



# RIT Commencement 2026

## Friday & Saturday, May 8-9, 2026

Hello Graduates,

The time has come to start preparing for your RIT graduation this May!

Today's email is the first in a series of weekly emails you will receive as a countdown to graduation.

First things first, please add [Graduation@rit.edu](mailto:Graduation@rit.edu) to your safe senders list.

Each email will be filled with information you will need to have a happy, fun-filled, safe and memorable graduation weekend; and will cover a variety of topics. If you're the type to read ahead, go to the Frequently Asked Questions page on the RIT Commencement website:  
[www.rit.edu/commencement/faqs](http://www.rit.edu/commencement/faqs).

## **Save the Dates**

Next, if you haven't already, please save the dates:

**May 8-9, 2026. RIT Commencement 2026 will be held on the main campus in Henrietta, N.Y.** Global campuses will celebrate their own ceremonies.

## **The RIT Commencement Website**

Please check the RIT Commencement website for the most up-to-date information: [www.rit.edu/commencement](http://www.rit.edu/commencement). The events team will post all of the most current information here, so check back regularly to stay up-to-date.

## **Travel Arrangements for Guests**

It's not too early to tell your guests to start preparing hotel and travel arrangements. (FYI: May 8, 2026 is the kick-off of Rochester's Lilac Festival; and their organizers anticipate **more than 500,000 visitors** to attend the 10-day event at Highland Park. Needless to say, it's a big event, and hotel rooms may be limited - so book early, if you can!)

## **Applying for Graduation**

If you haven't already, you will soon receive an email from the Office of the Registrar with instructions on how to apply for graduation.

RIT students graduating in 2026 must apply for graduation **online via** the [Student Information System \(SIS\)](#) **by April 1, 2026**, to ensure their name appears in the RIT Commencement Book. You can always check with your academic advisor to confirm your eligibility.

### **What else do you need to know or do now?**

- **Check your RIT email account regularly** as that is our **PRIMARY** method of communicating the details of the 2026 celebrations with you.
- Find the day and time of your college ceremony by checking the schedule of events on the [Commencement Schedule website](#). College receptions are already listed to help you in planning your weekend.
- Tell your family about the Academic Convocation, which is open to everyone, and will be held on **Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.** in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center.

That's a wrap on the first graduation email. Remember: go to the [RIT Commencement website](#) FIRST for information. If you can't find it there, you can also email us at [Graduation@rit.edu](mailto:Graduation@rit.edu) or check in with your [College Commencement Liaison](#).

**Next week:** We'll cover grad fairs, regalia requirements, and more.

We are excited to be on the journey to graduation with you this semester!

Thank you,

The Graduation/Events Team

[rit.edu](http://rit.edu)



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