  
President & CEO  
HACC, Central Pennsylvania’s Community College

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- 1. I am graduating this semester. Can you provide additional details on the virtual Commencement ceremony? Where can I view the ceremony? Will my supporters be able to use the same link?**

HACC’s [virtual Commencement ceremony](#) will be held on May 13 at 6 p.m. To view the ceremony, please visit HACC’s [YouTube channel](#).

All attendees will use the same link to tune in to the ceremony.

We look forward to seeing you online on May 13!

- 2. I am graduating this semester. Unfortunately, I missed the opportunity to complete the online form by the April 1 deadline. Can I still tune in to the ceremony?**

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation!

Yes! Graduating students and their supporters are encouraged to tune in to the [virtual celebration](#) - whether or not they completed the online participation form.

If you have any additional questions regarding our spring 2021 virtual Commencement ceremony, please contact [Commencement@hacc.edu](mailto:Commencement@hacc.edu).

- 3. Are all courses available for the fall 2021 semester on the “Browse Classes” page or will more continue to be added?**

Course enrollment will be monitored throughout the months leading up to the fall semester, and sections will be added as classes fill. Waitlists are available. Students on a waitlist will be notified when seats become available and new sections of a course are added to the schedule. Please contact your advisor if you need to take a course in your major that is not currently on the schedule.

4. **Will remote learning continue to be an option *after* the fall 2021 semester?**

HACC is exploring remote learning as an option after the fall 2021 semester.

6. **How does HACC select the winners for cash giveaways for summer and fall tuition? Is there a time frame where the winner must accept, or does the money just go into the person's account?**

The [HACC Foundation](#) will award 40 \$2,000 tuition giveaways to continuing and future HACC students, which can only be used toward fall 2021 semester tuition and fees. The randomly selected winners will be contacted via email and given instructions to redeem the giveaway. Upon confirmation that all requirements have been met, the \$2,000 will be directly applied to their student accounts. Students can still [register](#) for the drawing through Aug. 15.

7. **With the opening of the campuses to the general public at the beginning of June, will students who must be on campus during the summer be allowed to eat lunch outside as long as they maintain social distancing? Many of the health careers students are on campus all day for labs and need to have a space for lunch.**

Yes. Students can enjoy lunch outside while remaining socially distanced during the summer semester at all campuses.

8. **I heard there is a new temporary service that can provide me with assistance in paying for my Internet bills. Can you provide more information?**

As of May 12, 2021, eligible individuals can begin applying and enrolling in the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program. This temporary program provides the following benefits to eligible households:

- Up to \$50 per month discount for broadband service
- Up to \$75 per month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer or tablet purchased through a participating provider

Only one monthly service discount and one device discount are allowed per household.

To learn more, please visit <https://getemergencybroadband.org/>

9. **When will the students who need the CARES Act monies be determined and when will the funds be distributed? I need to know how you determine how much each student receives also. Mine would be for books, housing, and school related expenses. Thanks.**

At this time, the College is still awaiting guidance from the U.S. Department of

Education regarding student eligibility and the methodology for determining the students with greatest need for distribution of funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA). We will communicate with students when further information is known.

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II authorized by the CRRSAA was signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. The act includes a portion of funding dedicated to students for emergency financial aid grants, similar to the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act. However, the act amends student eligibility and directs institutions to prioritize the students with greatest need.

HACC received a grant through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund authorized by the CARES Act, signed into law March 27, 2020, that provided for emergency financial aid grants to students. HACC has distributed those monies. Details are available at [hacc.edu/CARESact](http://hacc.edu/CARESact).

**10. I heard that PSECU is offering a promotion where I can get \$100. What does this involve?**

We're #HACCproud to offer PSECU credit union membership to the HACC community. As a student member, you can earn perks such as free checking and savings accounts, a cash rewards debit card, an easy-to-use mobile app and alerts to keep tabs on YOUR money.

For a limited time, you can get \$100 when you open a checking account with a debit card and add online or mobile banking. For promotion rules and to get started, please visit <http://bit.ly/2XH7mg8>.

[hacc.edu](http://hacc.edu)



800-ABC-HACC

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