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Virtual ceremony for ECSU tonight

CHRONICLE STAFF

WILLIMANTIC — More than 1,250 undergraduate and graduate students and their families will watch from home when Eastern Connecticut State University conducts its 130th annual Commencement Exercises via YouTube tonight.

The "virtual" event begins at 6 p.m. — the same day the university had originally planned to hold its graduation ceremony at Hartford's XL Center.

Eastern President Elsa Núñez will be joined by commencement speaker Mark Boxer, executive vice president and chief information officer at Cigna, along with Provost Bill Salka, University Senate President Andrew Utterback and Senior Class Vice President Emily Kerfoot.

Eastern graduates were mailed a package that included their diploma cover, the printed program for the evening and their mortarboard and tassel so they can celebrate their graduation with family in the safety of their homes.

The commencement program goes live at 6 p.m. on Eastern's official You Tube channel at www.youtube.com/EasternConnecticutStateUniversityVideo.