



COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION – SPRING 2025

Congratulations! The end is in sight. If you have questions about any of the commencement details below, contact Stacy Dahlman, Associate Dean for Academic Administration and Registrar, at srdahlman@milligan.edu or 423.461.8681.

Rehearsal and Commencement Dates and Times

Commencement rehearsal Friday, May 2, 2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
(School of Arts and Humanities; School of Bible and Ministry; School of Business and Technology)

Commencement rehearsal Friday, May 2, 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
(School of Sciences and Allied Health; School of Social Sciences and Education)

Blessing Service (all graduates; see below) Friday, May 2, 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Commencement Saturday, May 3, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
(School of Arts and Humanities; School of Bible and Ministry; School of Business and Technology)

Commencement Saturday, May 3, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
(School of Sciences and Allied Health; School of Social Sciences and Education)

Seeger Memorial Chapel (Mary B. Martin Auditorium) is the location for the events listed above. Rehearsal begins in Walker Auditorium on the lower level of the building. Students should wear everyday attire for commencement rehearsal and graduation regalia for the commencement ceremony. Attendees for the Blessing Service will be most comfortable in Sunday worship attire.

Tickets

At commencement rehearsal, graduates will receive **8 tickets** for their assigned commencement ceremony. Ticket holders may enter the chapel at 9:00 a.m. for the 10:00 ceremony and at 1:00 p.m. for the 2:00 ceremony. Ticket holders will not be allowed to save seats for non-ticket holders, but doors will open for general seating at 9:45 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. Guests who are unable to find seats in the chapel may watch a live broadcast in the Gregory Center theatre.

Students who do not plan to participate in the ceremony will not receive tickets.

Weekend Events

Friday - Picnic

The Student Development staff will host a picnic on Derthick lawn for graduates, faculty, and staff at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, May 2. All graduates are welcome to attend.

Seminary Meal

Emmanuel Christian Seminary will host a meal for graduating seminary students on Saturday, May 3. Students will receive further details from Dr. Kastens in the coming weeks.

Blessing Service

All graduates, families, faculty, and staff are invited and encouraged to attend “Benediction: A Service of Blessing for Our Graduates,” a worship service led by faculty and students. The service will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 2, in Seeger Memorial Chapel. Tickets are not required.

Dining Hall on Saturday

Lunch will be available for purchase in the McCormick Dining Center from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 3. Lunch offerings include a hot buffet, a salad bar, and a pizza bar. The price per adult is \$9.00. Children ages 5 – 11 may eat for \$4.50 each, and children ages 4 and under may eat for free.

Graduation Regalia and Announcements

Graduation regalia (cap, gown, and tassel) will be available in the bookstore beginning April 8. The prices for regalia (plus tax) are as follows: Undergraduate: \$58.95; Graduate \$108.95; Doctoral \$132.95. Undergraduate regalia sets include a graduation robe with the Milligan logo on the front (new this year), a mortar board cap, and a tassel. Graduate regalia sets include a master's or doctoral graduation robe with the Milligan logo on the front, a master's or doctoral hood, a mortar board cap, and a tassel.

Graduation announcements and time/place cards are available in the bookstore for \$9.99 plus tax (package of five).

All graduates should wear their caps, gowns, and tassels to the ceremony. Graduate students should bring their hoods to the ceremony and carry them in the graduation line. Graduate program directors will hood the students as they cross the stage.

Honors (Undergraduate students only)

Honors for undergraduate students are calculated based on the anticipated cumulative grade point average at the end of the spring 2025 semester (***Summa Cum Laude: 3.95 – 4.0, Magna Cum Laude: 3.75 – 3.94, Cum Laude: 3.5 – 3.74***). Honors calculations are based on the cumulative GPA from the official transcript, which is truncated at the thousandths place. The GPA on the student transcript in Self-Service is truncated at the hundredths place. (Example: A GPA that appears as 3.75 in Self-Service might be a 3.749 on the official transcript.)

Honor cords will be distributed at commencement rehearsal.

Childcare

Childcare will be provided free of charge in the Runner classroom (downstairs on the mid-level) during both commencement ceremonies and the Blessing Service. Parents of young children are encouraged to take advantage of this service.

Federal Loan Counseling Information

Students who borrowed federal loans are required to complete student loan counseling. A Student Financial Services representative will contact students with more information. Students with questions may contact Erica Stone (EMStone@milligan.edu or 423.975.8050) or Elizabeth Williams (LEWilliams@milligan.edu or 423.461.8967).

Release of Diplomas

Only students who have met all obligations (parking tickets, financial, academic, testing, library, etc.) receive diplomas. Students enrolled in traditional undergraduate programs who have not completed all required SFP (Spiritual Formation Program) requirements may participate in the commencement ceremony but will not receive a diploma or a degree until all requirements are completed.

Accessible Seating

To make arrangements for guests with special seating needs, contact Stacy Dahlman at the email address or phone number above.

Online Streaming

The ceremony will be broadcast online at www.milligan.edu/streaming for friends and family members who are unable to attend.

Location and More

For information about visiting campus, hotel accommodations or to view a campus map, see <https://www.milligan.edu/about/location/>.