



COLORADO MESA
UNIVERSITY

Spring 2026 Commencement Ceremony Information

May 16, 2026 – Stocker Stadium – 8 am and 12 pm

There will be two ceremonies divided by degree/major.

Go to www.coloradomesa.edu/commencement to determine ceremony participants.

Online streaming of the ceremony will be at CMUMavericks.com/tv.



Venue – Stocker Stadium

Guests should arrive about 45 minutes before the start of the ceremony. Tickets are not required. Guests can enter through the main entrance from the Lincoln Park main lot or enter through the West Entrance facing 12th Street. Please refer to the Stocker Stadium Seating Map and the Parking and Traffic Control Map. The North Avenue Entrance will be closed; arriving at this location will require you to walk around to the other entrances.

Bring weather appropriate gear such as sunscreen, jacket, boots, hats, gloves, poncho, umbrella, etc. The concession stand will be open near the main entrance, however, guests are strongly encouraged to bring their own water and water bottle. The Stadium is equipped with only one water fountain.

Seating is available on either side of Stocker Stadium. Limited seating/standing room is available on the north side of the of the field behind the roped off area for the graduates. Guests are not allowed in any of the reserved areas, including the pre-staging area on the north side of the Suplezio Field stands where graduates are assembling and having their photos taken.

ADA and Accessible seating are limited to the guest in need plus one companion, all other family members must use the stands. Accessible seating is available on the track in front of the stands on either side of the stadium and is also available in limited quantity in the stands.

Guests should remain in their seats once the ceremony has started. Photographs may be taken from your seat. Professional Photographers will be taking photos of your graduate before the ceremony and as they shake hands with the President.

Once the Ceremony is over, please exit the stadium promptly to avoid congestion of those arriving for the second ceremony.

Parking

Please refer to the parking and traffic flow map on the commencement website. Carpooling is highly recommended. Guests and ceremony participants are strongly encouraged to park in the Lincoln Park main lot. Parking will also be available in all Colorado Mesa University parking lots free of charge in appreciation of our graduates and their supporters. Please be courteous of surrounding neighbors and businesses, whose parking lots are reserved for normal business traffic.

For those attending the 8am ceremony, please make post-ceremony arrangements to leave the parking lot by 10:30 am to avoid congestion of those arriving at 11 am for the second ceremony.

Accommodations

Graduates needing disability accommodations may contact Erin Rooks at erooks@coloradomesa.edu or 970-248-1853 prior to May 15. Graduates who are using a wheelchair, walker, crutches, etc. or those who have a service animal, please let us know so we may plan for ceremony and facility accessibility.

Caps, Gowns, Tassels and Other Regalia

Cap and Gown pickup

University Center, Maverick Store west entrance

Wednesday, May 6 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday, May 7 pick-up inside of Maverick Store anytime during business hours

On commencement morning, students needing to purchase replacement caps, gowns, or tassels on commencement morning may do so at the Maverick Store sales area by the main entrance of Stocker Stadium. Graduates keep their regalia and tassels.

For questions related to cap, gown, stole of gratitude, or announcements, etc. please contact the Colorado Mesa University Maverick Store at 970-248-1422 or themaverickstore.com.

Name Cards and Honors Cords

Name cards are used to announce the graduates' names as they cross the stage. Students who do not pick up their name card or honors cords during the distribution days below may do so at the Registrar's Office in Lowell Heiny Hall May 8 - 15 or upon arrival at the ceremony on May 16 at a table near the processional staging area. See Commencement website for honors eligibility.

Name Cards and Honors Cords Pickup

University Center, at a table near the Maverick Store west entrance

Wednesday, May 6 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Thursday, May 7 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Professional Photographs

A representative from MJ Thomas Photography will take two pictures of each graduate: one prior to processing onto the field and one as graduates receive their diploma cover from the President. Master's and Doctorate graduates will have a third photo taken as they exit the stage after the hooding. MJ Thomas Photography will provide graduates with color proofs. Order photos online at mjthomasphoto.com or by calling 1-800-219-0199.

Receipt of Diploma

Diplomas are not issued during the ceremony. They will be mailed to each graduate approximately eight weeks after the conferral date that corresponds with the semester in which all degree requirements are completed. After the Registrar's Office reviews final requirements and grades, degrees will be awarded. This process takes four to six weeks. To see if a degree has been awarded during that time, students may check their unofficial transcript through MAVzone. Once awarded, official transcripts can be used as proof of degree.

Registrar's Office

The Registrar's Office Staff will be available the morning of the commencement ceremony in the staging area to answer any last minute questions. The Registrar's Office is open Monday-Friday from 8 am to 5 pm and can be contacted by phone at 970-248-1555 or in-person at Lowell Heiny Hall Suite 400.

Registrar's Office
970.248.1555
registrar@coloradomesa.edu

Find the most up-to-date commencement information at
coloradomesa.edu/commencement