

Student Speaker Application

The CSUCI School of Education invites graduating students from the Class of 2020 to apply to be a student speaker at the 3rd Annual SOE Pinning Ceremony. It is an honor to be selected to present a student commencement address - to convey a message of inspiration and encouragement, share common experiences and insights, and inspire your fellow SOE graduates.

Applications will be accepted beginning on February 17, 2020 and be open until March 30, 2020.

Eligibility

Graduating students interested in delivering an inspirational address must meet these criteria:

- Be eligible for graduation.
- Be in good academic and disciplinary standing.
- Commit to attend and participate fully in the rehearsal and pinning ceremony on May 22, 2020

Guidelines

- The address should be between 3 – 5 minutes. This translates to approximately 400 – 650 words or 2 – 3 double-spaced, typed pages.
- Because you will present the speech to fellow students graduating from more than one program, it is important to keep the themes broad.
- Discuss the transformative power of your educational experience and the CI mission.
- Avoid personal references that are unique to personal experience unless they provide insights into an extraordinary life lesson valuable to your listeners.
- A variety of emotional content is always welcome in a speech. Humor is useful as well as a serious tone, as well as joy and sorrow. You do not have to include all of these, but emotional monotony can make for a difficult listening experience.

Submission Process

Eligible and interested students should submit an application to schoolofeducation@csuci.edu. This application must include a .pdf copy of the pinning address manuscript.

Selection Process

A selection committee comprised of SOE faculty and staff representatives will review entries and choose one or more student speakers.

The selection committee will consider the following when making their selection of student speakers:

- Clarity of ideas
- Appeal to a broad audience & common experiences of CI students
- Quality of speech content

- Length of presentation (appropriate word length)
- Extent to which the speech represents the mission and values of the SOE and CI
- Considering the above criterion, the committee will also seek a diverse representation of students.

The selection committee will notify the selected speakers April 10th by email. The selection committee will also notify unsuccessful applicants at this time.

The selected speakers will work with a coach to refine their speech and delivery.

Important Dates

- February 17 - Application opens
- March 30 - Application closes
- April 10 - Speakers notified
- May 22 - Student speaker rehearsal
- May 22 - Pinning ceremony