

Commencement Guide

Spring 2026 Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, May 9, 2026 | 10 a.m.



Lakeland
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Preparing For Commencement

Eligibility

To be eligible to graduate and receive your diploma or certificate, you should have already completed and submitted an online [graduation application](#) (myLakeland login required). You are eligible to participate in the Spring 2026 commencement ceremony if you will potentially complete requirements in spring semester 2026. If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact the counseling and advising center at 440.525.7200. Please note that participation in the commencement ceremony does not constitute the completion of graduation requirements.

Academic Regalia

A cap, gown and tassel are the official regalia that you must wear at commencement and can be selected for purchase through the [Graduation Application](#). Graduates who did not originally select academic regalia can still purchase it by revisiting the graduation application and updating their choice. The regalia fee can be paid through your myLakeland account or at the cashier's office. Regalia is available for pick up in the Lakeland Bookstore beginning April 13. Check the [bookstore webpage](#) for current hours of operation.

If you attain a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.50 or higher through your last fully completed and graded semester, you may be eligible to wear a gold honors cord at the ceremony. If you are eligible, the honors cord will be available to purchase with your regalia package.

Guest Tickets

Graduates may receive a total of five (5) guest tickets for the ceremony. Graduates request guest tickets in the [Graduation Application](#) (myLakeland login required). Guest tickets are free and are required for admission. Fire Marshal regulations require that all guests, including children of any age, have a ticket. No one will be admitted without a ticket. Tickets will be sent to your Lakeland email address on May 1 via PurplePass. Please review your tickets received and distribute tickets accordingly so each guest has their own unique QR code. Additional tickets can be requested by April 30 through the [Graduation Application](#). If additional tickets are available, they will be emailed on May 1. Tickets will be allocated in the order the request was received. Guests requiring assistance or handicapped seating must have an accessible ticket. These tickets can be requested through the [Graduation Application](#).

Commencement Photographer

GradImages® is the official photographer for commencement, and they are excited to introduce GradExpress, a new service designed to make receiving your graduation photos faster and easier. With GradExpress, you can securely submit your contact information along with a selfie in advance. This allows GradImages to deliver your photos more efficiently afterward. We encourage you to take a moment to pre-register today by visiting: www.gradimages.com/registration. As a bonus, you'll receive 20% off your purchase of \$50 or more when you sign up in advance.



Special Accommodations for Graduates

Graduates requiring special assistance to participate in the commencement ceremony should call the Graduation Specialist at 440.525.7713 by May 1 to make any necessary arrangements.

Holden Partnership Program Graduates

Graduates from the Holden Partnership Program are invited to participate in Lakeland Community College's Spring 2026 Commencement Ceremony, Saturday, May 9, 2026, at 10 a.m.

All Holden Partnership Program graduates are to report to the Dr. Wayne L. Rodehorst Performing Arts Center in D-Building on Saturday, May 9, for complete instructions regarding participation in the ceremony and to line up for the academic procession. As a means of special recognition, Holden Partnership Program graduates will be the final group to walk across the stage to receive a congratulatory certificate. Diplomas will be issued by the degree-granting institution; graduates should contact the registrar's office at their home institution for more information.

Holden Partnership Program graduates may receive a total of five (5) guest tickets. Guest tickets are free and required for admission. Fire Marshal regulations require every guest, including children of any age, to have a ticket. No one will be admitted without a ticket. Tickets will be sent to your personal email address on May 1.

An RSVP is required for participation. If you have any questions regarding participation in Lakeland's commencement ceremony, would like more information on academic regalia, or require any special assistance to participate, contact Lisa Stanich, Program Manager for the Transfer Center and Testing Center, at 440.525.7535 or email uc@lakelandcc.edu.

On Commencement Day

Proper Attire Under Regalia

Commencement is a formal academic ceremony, so it is encouraged that you wear business attire along with comfortable shoes. Please do not wear sneakers, flip flops, t-shirts, shorts, jeans, etc.

Parking

Parking is free. Follow orders of police officers who will be directing traffic. Directional signs will be posted on campus designating handicapped parking areas.

Assembly of Graduates

Please report to the Dr. Wayne L. Rodehorst Performing Arts Center in D-Building on Saturday, May 9.

Graduates may begin arriving at 8:00 a.m., but should arrive no later than 8:30 a.m.

Arrive dressed in your cap and gown. You will receive complete instructions regarding participation in the ceremony at this time; there is no dress rehearsal. The processional starts promptly at 9:45 a.m.

You are not permitted to carry anything in your hands during the procession. A secured room will be provided for you to store any personal belongings for the duration of the ceremony.

Guest Seating

The commencement ceremony will be held in the Athletic & Fitness Center (Y-Building). Doors will open at 9:00 a.m. Guests should arrive and take their seats promptly. Guests arriving late may be redirected to view commencement from an alternative location so as not to disrupt the ceremony in progress. Seating is limited and guests are required to present a ticket for admittance. All guest seating is on bleachers except for guests requiring assistance or handicapped seating.

Commencement Livestreaming

The entire commencement ceremony will be streamed live and the video of the ceremony will be available to view online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement and on [Lakeland's official YouTube channel](#).

Hearing Impaired

An American Sign Language interpreter will be signing the ceremony.

After Graduation Day

Commencement Broadcast

The commencement ceremony will be posted online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement and also on [Lakeland's official YouTube channel](#) beginning the week of May 18.

Commencement Photographs

After graduation, proofs may be viewed at gradimages.com. Orders can be placed online or by phone at 1.800.261.2576. There is no obligation to purchase. If you have questions, contact GradImages customer service at 1.800.261.2576 or via email at giservice@gradimages.com.

Diploma/Certificate Distribution

During the commencement ceremony, a blank diploma cover will be presented to you. Your diploma or certificate can be picked up at the Student Service Center on the first floor of the A-building approximately six-eight weeks after the end of spring semester. If you have any questions concerning your diploma, certificate or academic record, please email graduationservices@lakelandcc.edu.

More Information

More information is available online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement or you may email graduationservices@lakelandcc.edu.

