Dear Medical School Student:

We are providing a model below to assist you if you wish to write a graduation announcement and send it to your hometown newspaper. This is a suggested format; feel free to amend it to convey all the appropriate personal information. We wish you much success and happiness.

Office of Communications, 508-856-2000

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# *Date*

# *Contact phone number*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 31, 2015

LOCAL RESIDENT RECEIVES MEDICAL DEGREE   
FROM UMASS WORCESTER

WORCESTER, MA—*Graduate’s nam*e of *city/town* received a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Massachusetts Worcester during a ceremony held on the medical school campus on Sunday, May 31, 2015. *He/she* is the *son/daughter* of *parents’ names* of *city/town of residence*.

*Graduate’s last name* earned *his/her* undergraduate degree from *name of undergraduate school* in *year*.

Following graduation, *graduate’s last name* will serve *his/her* residency in *medical specialty* at *name of hospital* in *city/state*.

The University of Massachusetts Medical School was created in l962 by an act of the Massachusetts legislature to enable state residents to study medicine at an affordable cost and to increase the number of primary care physicians practicing in underserved areas of the state. Located in Worcester, New England’s second largest city, the School of Medicine accepted its first class of 16 students in 1970; the school now accepts 125 students per class.

Today, the 67-acre campus is comprised of the School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (opened in 1979), and the Graduate School of Nursing (opened in 1986), as well as a 781-bed teaching hospital and specialty clinics. The hospital and clinics are part of UMass Memorial Health Care, the largest non-profit integrated clinical system in Central Massachusetts. The medical school has consistently ranked among the top medical schools in the country for primary care and typically, more than half of each year’s graduating class enters primary care residencies.

UMMS attracts more than $240 million in research funding annually and has built a reputation as a world class research institution, consistently producing noteworthy advances in medical research into human disease and treatment. Craig C. Mello, PhD, and colleague Andrew Fire, PhD, of Stanford University, were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their work in discovering RNA interference, a naturally occurring mechanism through which scientists can “knock out” the expression of specific genes. The 1998 discovery has spawned an entirely new field of scientific inquiry and is used in laboratories around the globe to speed medical research into the biologic functions in human disease.

The mission of the University of Massachusetts Medical School is to advance the health and well-being of the people of the Commonwealth and the world through pioneering education, research, public service and health care delivery. For more information, visit [www.umassmed.edu](http://www.umassmed.edu/).

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