

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS *(Continued from previous page)*

WILL THERE BE PHOTOGRAPHERS AT COMMENCEMENT?

GradImages will photograph all graduates at each commencement ceremony. Professional photographers will take three different pictures of each graduate.

Order information and proofs will be sent to your NKU email account by the photographer three to five days after the ceremony. For more information or to order prints, please call **(800) 261-2576** or email giservice@gradimages.net.

GradImages is offering 20% off graduation photo orders of \$50 or more when graduates register their email address prior to graduation. Visit the GradImages website (gradimages.com/northernkentuckyuniversity) and click on registration to take advantage of this offer.

WHAT NAME APPEARS IN THE PRINTED PROGRAM AND ON MY DIPLOMA?

The name that will be printed is your **diploma name** as it appears in your student record. If you need to make any changes to your diploma name, please visit mynku.nku.edu to update your records.

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY DIPLOMA?

Diplomas will be mailed approximately six to eight weeks following graduation each semester (fall, spring, summer). To ensure that you receive your diploma in a timely manner, you are encouraged to go online and check your address through your **myNKU** account. If changes need to be made or you have a question about your diploma, please contact the Office of the Registrar at **(859) 572-5556** or registrar@nku.edu.

Your diploma cannot be released until all obligations to the university have been paid or completed. This includes, but is not limited to, money due to Student Account Services and unreturned library materials.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONS

GRADES, ELIGIBILITY, DIPLOMA, TRANSCRIPTS ETC.: registrar@nku.edu or (859) 572-5556

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY: nku.edu/commencement or specialevents@nku.edu

ACADEMIC APPAREL: herff.ly/nku or NKU Bookstore (859) 572-5142

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Northern Kentucky University
Commencement
Nunn Drive
Highland Heights, Kentucky 41099

All commencement
communication is
emailed to your
**NKU EMAIL
ADDRESS
ONLY.**

COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

**SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026:
TRUIST ARENA**

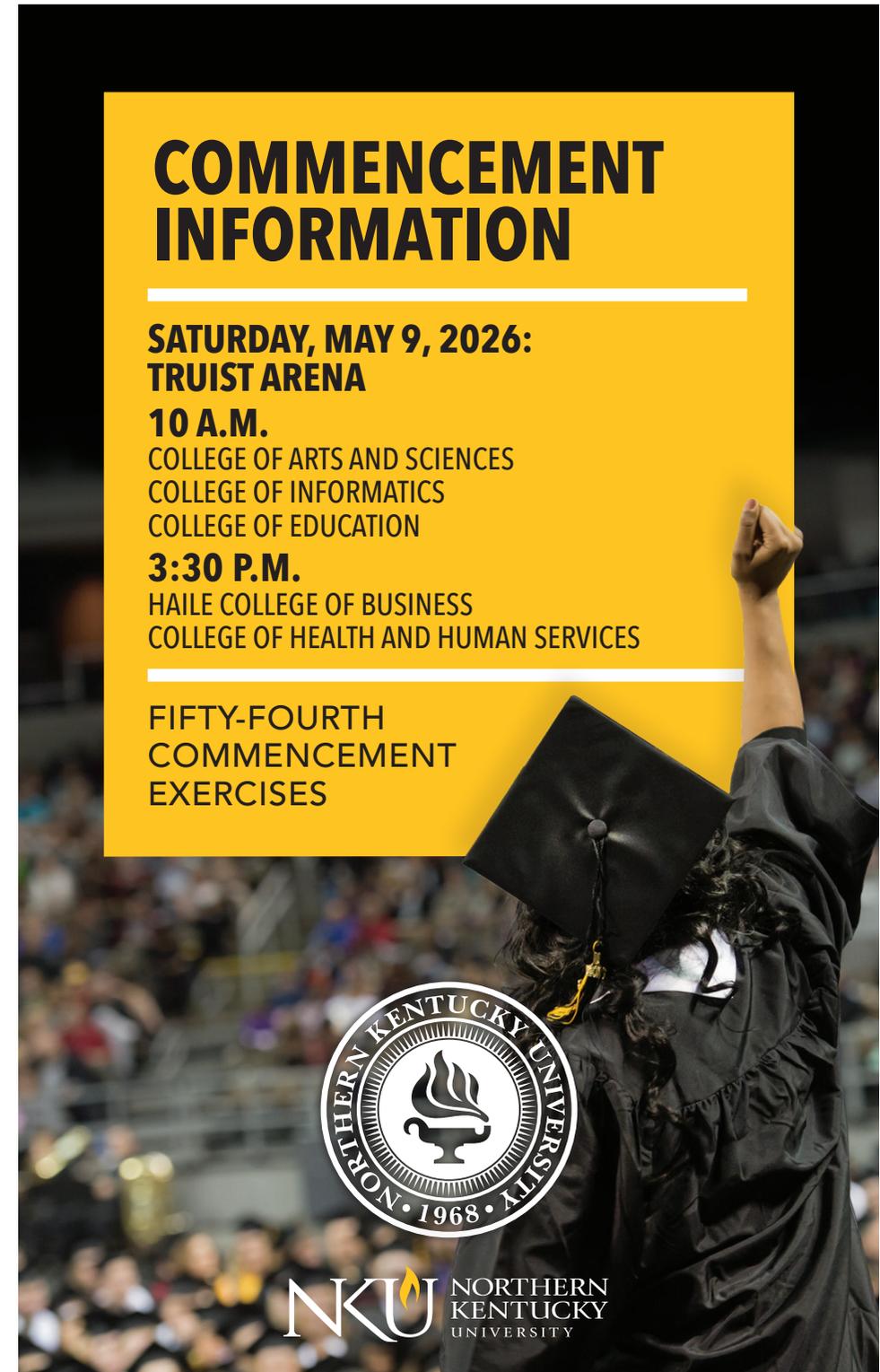
10 A.M.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
COLLEGE OF INFORMATICS
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

3:30 P.M.

HAILE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**FIFTY-FOURTH
COMMENCEMENT
EXERCISES**



ACADEMIC APPAREL

Graduates can purchase undergraduate/master’s regalia in person at the NKU Bookstore in the University Center until Saturday, May 9, and online at herff.ly/nku until Tuesday, April 7.

The NKU Bookstore will not accept returns after Saturday, May 9, (regalia must also be in the original packaging to be returned).

APPAREL FOR ASSOCIATE OR BACHELOR DEGREES

The required apparel for associate and bachelor degree candidates is a black gown, black cap and black/gold tassel. The optional NKU stole of gratitude is also available for an additional cost.

APPAREL FOR MASTER DEGREES

The required apparel for master’s degree candidates is a black master’s gown, black cap, and a tassel and a hood in the color that corresponds to the field of study (visit nku.edu/commencement for the full list of colors and programs). The optional NKU stole of gratitude is also available for an additional cost.

APPAREL FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Graduates earning both a certificate(s) and undergraduate degree - wear the regalia for your degree (described above).

Students earning an **undergraduate certificate only** - wear undergraduate regalia: black gown, black cap and black/gold tassel.

Students earning a **graduate certificate only** should wear their regalia from their highest earned degree.

APPAREL FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES

Doctoral regalia must be specially ordered in advance. Doctoral candidates should have received notification from their program director with order and pricing information.

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC HONORS CORDS

Undergraduate students who qualify for University Honors will receive an honors cord to wear with their apparel. Honors cords can be picked up from your College dean’s office up through Friday, May 8 or at your commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 9.

CUMULATIVE GPA FOR UNDERGRADUATE HONORS

Summa cum laude = 3.90-4.00

Magna cum laude = 3.75-3.8999

Cum laude = 3.50-3.7499

ORGANIZATIONAL HONOR CORDS AND STOLES

Please contact the head of your organization, department or club to inquire if stoles or cords will be offered.

For questions on academic apparel, please visit nku.edu/commencement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CLASS RINGS AND GRADUATION GIFTS

Personalized graduation announcements and class rings may be ordered from Herff Jones, our preferred vendor, at herff.ly/nku.

The NKU Bookstore will have a satellite booth at the Truist Arena at each commencement ceremony with a selection of graduation gifts available for purchase.

Additional NKU gifts and products can be found at nku.edu/shopnku.

GRADUATION ELIGIBILITY

All May graduates who have officially applied for May 2026 graduation through myNKU will be eligible to participate in the ceremony on Saturday, May 9.

If your graduation term needs to be changed, please notify the Office of the University Registrar.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY SCHEDULE

NKU will host two ceremonies honoring the May Class of 2026 in Truist Arena.

All graduate, undergraduate and online students from each college will attend the same ceremony in person.

SATURDAY, MAY 9:

College of Arts and Sciences

College of Informatics

College of Education

8:30 a.m.: Doors open for graduate and guest check in (no entry before 8:30 a.m.)

10 a.m.: Ceremony begins

12 - 12:30 p.m.: Ceremony concludes

SATURDAY, MAY 9:

Haile College of Business

College of Health and Human Services

2 p.m. Doors open for graduate and guest check in (no entry before 2 p.m.)

3:30 p.m.: Ceremony begins

5:30 - 6 p.m.: Ceremony concludes

- Parking is free of charge in all surface lots and parking garages on campus on Saturday, May 9.
- Upon arrival, graduates will be directed to the Vault entrance for check in.
- Graduates needing accessibility accommodations are encouraged to call (859) 572-1378 by Monday, May 4. Accessible parking is available in Lot O.
- Please check nku.edu/commencement for up-to-date ceremony information as it becomes available.

HOW TO WATCH ONLINE

Guests may watch the ceremony live stream on Saturday, May 9, at nku.edu/commencement. The video will be available for on-demand viewing after commencement on **NKU’s YouTube channel**.

MAKE YOUR CLASS GIFT!

The Class Gift is a special opportunity to make an impact at NKU before you graduate. Make a gift of \$20.26 to the area of campus that means the most to you and receive a commemorative “NKU Philanthropist” stole to wear at graduation. Learn more at nku.edu/classgift.

GUEST INFORMATION

Tickets are not required for guests or graduates, and there is **no limit** on the number of guests who may attend.

Guest seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. **Doors to the arena will open 90 minutes before the ceremony begins** for graduates and guests. Early admittance is not permitted, so please plan to arrive accordingly.

Handicap parking is available in Lot O and on all levels of the Arena Parking Garage located across the street from the arena. Guests should enter Truist Arena through the main entrance off the circle drive at the end of the pedestrian bridge from the Arena Parking Garage.

For accessibility, guests and graduates may be dropped off in front of Truist Arena at the circle drive off Nunn Drive. Once inside, staff will direct you to the elevator for access to the 2nd-floor concourse level. Guests parking in Lot O should enter through the East Gate entrance.

Accessible seating is available in the last row of certain sections on the concourse level for guests who should avoid stairs. Guests may visit the Guest Services booth or ask a Truist Arena usher for assistance in finding a seat that meets their mobility needs.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Additional FAQ and information can be found at nku.edu/commencement.

DO I HAVE TO RSVP TO ATTEND MY COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY?

There is no rehearsal, and eligible graduates do not need to submit a special RSVP to participate (or not participate) in the May commencement ceremonies. Completing your graduation application with the Registrar is the most important step for graduation. If you aren’t sure whether you have submitted the application, please contact the Office of the Registrar at registrar@nku.edu.

I AM GRADUATING WITH TWO DEGREES. WHICH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN?

Graduates earning more than one degree may simply choose which ceremony they’d like to attend. Your diploma and transcript will reflect all of the degrees that you have earned at NKU.

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR? CAN I DECORATE MY HAT?

Dress for the weekend is business casual. Graduates may decorate their caps as long as it is respectful and appropriate (no explicit content). Please zip up your gown fully, avoid wearing capes or non-academic accessories over your regalia, and remember not to throw your cap during the ceremony.

WHERE CAN I PUT PERSONAL BELONGINGS DURING THE CEREMONY?

All bags brought into Truist Arena are subject to inspection. Items not permitted in the arena are listed at nku.edu/commencement. If you bring a restricted item, you will be asked to return it to your car. Please note that any items left outside or unattended might be disposed of by Arena staff.