



*Class of 2026*



# COMMENCEMENT PACKET



Wilmington  
College

# Pre-Commencement Checklist

☐

**Monday, February 9**

**Cap and Gown Order  
Deadline**

☐

**Monday, March 23**

**Deadline to register for:**

- Grad Fair
- Senior Lunch
- Baccalaureate
- Commencement

☐

**Wednesday, April 1**

**Grad Fair**

10:30-4:00

McCoy Room

☐

**Friday, April 10**

**Deadline to Register for:**

Honors Convocation

Research Forum

**Deadline to Submit:  
Pictures for Senior Video**

☐

**Monday, April 20**

**Deadline to Submit:  
Special Seating  
Accommodation Request**

☐

**Saturday, April 25**

**Research Forum**

9:00am

McCoy Room

**Honors Convocation**

2:00pm

Hugh Heiland Theater

☐

**Monday, April 27**

**Tyehimba Celebration**

7:00pm

**Deadline for all  
Commencement Tickets**

☐

**Tuesday, April 28**

**Lavender Ceremony**

7:00pm

☐

**Friday, May 1**

**Deadline for Exit Loan  
Counseling**

**Student Accounts must be  
Paid in Full**

# Commencement Weekend Activities and Information

## *Friday, May 8*

### **Baccalaureate**

10:30am

Hugh Heiland  
Theater  
Boyd Cultural  
Arts Center

### **Senior Lunch**

12:00pm

Top  
Pyle Center

### **Commencement Rehearsal**

Following Lunch  
approx. 2:00pm

Hermann Court

### **Class Photo**

Following  
rehearsal  
approx. 3:00pm

Outside  
Hermann Court

## *Saturday, May 9*

### **Commencement Ceremony**

Graduates report to Hugh Heiland Theater at 9:00am

Processional begins at 10:15am  
Hermann Court

# Pre-Commencement Activities and Information

## Grad Fair- April 1

Kick-off your senior season at Grad Fair! We want to celebrate YOU!

At this event, you will be able to:

- Pick-up Commencement tickets. Bring your photo ID to receive your 6 commencement tickets.
- Pick up your cap and gown - if it has been ordered by February 9
- Speak with representatives from Alumni Affairs, Financial Aid (One Stop), and other campus departments.
- Purchase commencement announcements, class rings, and other WC alumni gear.

For those unable to attend Grad Fair:

- Caps and gowns may be picked up at the bookstore. Bring your photo ID.
- Commencement tickets can be picked up April 3 thru April 15 at Financial Aid (One Stop).
  - If you are not able to go to Financial Aid (One Stop), email Financial Aid (One Stop) at [sos@wilmington.edu](mailto:sos@wilmington.edu) and request to have your tickets mailed to you.
  - Students who want to request more tickets may do so at Financial Aid (One Stop) during the times listed above.

## Senior Video

The Senior Video will be shown during the Baccalaureate.

- All photos for the video must be received by Friday, April 10
- Submit photos to: <https://wilmingtoncollege.wufoo.com/forms/2026-baccalaureate-senior-video/>
- Please note the following guidelines for photo submissions:
  - Limit 3 photos per person
  - Photos must be less than 10MB.
  - Send the original photo file. Photos pulled from social media will be used at the discretion of the media team based on resolution and quality.
  - The Office of Public Relations reserves the right to reject any photos.
  - Any questions, please contact [bekah.wall@wilmington.edu](mailto:bekah.wall@wilmington.edu)

# Commencement Weekend

## Activities Information

### **Baccalaureate- May 8th**

This ceremony is a time for reflection and a chance to look back over your college years.

- Attire for this event is business casual.
- Graduates will sign the rock after the ceremony.

### **Commencement Rehearsal- May 8th**

- A rehearsal for the ceremony will take place immediately following the Senior Lunch.
- A panoramic class photo will be taken immediately following the rehearsal.

### **Commencement Ceremony- May 9th**

- 9:00 a.m. – Line up for Commencement procession – Hugh Heiland Theater
  - Please be on time!
  - Arrive dressed in your cap and gown.
  - Professional photographers will be available to take your photo.
- 10:15 a.m. – Procession to Hermann Court begins.
  - No one will be permitted to enter Hermann Court during the processional.
- 10:30 a.m. – Commencement ceremony begins.
- 12:30 p.m. – Commencement ceremony ends.

The Cove will be open from 11am to 3pm for you to grab alumni apparel and gifts!

# Important Details and FAQs

## Electronic Ticketing will be Available on the website and Sent Out after Spring Break, 2026

- Please See Website: <https://www.wilmington.edu/current-students/commencement> or contact Academic Affairs

## Special Accommodation Seating for Commencement

Recognizing some of our guests, due to physical limitations, may require seating that avoids the need to navigate stairs, we have a designated area with limited space.

The Commencement ceremony will be held in Hermann Court, which offers stadium seating on one side. **There are no handrails ascending into the seating area and the steps are steep.** Special Accommodation seats are reserved for individuals in wheelchairs or those who cannot easily navigate the stairs.

- **Securing Special Accommodation tickets**

- Students with a guest requiring special accommodation seating must complete an online form requesting a pass. Please use the following link to access the form: <https://wilmingtoncollege.wufoo.com/forms/2026-special-accommodation-seating-request/>
- Due to limited space, we can only accommodate up to one special accommodation request per graduate and one companion to the individual needing special seating.
- Please note that guests in the special accommodation section will require BOTH an entry ticket (one of the 6 allotted to each graduate) AND a special accommodation seating pass.
- Requests for special accommodation must be received by Monday, April 20.

- **Special Accommodation Guest Drop-off/Parking**

- For ground level access to seating, guests who will be in the Special Accommodations area should be dropped off behind Hermann Court.
- Commencement staff will be available to assist guests to their seats. All cars will need to be parked in the designated parking lots.

# Important Details and FAQs

- **Special Accommodation Seating Area**

- We request an early arrival for our guests who will need to sit in the special accommodation seating area.
- Early arrival begins at 9:30 a.m. to ensure that all our guests will be seated by 10:15 a.m. when the processional starts.

- **Commencement Survey**

- Be on the lookout for an email asking you to complete a graduation survey from Career Services/Daniel McCamish. The message will be sent to your Wilmington College email address.

- **Student Loan Borrowers**

- Federal Direct loan borrowers must complete Exit Loan Counseling online at <https://studentaid.gov/exit-counseling>. You will select the Log-In to Start option next to your appropriate status (Undergraduate or Graduate Student).
  - Institutional loan borrowers must contact Amy Robinson to review the rights and responsibilities in preparation of repaying your loan(s). Appointments can be scheduled by emailing [bursar@wilmington.edu](mailto:bursar@wilmington.edu)

- **Student Accounts**

- Student accounts must be paid in full by May 1st.
- Payments may be made online or by check at Financial Aid (One Stop).

# FAQs

- **What should I wear besides my cap and gown?**

- Commencement is a formal occasion and appropriate attire under your gown is required. For the ceremony, it is suggested you wear comfortable shoes (please, no flip flops) and men should wear pants (not shorts). Keep in mind that the gym is not air conditioned. Depending on the weather, it can get very hot in Hermann Court! Do not iron your gown, but please hang it up or steam it to remove creases before the ceremony.

- **What can I bring to the ceremony?**

- Do not bring anything that you can't carry in your pocket under your robe. There is no option for securing personal property during the ceremony. We strongly discourage carrying large items (e.g., balloons or bouquets).

- **What about transcripts?**

- One complimentary copy of your final transcript and your diploma will be mailed to your home address by late June for Spring graduates (provided your student account is clear with Student Accounts).
- The approximate date for diplomas and transcripts to be mailed is June 15.

- **What about lodging for my guests?**

- Below is a list of local hotels for guests who will be staying in Wilmington.
  - When you are making your reservation with the hotel, check to see if they are offering a discount for guests attending Commencement.
    - The General Denver Hotel/Bed & Breakfast – 81 W Main S, (937) 383-4141
    - Hampton Inn & Suites – 201 Holiday Drive, (937) 382-4400
    - Holiday Inn Express – 155 Holiday Drive, (937) 382-5858
    - Roberts Centre Holiday Inn – 123 Gano St.(Rt. 68 & I-71), (937) 283-3200
    - TownePlace Suites by Marriott – 175 Holiday Lane, (937)805-0420
    - The Wilmington Inn – 909 Fife Avenue, (937) 382-6000

If you have additional questions, please contact  
[commencement@wilmington.edu](mailto:commencement@wilmington.edu).