

2025  
**Commencement**  
Information Sheet

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**New England College  
Commencement Ceremony**  
Saturday, May 3, at 10:00 a.m.

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**Regalia Pick Up**  
Arrange to pick up your caps, gowns, hoods, and tassels at the Pilgrim Shop by calling 603.428.2220.

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**nec.edu/commencement**  
Visit this page for more details and important RSVP links.

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**Questions?**  
Contact us at [commencement@nec.edu](mailto:commencement@nec.edu)

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## Congratulations, students, parents, and families!

Commencement is a time to celebrate all that you've achieved, and you should feel incredibly proud of everything you've accomplished.

Thank you for making New England College part of your journey. We deeply value all our graduates—past, present, and future. Your success reflects the heart of our mission: personal transformation and growth.

I'm excited to celebrate this moment with you!

With warmest regards,

**Dr. Wayne F. Lesperance, Jr.**  
*President*

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## Friday, May 2, 2025

### Commencement Rehearsal

**11:00 a.m. | Commencement ceremony location**

- Undergraduate on-campus students are required to attend.
- Graduate and online students are encouraged but not required to attend.

### Barbecue Lunch

**12:30 p.m. | Simon Patio**

All graduating students are invited to lunch after rehearsal.

### Graduate Celebration and BFA Exhibition

**5:00 p.m. | Art Village**

All graduates and guests are invited to a congratulatory toast, followed by a reception to meet the artists.

### Nursing Pinning Ceremony

**5:00 p.m. | Rosamond Page Putnam Center for the Performing Arts**

Nursing graduates and guests are invited to a symbolic ceremony celebrating the transition into the nursing profession, followed by a reception. RSVP at [necnursing@nec.edu](mailto:necnursing@nec.edu).

## Saturday, May 3, 2025

### Breakfast Buffet

**7:30–9:30 a.m. | Gilmore Dining Hall**

Pay at the door: \$9.75 per person.

### Doctorate Reception

**8:30–9:45 a.m. | Center for Education Innovation (CEI)**

EdD graduates and faculty are invited to a private breakfast reception. RSVP to Dr. Gavin Henning at [ghenning@nec.edu](mailto:ghenning@nec.edu).

### Graduates Assemble for Procession

**9:00 a.m. | Undergraduate Students: Covered Bridge**

**Graduate Students: Lee Clement Ice Arena**

All graduates must arrive on time to be welcomed and escorted to their place in line.

### Commencement Ceremony

**10:00 a.m. | Simon Green**

*Rain Location: Lee Clement Ice Arena*

Celebrate New England College's 78th Commencement! Graduates, families, friends, alumni, students, faculty, and staff are all welcome. Commencement typically lasts two hours.

### Commencement Reception

The Class of 2025, along with their guests, are invited to a reception in the Simon Center Great Room immediately after the Commencement ceremony.

### SPECIAL NOTE

Late arrivals after the platform party is seated **cannot march or sit with graduates**. To participate, arrive promptly at the covered bridge or ice arena by 9:00 a.m.

 RSVP at [nec.edu/commencement](http://nec.edu/commencement).

### Pilgrim Shop Pop-Up & Store Hours

Friday:

9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. | Store at 20 Main Street

Saturday:

8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. | Pop-Up Shop at Simon Green

11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. | Store at 20 Main Street

### Seating

Commencement is held outdoors on NEC's scenic Simon Green with open seating (no tickets required). First-come, first-served seating opens at 8:00 a.m.

### Inclement Weather

If weather is inclement, Commencement will move to the Lee Clement Ice Arena (limited seating). A live broadcast will be available in Bridges Gym. The location decision will be made 48 hours in advance and shared on the College's website.

### Accommodations

A list of area motels, hotels, and inns can be found at [nec.edu/visit](http://nec.edu/visit).

### Flowers

Flowers will be available for purchase at Commencement.

### Parking

Campus Safety will direct you to parking. Handicap parking is first come, first served in front of the Simon Center.

### Photography

A professional photographer will capture each graduate receiving their diploma. Photos will be available for purchase through the photographer's website at [nec.edu/commencement](http://nec.edu/commencement). Guests may take their own photos from their seats or the designated area to the left of the stage—Please keep visits brief to allow others the same opportunity.