



# Commencement Ceremony Class of 2026

## Saturday, May 2nd at 1:00 p.m.

### Liberal Arts, STEM & Skilled Trades Pathways

#### General Commencement Information

##### Graduates/Candidates:

- Each graduate/candidate will be required to RSVP to the event. **If you do not RSVP you will not be permitted to attend the event.** The RSVP link will open on March 9th and close on April 20th. Please RSVP at the following link: <https://www.jccmi.edu/registration-records/graduation-commencement/>. There is currently no limitation on the number of guests that students can invite to attend the ceremony.
- **Report to the Sheffer Music Hall in the Potter Center on Commencement Day, May 2nd, 2026, for rehearsal at 11:30 a.m. THIS IS MANDATORY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CEREMONY.**
- You can order your cap and gown from the Jackson College Bookstore or at the following link: <https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1064061/Jackson-College/>. Please order regalia for the appropriate year that you graduated. This will ensure you get the correct tassel.
- General guest seating will begin at noon.
- Appropriate attire: Please dress accordingly for a professional event.
- After rehearsal graduates will be directed to the Baughman theater to don their caps and gowns, check-in, and get your honors cords (if eligible). You may want to consider bringing hair pins to secure your cap.

##### National Anthem:

- During the National Anthem, we ask that all graduates stand and place their hand over their heart; gentlemen, please remember to remove your caps.

##### Receipt of Degree and Certificates:

- Graduates in the first row will walk directly across the front of the theatre to the side of the stage. Graduates will be directed to the correct place on the stage. We will rehearse this.
- Graduates seated in the second row, and all rows afterward will go to the back of the Music Hall and begin to line the stage. JC staff will be there to assist throughout the ceremony.
- Each graduate will be issued a blue commencement card with their name and degree listed on it, you will hand this card to the dean before crossing the stage.
- As your name is called, proceed to President Phelan; receive the paper scroll in your left hand and shake the President's hand with your right hand. After receiving your scroll, proceed to the waiting member of the Board of Trustees for an additional congratulatory handshake. Again, this will be rehearsed.
- Finally, the graduate will move to the photo area in front of the flag (remember, the photographer is looking, smile!)
- After the photograph is taken, the graduate will return to sit in their original seat.

##### Diploma Processing:

- Grades are recorded for the semester.
- Participation in the ceremony **does not** guarantee that the degree/certificate requirements have been completed in full.
- Final graduation audits will be completed for all students.

- Verification will be conducted to ensure that the student does not have any financial obligations with Jackson College. Diplomas and transcripts cannot be mailed to students with financial obligations to the College.
- **Diplomas will be mailed eight to twelve weeks after the conclusion of the semester.**

**Pictures:**

- APM Photo will take your graduation photograph as you receive your scroll and as you exit the stage. Within a week of the ceremony, you will receive a free color proof via mail or e-mail. There is no obligation to purchase additional prints. For further information, please contact APM Photo directly at 800.482.0321.

Should you have any questions, you may contact Student Services at 517.796.8425.

## Congratulations!

