

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL CALENDAR*

SPRING SEMESTER 2026

NOTE: Failure to meet deadlines may impact when degree is completed and awarded.

*ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DOCTORAL DEGREES

Preliminary examination results must be received and approved by the Graduate and Professional School prior to submitting the "Final Exam" in ARCS.

November 11, 2025	Tuesday	Last day for Graduate and Professional School to receive degree plan in DPSS if graduating in May 2026.
November 24, 2025	Monday	Electronic Thesis/Dissertation System re-opens for May 2026 degree candidates.
December 22, 2025	Monday	First day to apply for degrees to be awarded in May 2026.
December 22, 2025	Monday	First day students are able to clear Thesis and Dissertation Services for May 2026 graduation.
January 9	Friday	Last day to register for Spring semester classes. Refer to the Student Business Services website for more information on billing due dates.
January 12	Monday	First day of Spring semester classes.
January 16	Friday	Last day to CLEAR for December 2025 graduation. (Applies ONLY to those students not clearing final degree evaluation on day of final degree audit.)
January 16	Friday	Last day for adding/dropping courses for the Spring semester by 5:00 p.m.
January 16	Friday	Last day to clear Thesis and Dissertation Services to avoid registration in Spring 2026 semester.
January 26	Monday	Last day for Graduate and Professional School to receive a completed MDD petition in DPSS from doctoral students to change degree level (e.g. doctoral to masters) and graduate in May 2026. ALL level changes must be processed before the 12th Class Day in order to be effective for Spring 2026.
January 28	Wednesday	Last day for the Registrar's office to approve a certificate added by the student's department for the Spring semester. Certificates are not added by the Graduate and Professional School.
February 13	Friday	LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR DEGREES TO BE AWARDED IN MAY BY 5:00PM without a late fee. A diploma fee of \$47.50 must be paid either at registration or at the Fiscal Office (GSC). Complete the application for degree form via the Howdy Portal. A LATE CHARGE OF \$50.00 WILL BE ASSESSED TO STUDENTS WHO APPLY FOR GRADUATION AFTER 02-13-2026.
February 16	Monday	Last day for Graduate and Professional School to receive a completed MDD petition in DPSS from master's students to change a degree within the same level and graduate in May 2026.
February 20	Friday	Last day or 10 working days prior to the examination, whichever comes first for the Graduate and Professional School to receive completed "Final Exam Request" in ARCS .
March 6	Friday	Last day to take final examination.
March 20	Friday	Last day for Graduate and Professional School to receive the completed/approved Written Dissertation/Record of Study Approval form in ARCS . The PDF file of the dissertation must be uploaded via the web to Electronic Thesis/Dissertation System †by 5:00 p.m.
April 14	Tuesday	Last day for all students to drop courses for the Spring semester with no penalty (Q-drop). Last day to officially withdraw from the University for the Spring semester.
April 28	Tuesday	Last day to apply for graduation.

CLEARANCE FOR MAY 2026 DEGREE CANDIDATES

TBD		Academic Degree Evaluations conducted the Thursday before Graduation Ceremony. Academic Degree Evaluation results available once reports run.
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COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

TBD		Master's and Doctoral Commencement (additional information available on the Graduation Website .)
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ADDITIONAL DEADLINES FOR DEGREES TO BE CONFERRED IN MAY 2026

May 29	Friday	Last day to CLEAR for May 2026 graduation. (Applies ONLY to those students not clearing final degree evaluation on day of final degree audit.)
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For relevant forms and processes, see the Graduate and Professional School [Knowledge Center](#).

† NOTE: Meeting Thesis & Dissertation Services deadlines does not guarantee, but merely maintains, eligibility for graduation/clearance in a certain time frame.

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NOTE: DPSS – A completed degree plan or petition in DPSS must have all of the required department and committee signatures to arrive in the Graduate and Professional School queue for approval.