




**Kirkwood**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**2026**  
*Commencement*

Ten o'clock Saturday morning  
May Ninth, Two Thousand Twenty-Six  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa



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May 2026

To our Graduates, their Families and Friends, and  
Members of the Community:

Commencement is such a special day — one that celebrates hard work, dedication, and achievement. Today, our graduates get to embrace the success they've earned, and I couldn't be prouder.



I know firsthand what it takes to reach this moment. As a first-generation college student who graduated from Kirkwood in 1990, I quickly learned that success requires commitment, sacrifice, and resilience. It's not just about showing up — it's about pushing forward, even when it's tough. Today's graduates have done just that. Their Kirkwood education is a gateway to new opportunities, and I have no doubt they are ready to take on what's next.

The impact of this graduating class will be felt far beyond today. Many will stay in our community, joining generations of Eagles already making a difference across our region. Wherever they go, I know they will thrive.

Congratulations, Class of 2026!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristie Fisher".

Dr. Kristie Fisher  
President, Kirkwood Community College

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Kirkwood Community College

Commencement  
Order of Events

Music by the Kirkwood Concert Band,  
directed by Dr. Chris Navarrete, Director of Instrumental Music

Platform Guests Processional

Faculty Processional and Student Processional

Performance of our National Anthem.....Kirkwood Concert Band  
*Soloist, Nina Torkelson*

Welcome .....Tracy Pearson  
*Chair, Kirkwood Board of Trustees*

Remarks to the Graduates ..... Dr. Kristie Fisher  
*President, Kirkwood Community College*

Remarks to the Graduates .....Andy Mills  
*President, Kirkwood Faculty Association*

Remarks to the Graduates .....Emily Lynn Naughton  
*Kirkwood Women's Volleyball*

Recommendation of Candidates for Graduation .....Dr. Jennifer Bradley  
*Vice President, Academic Affairs*

Presentation of Graduates for Conferring of Awards.....Jacki Brucher Moore  
*Professor, Communication, English, and Media*

Chad Little  
*Assistant Professor, Fire Science*

Recessional (Platform Guests, Faculty, Graduates)

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MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Dr. Jennifer Bradley  
*Vice President, Academic Affairs*

FACULTY MARSHALS

Colette Atkins  
*Associate Vice President,  
Academic Affairs*

Dave Hunt  
*Executive Director, Academic Affairs*

STUDENT MARSHALS

Tamara Alt  
*Dean, Business and Information  
Technology*

Bradley Kinsinger  
*Dean, Agricultural Sciences and  
Hospitality Arts*

## CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

- Dr. Kristie Fisher  
*President*
- Jasmine Almoayyed  
*Vice President, Government and  
Community Relations*
- Dr. Jennifer Bradley  
*Vice President, Academic Affairs*
- Casey Dunning  
*Vice President, Finance and Chief  
Financial Officer*
- Wes Fowler  
*Vice President, Human Resources and  
Institutional Effectiveness*
- Troy McQuillen  
*Vice President, Operations*
- Jon Neff  
*Vice President, Technology Services*
- Melissa Payne  
*Vice President, Student Services*
- Jody Pellerin  
*Vice President, Advancement*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Tracy Pearson  
*Chair, Mechanicsville*
- Alan Jensen  
*Vice Chair, North English*
- Dr. Keith Stamp  
*Monticello*
- Peggy Doerge  
*Iowa City*
- Lorraine Williams  
*Washington*
- Joel Thys  
*Blairstown*
- Doug Bannon  
*Marion*
- Steve Caves  
*Cedar Rapids*
- Leslie Wright  
*Cedar Rapids*
- Peg Sprengeler  
*Board Secretary, Walford*
- Casey Dunning  
*Treasurer, Robins*

Candidates wearing a gold stole are members of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. Candidates wearing an apricot cord are members of Epsilon Omicron Chapter of Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society. Candidates wearing a red, white, and blue cord are members who have honorably served, are serving, or are commissioned to serve in the United States Armed Forces; Kirkwood recognizes their dedication to duty and sacrifice. Candidates wearing a silver cord have completed the Eagle Leadership Program recognized by Kirkwood Student Life. Candidates wearing a black, white, and blue cord are graduates of the Project Start program. Candidates wearing a light blue and white cord are Kirkwood Student Ambassadors. Candidates wearing a maroon graduation cord participated in Engagement and Success Coaching. The maroon cord represents the strength, perseverance, courage, and dedication these students demonstrated throughout their academic journey.

Your diploma/handshake photo will be available to view and/or purchase online within 48 hours. To view the photos, please go to [www.teamphotonetwork.com](http://www.teamphotonetwork.com), where you will be asked to enter a password (please use GRAD2026) and select the appropriate graduation ceremony. Graduates will be handed a sequence card as they exit the stage to help locate their photo on the website. Photos can be ordered online or by phone from Ed or Dan at Impact Photo/ Joe Photo at 319-389-6018. There is no charge unless you decide to purchase photos.

A limited number of Commencement keepsake books are available at the Kirkwood Registrar's Office, 3rd floor, Iowa Hall, Cedar Rapids campus.



**Scan the QR code to view the digital keepsake book.**