

University of Chester

180th Anniversary Alumni Honorary Degrees

Further Information

Eligibility

By special resolution of the Senate and the University Council, it has been decided to commemorate the achievements of former students. If you left either Chester or Padgate Colleges before 1979 with a Certificate in Education (Cert Ed) or a Bachelor of Education (BEd), you are eligible to be awarded an Honorary Degree from the University of Chester.

Please note that we are unfortunately unable to award this Honorary Degree posthumously.

Attending a Ceremony

On Saturday September 14, the University will host a series of small ceremonies, as part of our Annual Alumni Reunion Weekend. These Conferment of Honorary Degree ceremonies will be held in the Chapel at the Parkgate Road Campus and are open to anyone who fits the eligibility criteria mentioned above.

Regrettably we are unable to offer guest tickets for the Chapel ceremonies. However, you are still able to bring guests with you on the day. We will be live streaming the ceremonies to other venues on campus, so that your guests can watch your ceremony from elsewhere. *Please note that this does not apply to carers - they will of course be welcome to join you in the ceremony, free of charge.*

If you would like to attend one of these ceremonies you will be able to book your ticket between the dates of **May 13 - June 7, 2019 only**, either online at www1.chester.ac.uk/alumni-honorarys or by returning the enclosed form. Tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis - booking may close early if tickets sell out.

Tickets will be charged at £25. These include a reception after your ceremony, your Honorary Degree certificate and a copy of our commemorative honorary degree ceremony programme. There will be a further charge of £45 for the hire of your full outfit (hat, hood and gown) from our graduation partners Ede and Ravenscroft. All honorary graduands will be expected to wear this formal academic dress.

Receiving your Honorary Degree Certificate

You do not need to attend a ceremony to accept your Honorary Degree. If you would like to accept your Honorary Degree by post, please complete the enclosed form or apply online at www1.chester.ac.uk/alumni-honorarys, between the dates of **May 13 - June 7, 2019**. If you apply during this time, your name will appear in our commemorative honorary degree ceremony programme and you will be sent a copy with your certificate.

We will endeavour to send certificates out shortly after our ceremonies take place. However, please note that due to the amount of eligible recipients – as many as 6,000 – we are unable

to confirm by when individual certificates will be dispatched, but hope that it will be by the end of September.

We understand that there may be some eligible alumni that we do not reach with this information before the end of the booking period. We will still accept applications for certificates after June 7, but cannot guarantee when these will be posted. Unfortunately these names will not be included in our commemorative honorary degree ceremony programme.

A charge of £20 will be applicable when applying for a posted certificate, to cover the cost of the certificate itself, secure postage, and a small administration fee.

Contacting our Teaching Alumni

We are making every effort to contact as many of our alumni as possible, but we do not have contact details for everybody, so if you know of anyone who may be eligible to receive an Honorary Degree (based on the criteria listed above), please do pass this information on to them.

Congratulations, Honorary Class of 2019! We look forward to hearing from you.



Helena Astbury

Head of DARO

Hayley Naldrett

Engagement Officer

Jennifer Donald

Campaigns and Events Officer

Development and Alumni Relations Office (DARO)

FAQs

Where will my ceremony be?

All ceremonies will be held in Chapel on the University of Chester Parkgate Road Campus.

How long will my ceremony be?

The ceremony itself will last approximately 45 minutes. All honorands are invited to a reception following their ceremony, also lasting around 45 minutes. You will not be required to walk across the stage to collect your certificate - this will be available immediately after your ceremony for collection.

What time will my ceremony be?

We will be in touch nearer the time to confirm the time of your ceremony and to provide further details. All ceremonies will be held between 9am and 5pm on Saturday, September 14.

Do I have to wear a hat and gown to the ceremony?

Yes, all eligible alumni attending a ceremony will need to wear academic dress. These are formal conferment of degree ceremonies and as with all of our graduations, the appropriate academic dress is required. We hope that this will add to your experience of the day (as well as make for some great photos!).

Why is there a cost attached to receiving my certificate by post?

This charge is in place to help cover some of the cost of administering the production and posting of certificates. By comparison, for recent graduates, we would usually be required to charge £50 for a replacement degree certificate, in order to cover the costs involved.

Who do I make my cheque payable to?

Please make all cheques payable to University of Chester.

I already have a Bachelor of Education (BEd), why would I apply for an honorary version?

If you graduated before 1979, you will have trained alongside those leaving college with a Certificate in Education (CertEd), some of whom may choose to return for the September 14 ceremonies. Your degree will have been awarded by the University of Liverpool (if Chester) or the University of Manchester (if Padgate). In recognition of this work, and your services to education and society since leaving college, we are delighted to be able to offer you an Honorary Degree from the University of Chester.

I'd like further information, who should I contact?

Please contact the Development and Alumni Relations Office at AlumniHons@chester.ac.uk, or telephone 01244 511772.