



Commencement 2027

Presentation by University Advancement

Academic Senate
October 14, 2026





Purpose and Key Considerations

Key Principles

- Safety of students, staff and guests, including efficient movement of students and guests on and off campus.
- Ceremonies prioritize student preferences and manage time effectively.
- Optimize the number of guest tickets.

- Doors open 1 hour before each ceremony.
- 2 hours needed between ceremonies for ingress/egress.
- Maximum capacity is 8,500 guests; previous commencements guaranteed a minimum of 8 tickets per grad.



Graduates by College – Commencement 2026

College	Graduates Crossed Stage
College of Business Administration	1410
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences	1112
College of Engineering	1255
College of Education and Integrative Studies	343
Collins College of Hospitality Management	128
College of Environmental Design	425
Huntley College of Agriculture	457
College of Science	953
	6083



Commencement Schedule 2027

Date	Time	College
Day 1	8:00 a.m.	CLASS #1
Monday, May 24th	12:00 p.m.	CLASS #2
	4:00 p.m.	CEIS
Day 2	8:00 a.m.	Engineering #1
Tuesday, May 25th	12:00 p.m.	Engineering #2
	4:00 p.m.	ENV
	7:30 p.m.	Science
Day 3	8:00 a.m.	Business #1
Wednesday, May 26th	12:00 p.m.	Business #2
	4:00 p.m.	AG & Collins

Schedule Updates for 2027

- Moving to Monday, May 24th to Wednesday, May 26th
 - Resolves the conflict of having commencement during finals
- College of Science will be one ceremony
- Huntley College of Ag and The Collins College will be combined to one ceremony
- Graduates will receive a minimum of 6 tickets
 - Student registration for tickets will open in Spring '27





2027 Ceremony Program Components

- Platform Party & Faculty Processional - 3 minutes
- National Anthem – 3 minutes
- Dean's Welcome – 2 minutes
- President's Speech – 3 minutes
- McPhee Award – 2 minutes
- *Honorary Doctorate – 6 minutes*
- Degree Conferral
- Recessional



Program Updates

- **Processional Changes**
 - Graduates will be pre-seated
 - Will allow us to seat graduates by Department
 - Platform Party, Mace Bearer & Faculty will process in
 - Pre-ceremony check-in and hooding garden will still continue
 - Faculty handshake area will continue
- **Only 1 McPhee Scholar per ceremony**
 - Updates on selection process will be coming
 - AG/Collins – one per college
- **No College Speakers** (unless Honorary Doctorate)



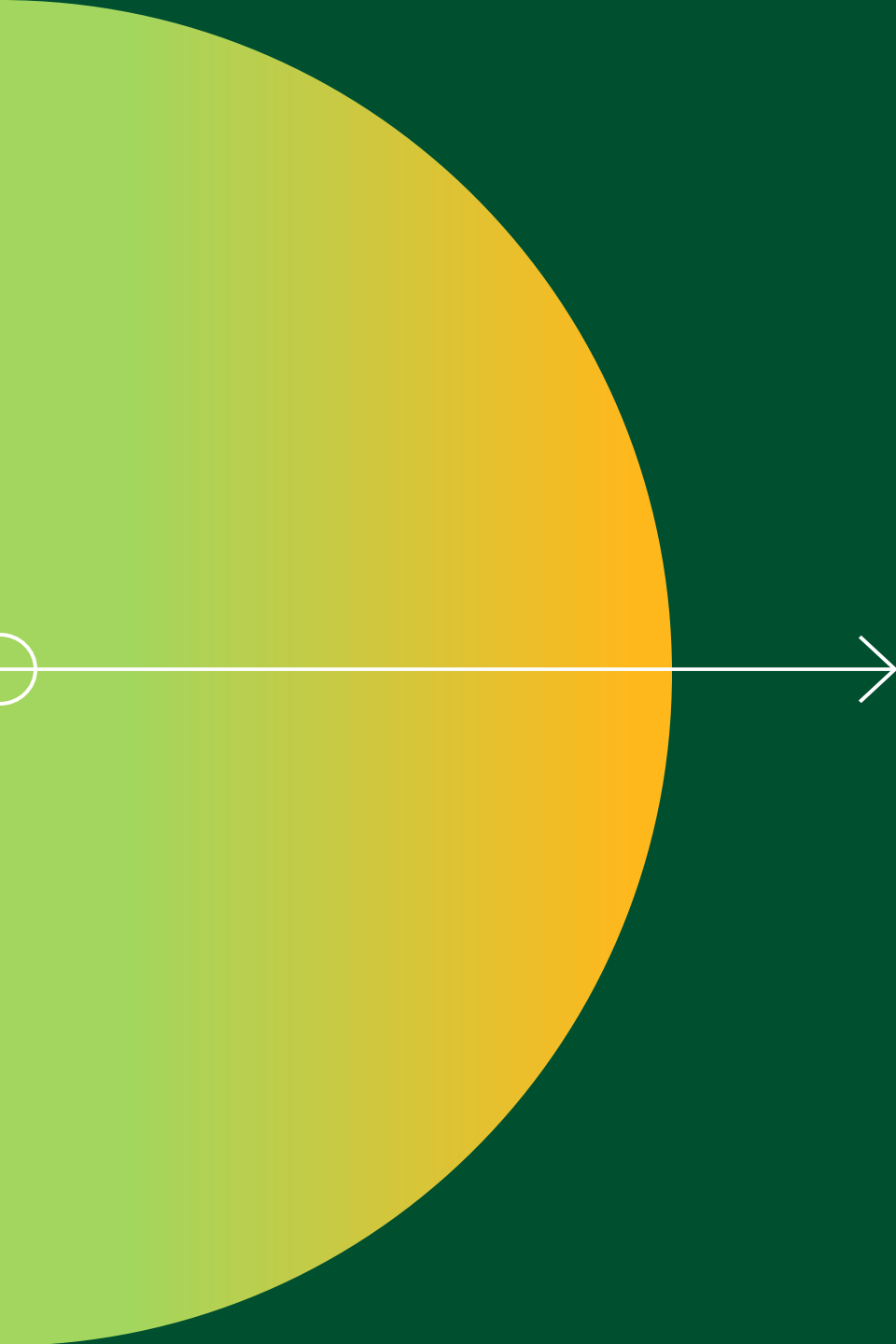


Additional Updates

- Gowns will be updated to green for graduates
- No printed program – digital program only

The commencement schedule will be released in November to the campus community



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Questions