

From: [Academic Affairs](#)
To: [All Employees Dynamic Grp](#)
Subject: Announcing Two Commencement Ceremonies in 2026
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Memorandum

To: Montgomery College Community
From: Dr. Deidre D. Price, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/College Provost
Subject: Announcing Two Commencement Ceremonies in 2026
Date: December 9, 2025

Commencement marks the culmination of an academic journey for Montgomery College students and a celebration of the achievement made possible by the collective work of our College community. While Commencement is a common and traditional ceremony for honoring academic achievement, Commencement at Montgomery College is anything but common or traditional. These events provide us with an opportunity to see our inspiring students come together as one graduating class representing the intersection of thousands of stories that reflect perseverance and achievement—all saying “I am MC” because we have become part of the stories they will tell from now on. I invite you to join me at this year’s Commencement exercises, representing a part of our graduates’ academic journey and coming together as a College at this once-a-year event where we can proudly say alongside them, “I am MC.”

MC Commencements are remarkable experiences, and it is no surprise that the number of graduates choosing to walk across the stage continues to increase each year with last year marking our largest graduating class in College history. Last year’s Commencement was so well attended, in fact, that we know it presented challenges for some guests and College employees being able to participate fully and comfortably due to program length and space. Since last year’s event, the College has considered all options to expand access to this year’s Commencement and to ensure a comfortable in-person experience for all. **This year, the College will host two commencement ceremonies on May 21 and 22 at the Rockville Campus Athletic Field under the Commencement tent.** Our priority is graduate recognition and event programming that serves all students, faculty, staff, families, and friends well.

Limited Services to Support Commencement

To support this year’s commencement ceremonies, Student Affairs offices and student services will operate on a limited basis during the event period. Essential functions will remain available, but response times and in-person availability may be reduced as staff assist with Commencement activities. Students are encouraged to plan ahead for any time-sensitive needs and to check office websites for adjusted hours. We appreciate the community’s patience and partnership as we celebrate our graduates’ achievements. Normal operations will resume immediately following the commencement ceremonies.

Volunteer Staffing Needs

To ensure we provide our graduates and their guests with an optimal experience, we invite and encourage all members of the Montgomery College community to support commencement activities on Thursday and Friday. Our move to two ceremonies over two days will require a total of 550 volunteers. Outlined below is the number of volunteers needed for our 2026 commencement ceremonies.

Thursday, May 21

- Accessibility Services (ADA seating escorts, wheelchair support, captioning assist): 10
- Campus Volunteers (includes alternate viewing): 40
- Faculty/Staff Lineup: 25
- Guest Entrance: 35
- Reception/Photo Area: 25
- Student Involvement: 70
- Stage & Diploma Runners (name card flow, cueing, certificate table): 5
- Ushers & Seating: 50
- Platform Party Support (lineup, escorts, award handlers): 25

Friday, May 22

- Accessibility Services (ADA seating escorts, wheelchair support, captioning assist): 10
- Campus Volunteers (includes alternate viewing): 40
- Faculty/Staff Lineup: 25
- Guest Entrance: 35
- Reception/Photo Area: 25
- Student Involvement: 70
- Stage & Diploma Runners (name card flow, cueing, certificate table): 5
- Ushers & Seating: 50
- VIP Breakfast/Platform Party Support (lineup, escorts, award handlers): 25

You are all welcome to attend both ceremonies. Faculty, we encourage you to attend the commencement date that best aligns with your program(s), as we will divide the commencement ceremonies by program.

The ceremony schedule is as follows:

Day 1: Thursday, May 21, 2026 – 10 a.m.

Majors in Business, Education, Liberal Arts, Social Sciences and all GITE Programs

American Sign Language (AA)-608

American Sign Language (certificate)-220

Art (AA)-618

Arts & Sciences - International Studies (AA)-152

Arts & Sciences - Music (AA)-054

Audio Production (certificate)-208A

Business (AA)-006

Business Analytics (AA)-620

Communication Studies (AA)-609

Computer Gaming and Simulation (AAS)-360

Computer Gaming and Simulation (certificate)-232A

Criminal Justice (AAS)-314

Criminal Justice - Arts and Sciences (AA)-617

Digital Animation (AAS)-358
Digital Animation (certificate)-175A
Digital Media and Web Technology (AA)-615
Electronic Photography (certificate)-193
Ethnic Social Studies (certificate)-241
General Studies - SSAH (AA)-611C
General Studies - HACL(AA)-611A
General Studies - INTG(AA)-611D
Graphic Design - General Graphic Design (AAS)-304B
Graphic Design - Illustration (AAS)-305
Graphic Design (AFA)-902
Graphic Design with Digital Tools (certificate)-239
Hospitality Management (AAS)-347A/B
Media Production (AA)-614
Media Production (certificate)-260
Music (certificate)-204
Performing Arts (AA)-613
Photography (AAS)-342
Photography Master (certificate)-196
Portrait, Fashion, and Photojournalism (certificate)-172
Professional and Technical Writing (certificate)-261
Studio Art (AFA)-910
Teacher Education - Elem. Ed./Special Ed. (AAT)-601A
Teacher Education - E Childhood Ed./Special (AAT)-604
Teacher Education - E Childhood Education (certificate)-177
Teacher Education - Early Childhood Education Technology (AAS)-315
Teacher Education - Secondary English (AAT)-607
Teacher Education - Secondary Mathematics (AAT)-605
Teacher Education - Secondary Physics (AAT)-603
Teacher Education - Secondary Spanish (AAT)-602
Teacher Education - Secondary Chemistry (AAT)-605
Video Production (certificate)-209A
Web Development (certificate)-231B
Women's and Gender Studies (certificate)-259

Day 2: Friday, May 22, 2026 – 10 a.m.

Majors in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Health Sciences

Advanced Personal Trainer (certificate)-191B
Behavioral Health (AA)-616
Bioinformatics (AS)-612
Biotechnology (AAS)-334
Biotechnology (certificate)-219
Biomanufacturing (certificate)-246
Cell and Gene Therapy (certificate)-268
Cisco Certified Network Associate + Security (certificate)-253
Cloud Computing and Network Technology (AAS)-355
Cloud Computing and System Administrator (certificate)-257
Computer Programming (certificate)-108
Computer Science & Technology - Computer Science (AA)-107

Computer Science & Technology - Information Systems (AA)-109
Cybersecurity (AAS)-356A
Cybersecurity for IT Professionals (certificate)-265
Data Science (AS)-416
Data Science (certificate)-256
Diagnostic Medical Sonography (AAS)-530
Emergency Preparedness Management (AS)-414
Emergency Preparedness Management (certificate)-249
Engineering Science - Aerospace Engineering (AS)-408
Engineering Science - Bioengineering (AS)-411A
Engineering Science - Chemical Engineering (AS)-406
Engineering Science - Civil Engineering (AS)-407
Engineering Science - Computer Engineering (AS)-409
Engineering Science - Electrical Engineering (AS)-402
Engineering Science – Fire Protection Engineering (AS)-403
Engineering Science - General Engineering (AS)-410
Engineering Science - Mechanical Engineering (AS)-404
Fire and Emergency Services Management (AAS)-346A
Fire and Emergency Services Management (certificate)-240
General Studies - STEM-611B
Health Information Management (AAS)-349A
IT Professional+ (certificate)-254
Java Developer (certificate)-250
Medical Coding (certificate)-525
Nursing (AS)-400
Physical Education (AA)-619
Physical Education - Community Health (AA)-186A
Physical Education - Exercise Science (AA)-157C
Physical Education - Public Health Sciences (AS)-415
Physical Therapy Assistant (AAS)-300
Radiologic Technology (AAS)-340
Science - Biological Science (AS)-412F
Science - Chemistry/Biochemistry (AS)-412D
Science - Environmental Science/Policy (AS)-412E
Science - Mathematics (AS)-412B
Science - Physics (AS)-412C
Surgical Technology (AAS)-590

Thank you for your feedback from last year's Commencement ceremony. We continue to explore all options to plan for our continued growth in enrollment and throughout our College community. This year's decision to host two Commencement ceremonies provides us with a way to create a more personal and engaging celebration for all students and their guests. This arrangement also provides us with a better way for our faculty and staff to participate and show their ongoing support for our students and their very promising futures ahead.

We in education know that graduation marks an ending, but in so many ways, it is just the beginning. Please attend and share time with us to hear these students' remarkable stories. You are the College that made these stories possible, and we look forward to sharing in this event that is both an ending to the academic year and, for our students, the beginning of everything

after.

In the coming weeks, the Special Events and Marketing and Communications teams will share additional details about participation, volunteer sign-ups, and ceremony logistics. Mark your calendars now. This will be an event you won't want to miss.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, and thank you for being MC.