



## COMMENCEMENT 101: GRADUATE CHECKLIST

- Attend Commencement 101 (Good job...you can already check one off!)
- Tell your loved ones about [cnu.edu/commencement](https://cnu.edu/commencement). There is a ton of information on there that will answer a lot of their questions. Additionally, you can opt your family and friends in for Commencement Communications, so they always have up-to-date information.
- Start following Christopher Newport Alumni Society on Facebook, and Instagram to stay connected and find out about updates and new events!
- Make your mark on CNU! Don't forget to contribute to the Senior Class Gift and help the Class of 2026 leave a legacy.
- Get your cap and gown!  
You can order them on the Herff Jones website (link is on the FAQ & Resources pages on the Commencement Website) by Monday, March 2 for option 1 (ships to the Captains Locker for you to pickup) or by Tuesday, April 21 for option 2 (ships directly to you).
- Register for commencement at [cnu.edu/commencement](https://cnu.edu/commencement). Registration opens April 1. You MUST register by May 8 in order to participate. Be sure to opt-in for the Captain Chris GradBot to receive personalized Commencement updates!
- Attend rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 14 in the Diamonstein Concert Hall. Don't wear regalia!
- Attend the Candlelight Ceremony on Thursday, May 14 at 8:30 p.m. on the Great Lawn.  
Graduates are encouraged to wear white!
- Iron your gown and grab your cap, it's time for Commencement!  
Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2026, Great Lawn

**7:30 a.m.**

Arrive to the Ferguson Center Lawn for the Processional and Conferral Ceremony which begins at 8:00 a.m.

**9:20 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

*College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences and Luter School of Business Grad Walk*

**1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

*College of Social Sciences and College of Arts & Humanities Grad Walk*

If it rains, the Conferral Ceremony will be in the Diamonstein Concert Hall and the Grad Walk will be in the Freeman Center Field House.

**STILL HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT UNIVERSITY EVENTS**  
AT 757-594-8061 OR [CNUEVENTS@CNU.EDU](mailto:CNUEVENTS@CNU.EDU)