# Commencement Guide

## Fall 2026 Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, December 12, 2026 | 10 a.m.





Lakeland
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Preparing For Commencement

## Eligibility

To be eligible to graduate and receive your diploma or certificate, you should have already completed and submitted the online Graduation Application (myLakeland login required). You are eligible to participate in the Fall 2026 commencement ceremony if you graduated Summer 2026 or if you will complete graduation requirements in fall semester 2026. If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact the counseling and advising center at 440.525.7200. Please note that participation in the commencement ceremony does not constitute the completion of graduation requirements.

## Academic Regalia

A cap, gown, and tassel are the official regalia that you must wear at commencement and can be selected for purchase through the Graduation Application. The regalia fee can be paid through your myLakeland account or at the cashier's office. Regalia is available for pick up in the Lakeland Bookstore beginning November 9. Check the bookstore webpage for current hours of operation.

If you attain a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.50 or higher through your last fully completed and graded semester, you may be eligible to wear a gold honors cord at the ceremony. If you are eligible, the honors cord will be available to purchase with your regalia package.

## Guest Tickets

Graduates may request up to five (5) guest tickets for the ceremony through the Graduation Application. Tickets are free of charge but are required for admission. In accordance with fire marshal regulations, all guests, including children of any age, must have a ticket. No guests will be admitted without a ticket.

Guest tickets will be sent to graduates' Lakeland student email addresses on December 4 via PurplePass. Please review your tickets and distribute them to your guests, ensuring that each guest receives a unique QR code.

Additional tickets may be requested through the Graduation Application until December 3. If additional tickets are available, they will be emailed on December 4. Requests will be fulfilled in the order they are received.

Guests who require assistance or accessible seating must have an accessible ticket, which can be requested through the Graduation Application.

## Commencement Photographer

GradImages® is the official photographer for commencement. They offer GradExpress, a service designed to make receiving your graduation photos faster and easier. With GradExpress, you can securely submit your contact information along with a selfie in advance. This allows GradImages to deliver your photos more efficiently afterward. We encourage you to take a moment to pre-register today by visiting: www.gradimages.com/registration. As a bonus, you'll receive 20% off your purchase of $50 or more when you sign up in advance.



## Special Accommodations for Graduates

Graduates requiring special assistance to participate in the commencement ceremony should call the Graduation Specialist at 440.525.7713 by December 3 to make any necessary arrangements.

## Holden Partnership Program Graduates

Graduates of the Holden Partnership Program are invited to participate in Lakeland Community College's Commencement Ceremony.

All Holden Partnership Program graduates should report to the Dr. Wayne L. Rodehorst Performing Arts Center in D-Building by 8:30 a.m. for instructions regarding ceremony participation and the academic procession.

As a special recognition, Holden Partnership Program graduates will be the final group to walk across the stage to receive a congratulatory certificate. Diplomas will be issued by each graduate's degree-granting institution. For questions regarding diplomas, graduates should contact the registrar's office at their home institution.

Each Holden Partnership Program graduate may receive up to five (5) guest tickets. Tickets are required for admission. Every guest, including children of any age, must have a ticket in accordance with Fire Marshal regulations. No one will be admitted without a ticket. Guest tickets will be sent to each graduate's personal email address on December 4.

To participate in the commencement ceremony, request guest tickets, or have questions on academic regalia or accommodations, please contact Lisa Stanich, Program Manager for the Transfer Center and Testing Center, at 440.525.7535 or uc@lakelandcc.edu. Please include if any of your guests require accessible seating.

# On Commencement Day

## Proper Attire Under Regalia

Commencement is a formal academic ceremony, so it is encouraged that you wear business attire along with comfortable shoes. Please do not wear sneakers, t-shirts, jeans, etc.

## Parking

Parking is free. Follow orders of police officers who will be directing traffic. Directional signs will be posted on campus designating handicapped parking areas.

## Assembly of Graduates

Please report to the Dr. Wayne L. Rodehorst Performing Arts Center in D-Building on Saturday, December 12.

**Graduates may begin arriving at 8:00 a.m., but should arrive no later than 8:30 a.m.**

Arrive dressed in your cap and gown. You will receive complete instructions regarding participation in the ceremony at this time; there is no dress rehearsal. The processional starts promptly at 9:45 a.m.

You are not permitted to carry anything in your hands during the procession. A secured room will be provided for you to store any personal belongings for the duration of the ceremony.

## Guest Seating

The commencement ceremony will be held in the Athletic & Fitness Center (Y-Building). Doors will open at 9:00 a.m. Guests should arrive and take their seats promptly. Guests arriving after 9:45 a.m. may be redirected to view commencement from an alternative location so as not to disrupt the procession of graduates and/or the ceremony in progress. Seating is limited and guests are required to present a ticket for admittance. All guest seating is on bleachers except for guests requiring assistance or handicapped seating. Accessible tickets should be requested through the Graduation Application or by emailing graduationservices@lakelandcc.edu.

## Commencement Livestreaming

The entire commencement ceremony will be streamed live and the video of the ceremony will be available to view online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement and on Lakeland's official YouTube channel.

## Hearing Impaired

An American Sign Language interpreter will be signing the ceremony.

# After Commencement Day

## Commencement Broadcast

The commencement ceremony will be posted online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement and also on Lakeland's official YouTube channel beginning the week of December 14.

## Commencement Photographs

After commencement, proofs may be viewed at gradimages.com. Orders can be placed online or by phone at 1.800.261.2576. There is no obligation to purchase. If you have questions, contact GradImages customer service at 1.800.261.2576 or via email at giservice@gradimages.com.

## Diploma/Certificate Distribution

During the commencement ceremony, a blank diploma cover will be presented to you. Your diploma or certificate can be picked up at the Student Service Center on the first floor of the A-building approximately six to eight weeks after the end of fall semester. If you have any questions concerning your diploma, certificate or academic record, please email graduationservices@lakelandcc.edu.

## More Information

More information is available online at lakelandcc.edu/commencement or you may email graduationservices@lakelandcc.edu.

