Dear Graduands,

The College of The Bahamas congratulates you on successfully completing your programme of study. The following information was specially prepared to assist you as you transition through the final stages of your academic journey.

The Application Process
All seniors were required to apply for graduation by 30th January, 2015 (see graduation page on The College’s website – www.cob.edu.bs). Graduation application forms were to have been submitted to the Records Department and the graduation fee paid to the Business Office. The new graduation fee inclusive of VAT is $107.50.

Completion of Contract of Study
Ensure that your contract is completed with all course requirements met or that the requirements will be met by the end of Spring semester, and that your contract has all the signatures required for approval.

Chapter One Bookstore - Academic Dress Package
The appropriate academic dress is the black gown, black cap, hood and tassel. These items can be purchased from Chapter One Bookstore at a cost of $161.50 ($150.00 +VAT). It is important that you purchase the tassel and hood that is specific to your school.

Chapter One Bookstore Operating Hours
Monday—Saturday
9:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Graduation Rehearsal
Rehearsal for graduands will be held on Tuesday, May 26th, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium in New Providence.

Baccalaureate Service - Wednesday, May 27th

The Baccalaureate Service for graduands, their families, guests and members of the College Community will be held on Wednesday, May 27th, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Michael’s Methodist Church, Churchill Ave., Boyd Subdivision. The service is opened to the public. Invitations are not required.

Arrival Time
This service will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. with a procession. Graduands are to arrive at the church NO LATER THAN 6:00 p.m. in preparation for the Baccalaureate Service procession.
Attire
Attire for the church service consists of the commencement gown and black shoes. Do not wear the academic hood or cap. Also, do not wear honour medals, cords or sashes. The procession will begin promptly at 6:45 p.m.

1. Make sure that ALL items of your attire for the Baccalaureate Service are secured at least one week in advance.

2. While assembling outside the church, comments are to be whispered very quietly.

3. Once the procession has arrived inside the church, gestures and conversations should cease. Acknowledge the presence of familiar faces with a nod.

4. If you arrive after the start of the Baccalaureate Service, please remove your gown prior to entering the church and be seated in the audience.

Commencement Ceremony - Thursday, May 28th
The Commencement Ceremony of The College of The Bahamas will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 28th, 2015 at the Thomas A. Robinson (TAR) National Stadium. The academic procession will start promptly at 4:45 p.m. If you are late, you are kindly asked to be seated in the audience.

The guests will remain seated during the academic procession.

Contingency Plans
Graduands are advised to visit The College’s website (www.cob.edu.bs) for all updates and amendments to plans for Commencement activities. Should there be inclement weather, the Commencement Ceremony will be relocated from the Thomas A. Robinson Stadium to the Diplomat Centre (Bahamas Faith Ministries), Carmichael Road, and the ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m., rather than 5:00 p.m.

Arrival Time
YOU MUST ARRIVE dressed in your cap and gown by 3.00 p.m. in order to assemble in your place within your school and degree group. Graduands are to arrive at the Western Grandstand entrance (VIP section) of the National Stadium. Parking will be permitted in the parking spaces near to the Government High School.
Commencement Protocol and Decorum
Commencement is a formal ceremony and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. This means: no signs, no fireworks, no alcoholic beverages, no eating and no drugs. Persons, including degree candidates choosing not to abide by these rules will not be allowed to participate and will be escorted from the ceremony.

Academic Regalia
As a candidate you must wear appropriate attire for the Commencement ceremony.

- Required attire for the ceremony is a black mortarboard cap and gown. There will be no exceptions.
- Black flat shoes or black wedge-heeled shoes are to be worn. No tennis shoes are allowed.
- Males ought to wear black socks and black trousers (no white socks).
- Females are asked to wear black skirts or dresses no longer than their gown. Dress pants MUST NOT be worn.
- Females are also advised not to wear dresses or blouses with high necklines or bright colours that will detract from their hoods.
- Hair styles must be suitable for the proper adornment of the mortarboard (academic cap).
- Graduands are permitted to wear their honours pins and fraternity stoles at the Commencement Ceremony.
- The hood is carried over the left arm in preparation for the hooding ceremony.
- The mortarboard is to be worn, having the front point over the forehead, below the front hairline so that the flat board is parallel to the floor. The mortarboard is not to be worn on the back of the head with the board pointing upward. NO DECORATION OF ANY KIND IS TO BE PLACED ON THE MORTARBOARD.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
a. NO CELL PHONES ARE ALLOWED
b. Please come fully dressed for the occasion. You may find pocket-books, tote bags and other items cumbersome. These should be left with family members or guests prior to arriving at the assembly location.
c. Please respect the dignity of your academic robe by avoiding the attachments of jewelry, flowers, personal decorations or signs of academic regalia. ADDITIONALLY, CHEWING GUM, EATING AND DRINKING DETRACT FROM THE SOLEMNITY OF THE OCCASION AND ARE ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED.
d. Candidates for the Associate, Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees should enter the processional with the tassel on the right, hanging near the right eye.

Thank You and Congratulations!
Tuesday, May 26th, 2015 | 10:00 a.m.
Teachers' Commissioning Ceremony
Performing Arts Centre

Tuesday, May 26th, 2015 | 6:00 p.m.
Graduation Rehearsal
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

Wednesday, May 27th, 2015 | 10:00 a.m.
Awards Ceremony
Performing Arts Centre

Wednesday, May 27th, 2015 | 7:00 p.m.
Baccalaureate Service
St. Michael's Methodist Church

Thursday, May 28th, 2015 | 5:00 p.m.
Commencement Ceremony
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

Friday, May 29th, 2015 | 2:00 p.m.
School of Nursing and Allied Health Professions Pinning Ceremony
Performing Arts Centre