



COMMENCEMENT  
WEEKEND 2025

*May 16-18, 2025*

COLGATE UNIVERSITY



## WELCOME CENTER

Donovan's Pub, James C. Colgate Hall

Friday | 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Saturday | 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

- Information Table
- On-campus Lodging Check-in

## EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

911 | Fire, police, Madison County EMS ambulance

315-228-7911 | Campus Safety (emergency)

315-824-1100 | Community Memorial Hospital

315-228-7333 | Campus Safety (non-emergency)

## INTERNET ACCESS

To access wireless internet, guests on campus may connect to the **Colgate-Guest** Wi-Fi network for free. Prior to browsing, you will be prompted to accept an Acceptable Use Policy.

## COLGATE BOOKSTORE

Thursday | 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Friday | 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

Saturday | 9 a.m.–8 p.m.

Sunday | 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

## LOST AND FOUND

Campus Safety | 88 Hamilton St.

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY, MAY 16

### Commencement Dinner

*5:30–7:30 p.m. / Oak Drive Tent*

All graduates and their guests are welcome  
(no charge for meal; cash bar).

## SATURDAY, MAY 17

### Office of International Student Services Coffee Hour

*9–10:30 a.m. / Merrill House*

A drop-in gathering for international seniors, friends,  
and family members.

### Phi Beta Kappa Induction

*9:30–10:30 a.m. / Colgate Memorial Chapel*

### Academic Reception

*10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. / Merrill House Lawn*

Graduating students and their families are invited to  
celebrate with Colgate's faculty and other academic  
community members. Refreshments will be served.

### Multicultural Celebration

*Noon–1:30 p.m. / Hall of Presidents, James C. Colgate Hall*

Sponsored by the ALANA Cultural Center. Prior  
reservation required.

## **Commencement Seminar**

*1:30–2:30 p.m. / 20 Lawrence Hall (terrace level)*

*“SEAL Stories”*

Distinguished honorary degree recipient Richard Trusty Patrick Woolard '65, Captain, Navy SEALs (retired), shares inspiring insight based on his experiences.

## **Baccalaureate Service**

*3 p.m. Graduates Line Up*

*3:30–4:30 p.m. / Colgate Memorial Chapel*

With all the graduates attending, additional seating in the chapel is extremely limited. Guests may watch at [colgate.edu/commencement](http://colgate.edu/commencement) or at one of these viewing locations:

- Academic Quad Tent
- Lawrence Hall, 105 Ho Lecture Room
- Olin Hall, Love Auditorium

## **Multicultural Celebration Dinner**

*5:30–6:30 p.m. / Hall of Presidents and Clark Room, James C. Colgate Hall*

Music, food, beverages, and activities celebrating the cultural traditions of different nationalities with individuals who formed and played a part in the graduates' lives on campus. Graduates, guests, faculty, and staff from all nationalities and identities are welcome and appreciated.

## **Senior Torchlight Procession and President's Reception**

*7:45 p.m. Graduates Line Up; 8:30 p.m. Procession*

First enacted in 1930 under the guidance of the Alumni Association of the University, the Senior Torchlight Procession celebrates the culmination of the graduates' four years.

To begin the procession, members of the graduating class gather in the Academic Quad for music and an address by the University president. The class members then process down the hill carrying torches as a symbol of the "light of knowledge" they have gained through their education as represented by the torch on the Colgate seal.

Families and other spectators may gather at designated areas (see map on pg. 8–9) to watch the procession before joining the class at the president's reception under the Oak Drive Tent. *For everyone's safety:* We ask spectators not to interrupt the procession and to refrain from tossing objects to the graduates as they process.

## **SUNDAY, MAY 18**

### **Commencement Ceremony**

*10:30 a.m. | Andy Kerr Stadium (no ticket required)*

Doors open at 9 a.m.

Graduates will line up at 9:30 a.m.; guests are asked to be seated by 10:15 a.m.

### *Inclement Weather Location*

#### **Sanford Field House (ticket required)**

The decision to move the ceremony indoors will be determined by 10 p.m. on Saturday and will be communicated via email to the campus community, social media, the Colgate Mobile App, and [colgate.edu/commencement](http://colgate.edu/commencement).

### *Additional Viewing Options*

#### **Class of 1965 Arena (no ticket required) | Doors open at 9 a.m.**

The ceremony will be webcast into the Class of 1965 Arena for those who prefer the indoors to the Kerr Stadium location and as spillover seating from Sanford Field House in the case of severe inclement weather. The facility is wheelchair accessible.

### *Watch the Livestream*

**[colgate.edu/commencement](http://colgate.edu/commencement)**

### *Commencement Fund*

Thanks to contributions made by members of the Parents' Steering Committee, the Commencement Fund supports the weekend's events and provides the brass torches carried in the Torchlight Procession as gifts to the senior class. Moments and mementos like these form indelible memories for our graduates and strengthen their connection to Colgate as they go out into the world.

# EVENT LOCATIONS

Details at [colgate.edu/campusmap](http://colgate.edu/campusmap)

- 8 Academic Quad Tent**  
Baccalaureate Viewing
- 1 Andy Kerr Stadium**  
Commencement Ceremony
- 2 Class of 1965 Arena**  
Alternate ceremony viewing
- 6 Colgate Memorial Chapel**  
Baccalaureate Service (graduates)
- 9 Frank Dining Hall**
- 12 General Use Lot**
- 5 James C. Colgate Hall (Donovan's Pub)**  
Welcome Center  
Multicultural Celebration
- 7 Lawrence Hall**  
Commencement Seminar (Woolard)  
Baccalaureate Viewing
- 11 Merrill House Tent**  
Academic Reception
- 4 Oak Drive Tent**  
Commencement Dinner  
President's Reception
- 10 Olin Hall (Love Auditorium)**  
Baccalaureate Viewing
- 3 Sanford Field House**  
Severe Weather Ceremony Location



ADA Accessible Entrance

--- Torchlight Procession

... Torchlight Viewing Area

... Torchlight Viewing Area (accessible)







# DRIVING AND PARKING ON CAMPUS

## COLGATE SHUTTLE

Parking is limited, so whenever possible, please take advantage of the Colgate Shuttle or walk. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

This free service is open to students and the public for navigating the campus and the Hamilton business district throughout the weekend. Stops include specific event locations on campus and the following sites in the village: Colgate Inn, Colgate Bookstore, Hotel One75, Parry's parking lot, and Eaton Street lot.

Visit [colgate.edu/shuttle](https://colgate.edu/shuttle) for specific routes, schedule, and policies.

## PARKING

On-campus parking over commencement weekend is open to anyone; however, parking is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. Legal parking spots are marked with white lines. Parking on any roadway is prohibited.

Find more information at [colgate.edu/parking-information](https://colgate.edu/parking-information).

# ACCESSIBILITY

Colgate strives to provide an experience that is accessible to all guests.

View the map on pg. 8-9 and at [colgate.edu/campusmap](http://colgate.edu/campusmap) for ADA Accessibility location information. If you have any other questions or concerns related to accessibility, please visit the Commencement Welcome Center in Donovan's Pub.

## **Accessible Ceremony Seating**

Graduating students were asked to identify guests who would need to reserve accessible seating tickets for the ceremony, through their Commencement Checklist. The tickets are distributed to the graduates when they pick up their caps and gowns.

For guests who prefer remaining indoors rain or shine, the ceremony will be broadcast into the Class of 1965 Arena (no ticket needed). The facility is wheelchair accessible and will open at 9 a.m. on Sunday.

## **Sign Language Interpreting**

ASL interpreters will be signing during the baccalaureate service and commencement ceremony.

## **Assistive Listening Devices**

Assistive listening devices will be available during the commencement ceremony. Upon arrival, please speak with an usher, who will direct you to the equipment sign-out table. We will ask for a driver's license or other identification at sign-out.

## **Closed Captioning**

Event livestreams will include closed captioning.

## **Service Animals and Pets**

Colgate University welcomes the service animals of our guests. Service animals must remain under the control of their handler and not cause a disruption to the event. Commencement staff may need to relocate a guest's seat if the service animal impacts fire code regulations or cannot reasonably fit within the space provided by the individual's seat. **Please note that, per University policy, pets and assistance animals (often known as emotional support or comfort animals) are not allowed in Colgate University buildings or tents.**

## **Accessible Restrooms**

Accessible restrooms will be available at the commencement dinner, president's reception, and commencement ceremony site. Additional facilities can be found on campus, including James C. Colgate Hall and Little Hall. See [colgate.edu/campusmap](http://colgate.edu/campusmap) for details.

## **Parking**

ADA-accessible parking and drop-off locations will be available for individuals with disabilities and those with limited mobility for the commencement dinner, president's reception, and commencement ceremony. Please understand that nondisabled drivers will be asked to move their cars to general parking after dropping off a guest with accessibility needs.

## **Drop-Off**

For safety reasons, please do not plan for any drop-offs on village streets.

- ➔ Oak Drive Tent events: Drop off at the circle on Oak Drive or the lot behind James C. Colgate Hall
- ➔ Commencement ceremony: Drop off in the General Use Lot; golf carts will provide transport to seating

## **Golf Carts**

Staff members will be driving golf carts on Sunday to help transport guests from accessible parking areas to commencement ceremony seating. Please plan to arrive early to ensure you can be seated before the ceremony starts. If you cannot locate a golf cart or shuttle when needed, please call campus safety at 315-228-7333.

# **DINING OPTIONS**

The Friday commencement dinner and the Saturday morning academic reception are free of charge and open to all graduates and their guests. Some specific programs also schedule receptions or dinners on Saturday. Other than that, meals are on your own.

## **On Campus**

### **FRANK DINING HALL**

Guests are welcome to purchase meals in Frank Dining Hall. No reservation is necessary.

#### **Saturday**

10 a.m.–2 p.m., \$14.60 per person (includes tax)

4:30–7:30 p.m., \$15.60 per person (includes tax)

#### **Sunday**

8–11 a.m., \$14.60 per person (includes tax)

## **Off Campus**

There are a variety of dining establishments in the area; be sure to call ahead for hours of operation and space availability. In addition, the local Price Chopper Super Center is a grocery store that also offers grab-and-go meal solutions.

## **Picnic and Beverage Policy**

Graduates may have small private picnics adjacent to their residence halls, University-owned student housing on Broad and College streets, and townhouses.

We ask that gatherings not take place during the following time slots:

- Friday, 5:30–7:30 p.m. (Commencement Dinner)
- Saturday,
  - 3:30–4:30 p.m. (Baccalaureate)
  - 8–10:30 p.m. (Torchlight, President's Reception)
- Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (Ceremony)

Freestanding canopies may be used; stakes and tents are not permitted. Open containers of alcohol are not permitted, except for the picnic location. Kegs are not permitted on University property.

# OTHER THINGS TO DO

## **Clifford Gallery | Little Hall**

Friday, 10:30–5 p.m.

Saturday, 1–5 p.m.

Sunday, 1–5 p.m.

## **Hamilton Farmers Market | Village Green**

Saturday, 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

## **Ho Tung Visualization Lab | Ho Science Center**

Friday

4:30 p.m. - *Secret Lives of Stars*

5:30 p.m. - *The Arctic*

6:30 p.m. - *Dark Universe*

8:00 p.m. - *Pink Floyd - Dark Side of the Moon*

## **Linsley Geology Museum | Ho Science Center**

Friday, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

## **Longyear Museum of Anthropology | Alumni Hall**

Friday, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Saturday, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

## **Picker Art Gallery | Dana Arts Center**

Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday, noon–5 p.m.

SHARE YOUR CELEBRATION

*#colgate2025*



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