



**IOWA CENTRAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Iowa Central Community College

2026 Commencement

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

HODGES FIELDHOUSE

FORT DODGE CENTER

Ceremonies Begin Promptly at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M.

(see enclosed postcard for your specific ceremony time)

Dear Graduate:

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation day! We are looking forward to sharing the day of celebration with you, your family and friends. We hope the following information will help to make your graduation more enjoyable.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Report to the Center for Performing Arts (CPA) building through west door in Courtyard no later than 9:30 a.m. for the 10:00 a.m. ceremony and no later than 1:30 p.m. for the 2:00 p.m. ceremony (both on May 8th). You will need to pick up your name card first, then your cap and gown. **WE REQUEST STUDENTS ONLY IN THE CPA BUILDING DUE TO LIMITED SPACE.** Do not bring any personal items with you; they cannot be left in the CPA building and cannot be carried into the ceremony. Iowa Central is not responsible for personal items.
2. If you feel it would be beneficial to provide us with the phonetic pronunciation of your name as you would like it announced during the ceremony, please call Student Records by Friday, April 24th (1-800-362-2793 ext. 1019). **On the message, please provide your student ID number, the spelling of your name and make sure to speak clearly and slowly and pronounce your name multiple times.**
3. If you require any special accommodations on the day of the ceremony, such as special seating or assistance across the stage, please contact the Student Records office prior to the ceremony (1-800-362-2793, ext.1025).
4. Parents, relatives and friends are cordially invited to attend the commencement ceremony and reception. Seating is available in Hodges Fieldhouse. **THE FIELDHOUSE DOES FILL UP VERY QUICKLY, SO IT IS RECOMMENDED TO ARRIVE EARLY.** Overflow seating is available in Decker Auditorium, where the ceremony will be streamed live onscreen. The link to the livestream will be posted at www.iowacentral.edu the day of commencement. The doors to both the fieldhouse and the Decker Auditorium will open at 9:00 a.m. for the 10:00 a.m. ceremony and 1:00 p.m. for the 2:00 p.m. ceremony.
5. If you have relatives or friends who need special seating accommodations for graduation, please make those arrangements with the Student Records Office prior to the ceremony (1-800-362-2793, ext. 1025). Special seating is available for elderly and disabled persons and ONE person to accompany the elderly or disabled person. **NO TICKETS ARE REQUIRED FOR GENERAL SEATING.**
6. Iowa Central vans will be running shuttle services from the parking lots on campus before and after both ceremonies. Please review the attached campus map for further details.
7. A reception in the Courtyard will follow both ceremonies. All graduates, family and friends are invited to attend.
8. Midwest Portraits will take your picture as you cross the stage (and individual picture available between ceremonies if you did not attend Grad Fest). You will have the option to buy a variety of photo packages. You are under no obligation to buy this photograph. **You will receive a link to order by email from Midwest Portraits. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Midwest Portraits at 515-332-8175.**

CAPS AND GOWNS

Cap and gown are yours to keep when you attend commencement.

1. Caps and gowns can be picked up on Wednesday, April 15th from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. in the Student Resource Center during Grad Fest. They will also be available on Friday, May 8th beginning at 8:30 a.m. for the 10:00 a.m. ceremony and at 12:30 p.m. for the 2:00 p.m. ceremony in the Center for

Performing Arts building. Students must pick up their own cap and gown. Come camera ready as Midwest Portraits will be taking professional graduation photos. You will have the option to buy a variety of photo packages. You are under no obligation to buy this photograph. **You will receive a link to order by email from Midwest Portraits. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Midwest Portraits at 515-332-8175.**

2. All graduates must wear undecorated caps and gowns provided by Iowa Central to walk across the stage. Your tassel should hang from the right side of your cap before you graduate.
 3. Due to the formality of the commencement ceremony, appropriate attire is required. Individuals who participate in the ceremony are expected to wear a cap, gown and tassel ordered through Iowa Central. Graduates may also wear the following: Gold Cord, PTK Stole, Academic All-American Medal, and Red, White and Blue Military cord. Native American tribal regalia and regalia representing country of birth and ethnicity are also welcome.
 4. If you are graduating with a 3.50 cumulative G.P.A. or above, you will receive a gold honor cord at the Night of Triton Excellence on April 15th. This honor cord may be worn at commencement. If you have not received your cord, you may pick it up in Student Records in the Greehey Family Student Success Center after April 15th.
 5. If you are a member of Phi Theta Kappa, you may check out a gold stole to wear for graduation from the Bookstore. You will need to return the stole to the Bookstore after commencement or the week following the graduation ceremony. If you would like to purchase the stole, the cost is \$30.00, payable to Iowa Central.
 6. Current military members and veterans that would like to wear a red, white, and blue cord will receive their cord at the Night of Triton Excellence on April 15th or can be picked up in Student Records after April 15th. It will be provided to you at no cost by Iowa Central in recognition of your service to our country.
-

GENERAL PROCEDURES

1. You will be lined up according to degree and proceed to the fieldhouse in this order: 10:00 a.m. ceremony High School Equivalency Diplomas, Certificates, Diplomas (except nursing), AAS (except nursing), AAA, APS and 2:00 p.m. ceremony Practical Nursing, Associate Degree Nursing, AGS, AS, AA.
2. Marshals will lead the graduates into the fieldhouse followed by faculty and platform guests. After marching in, **DO NOT SIT DOWN**. Remain standing until you have been directed to be seated.
3. When your degree category is called, stand together and move left up to the stage. Marshals will guide you.
4. Please hand your name card to the attendant and whisper the pronunciation of your name (this should match exactly what is written on your reader card). The attendant will then pass the reader card to the reader. **Your name will be read exactly as it is spelled out on the card, so please make any corrections that need to be made prior to the ceremony.**
5. As soon as the reader starts reading your name, you should walk across the stage and receive your diploma cover. Move across the stage and proceed back to your seat. **SIT IMMEDIATELY SO THOSE BEHIND YOU CAN SEE.**
6. Recessional order will be platform guests, faculty and then graduates. Continue out of the fieldhouse, through the faculty receiving line and into the Courtyard for the reception. Please make arrangements to meet your family in the Courtyard.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS, TOTAL CREDITS, GRADE POINT AVERAGES AND ACCOUNT BALANCES ARE VERIFIED BEFORE DIPLOMAS ARE MAILED.

If you have any questions, please stop in or call Student Records at 1-800-362-2793, ext. 1025.

Sincerely,



Courtney A. Kopp, Registrar