

Undergraduate Commencement Instructions 2026

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Tickets

ADMISSION BY TICKET ONLY! Tickets are **REQUIRED** for the Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony for all guests. **STUDENTS GRADUATING** do not need tickets.

- Each student will be allotted a certain number of tickets
- Instruction details for selecting tickets will be sent to your Niagara University email account by Wednesday, March 27, 2026. The **link** for tickets will be sent on Tuesday, April 6. Tickets will be available until April 30, 2026.

Caps and Gowns

- Caps and gowns can be picked up at the Campus Bookstore beginning Monday, April 13th, 2026, and continuing through Friday, May 15, 2026.
- Starting Saturday, April 13th, The Campus Bookstore is open Monday-Friday, 9 am - 5 pm and Saturdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Students will need to provide their height and the type of degree they will be receiving when picking up their cap and gown.
- Caps, gowns, and hoods are the possession of each graduate and need not be returned.

Commencement Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Mass on Friday, May 15, 2026

St. Vincent Alumni Hall Chapel - Niagara University-Main Campus

There will be no procession *at the liturgy* for the Class of 2026, although graduates will wear academic attire. Graduates, their parents, and friends are to go directly to the chapel. *Remain in your places after the liturgy for the recessional of the Concelebrants.*

Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, May 16, 2026

Artpark's Mainstage

450 South 4th Street, Lewiston, NY 14092

Morning Ceremony:

College of Business /College of Education /College of Hospitality, Sport, and Tourism Management

- 8:30 a.m. Graduates check in with their college and proceed to the upper-level courtyard area. Gates are open for ticket holders.

Commencement Begins Promptly: 9:45 a.m.

Afternoon Ceremony:

College of Arts and Sciences and College of Nursing

- 1:30 p.m. Graduates check in with their college and proceed to the upper-level courtyard area. Gates are open for ticket holders.

Commencement Begins Promptly: 2:45 p.m.

1. Graduates are to wear their gowns, hoods, and caps. The tassel on the cap hangs over the right eye until the conferral of the degrees.
2. Please remove caps for National Anthems and Invocation.
3. Each student will receive a diploma cover as they cross the stage. Your diploma will be mailed to your home address in approximately 8 weeks. Please make sure the college has the correct mailing address.
4.
 - a) The Conferring of Degrees. Immediately after the Commencement Address, the Associate Provost will address the President in a statement introducing the Degree Candidates. As soon as the Associate Provost begins to speak, all degree candidates will be asked to stand and remain standing until the President concludes his response.
 - b) Your Dean will then request the degree candidates to stand. The Dean calls the names of the candidates who ascend the stage to receive their diploma covers individually. On returning to their places, the graduates are seated.
 - c) The Dean of each college follows the procedure outlined in paragraph (b) above.
5. Citations and prizes for the graduating class will be presented to the student during many of the award ceremonies, including commencement.
6. The President of the Senior Class will offer an expression of gratitude to parents, faculty, and administration.
7. There will be a recessional; please remain in your place until it is your turn to march out.
8. First aid – contact a security officer.
9. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed and will be confiscated.
10. Graduates should attend the Commencement Exercises unless personally excused by the Dean.
11. Students are encouraged to complete the Intent to Graduate form on self-service (open until May 1st) to verify their Diploma Name, degree details, and final mailing address. After graduation is finalized and upon the conferral date, a digital version of their degree will be sent directly to their email address from Parchment, allowing one final opportunity to review the mailing address. Should they have any inquiries or concerns, they can reach out to the *Registrar*.

Further information regarding Commencement can be accessed by the link below:

<https://www.niagara.edu/commencement/>

To learn more about the venue for the graduation ceremonies, please visit Artpark's website:

<https://www.artpark.net/>