



COMMENCEMENT QUICK GUIDE

Spring 2026 Commencement Ceremony
Saturday, May 9 | Wolstein Center



**Morning
Ceremony
9:30 a.m.**

Monte Ahuja
College of Business,
College of Health

**Afternoon
Ceremony
2 p.m.**

College of Arts and Sciences,
Levin College of Public Affairs
and Education, Washkewicz
College of Engineering

STUDENT CEREMONY INFORMATION

Doors open for students at 8:30 a.m. for the morning ceremony and 1 p.m. for the afternoon ceremony. Please arrive no later than 9 a.m. for the morning ceremony and 1:30 p.m. for the afternoon ceremony. Enter through **Gate C** and proceed downstairs to the sub-concourse level for check-in, where you will be directed to your staging area. **Only graduates are permitted in this area.** Students requiring ADA accommodations may enter through the Medical Mutual gate to access the elevator.

Academic regalia is required to participate in Commencement. Appropriate attire is required under your gown. This does not include jeans, shorts, T-shirts or athletic shoes. **You should arrive at the ceremony fully dressed in your regalia.**

Undergraduates should wear tassels on the RIGHT until instructed to move them LEFT during the ceremony. **Master's graduates should wear tassels on the left.**

Do not bring personal belongings (e.g., purses, coats) to the staging location, as they are not secured. You may not march with your personal belongings. Exceptions are for medical necessity (i.e. insulin). You may wish to bring a debit/credit card as there will be select items for purchase from Viking Outfitters (i.e. lost tassel, forgotten cap). They accept cards only.

Each 2.5-hour ceremony requires you and your guests to stay for its entirety out of respect for all graduates. Please plan accordingly.

Academic Regalia

Purchase your academic regalia (cap, gown, tassel and hood if applicable) in store at Viking Outfitters campus store or online at bkstr.com/csuhioistore/shop/graduation. Allow for shipping time.



Honors Medallions

Students with at least 30 credit hours in residence at CSU who have maintained a 3.3–4.0 cumulative GPA as of the end of Fall 2025 will receive honors status. You will be notified via email on how to obtain your honors medallion.

Stoles and Cords

Select stoles (decorative sashes) and cords are available for purchase at Viking Outfitters and from individual groups. Contact your affinity group (e.g., Phi Theta Kappa, TRiO, Student Athlete, etc.) for ordering information.

Order to be Worn

Regalia should be layered in order of gown, stoles/cords, medallion (undergrad only), hood (master's only) on top. Undergrad tassels should be worn to the **RIGHT** until directed to move it to the left. Master's student tassels should be worn **LEFT**.



Guests

Commencement is a non-ticketed event; however, seating is offered first-come, first-served. Doors to the Wolstein Center open at 8:30 a.m. for the morning ceremony and 1 p.m. for the afternoon ceremony. Guests may enter only through the Medical Mutual gate or gates B or D.

Bag Policy

Guests may bring manufactured diaper bags, medical bags, clutches or fanny packs not exceeding 4.5 x 6.5 inches or a clear tote bag (vinyl, plastic or PVC) not exceeding 12 x 6 x 12 inches. All other bag types are prohibited. For a complete list of prohibited items (umbrellas, water bottles, etc) please visit: wolsteincenter.com/wolstein-center-policy.

Decorating Your Cap

Elements must NOT: obscure the view of those around you, light up, or depict vulgarity, swear words, drugs or alcohol.

Diplomas

You will receive your diploma folder at the ceremony; however, your diploma will be sent via mail to the address on file with the University within two months of the ceremony. Please make sure your information is accurate in CampusNet to ensure delivery.

Photographs

Grad Images will take a professional photo after you exit the stage. You will receive a photo proof along with ordering information 1–2 weeks after the ceremony via your CSU email address. Contact Grad Images at 800-261-2576, online at gradimages.com or email ecc.giservice@gradimages.net for more information.

Special Assistance

Contact Michelle Schilling at m.l.schilling@csuohio.edu to request special assistance for the processional, crossing the stage or seating accommodations. Sign language interpreters will be present at each ceremony.

Streaming Ceremony

Commencement will be livestreamed on CSU's Commencement webpage at csuohio.edu/commencement.



Parking

Complimentary parking will be available for students and guests in the below campus garages. No parking vouchers are necessary.

- Central Garage (CG) — 1900 E. 21st St., Cleveland, OH
- East Garage (EG) — 2506 Chester Ave., Cleveland, OH
- Prospect Garage (PG) — 2350 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH
- West Garage (WG) — 1830 E. 17th St., Cleveland, OH

Note: If there is a Playhouse Square event that day, let the attendant know you are there for Commencement to receive free parking.

ADA parking is available in South Garage (SG) at 2101 E. 21st St. with a valid placard.

There is also ample public parking in paid lots near the Wolstein Center.

Share your CSU pride on social media

Be sure to tag your posts with **#CLEstate2026** and **#Vike4Life!**

Information is subject to change.

Check csuohio.edu/commencement periodically for the most up-to-date information and contact information for any questions you have.

