



## Commencement



**May 16, 2025 • 5 pm**  
Five Flags Center, Dubuque

# Northeast Iowa Community College Commencement

May 16, 2025 • 5 pm  
Five Flags Center, Dubuque

## Processional\*

**Advancement of Colors\*** ..... Dubuque Marine Corps League

**National Anthem\*** ..... Brianna Ensign  
*Soloist, Associate of Arts '15, Graphic Design '17*

**Welcome** ..... Gary McAndrew  
*Northeast Iowa Community College Board of Trustees*

**Introductions** ..... Amy Gaffney, Ed.D.  
*Vice President of Student Services, Northeast Iowa Community College*

**Commencement Address** ..... Joe Hearn  
*President and CEO, Dupaco Community Credit Union*

**Student Remarks** ..... Haley Donovan  
*Associate Degree Nursing '25*

**Presentation of Class** ..... Kathleen Nacos-Burds, Ph.D.  
*Vice President of Teaching and Learning, Northeast Iowa Community College*

**Conferring of Degrees and Diplomas** ..... David Dahms  
*Interim President, Northeast Iowa Community College*

**Musical Selection** ..... Val Kennedy and Brianna Ensign  
*Accompanied by Troy Troftgruben*

## Recessional\*

\*Audience Please Stand.



*Guests should remain seated after the ceremony until all students have exited.*

## Commencement Speakers



**Joe Hearn**

*President and CEO, Dupaco Community Credit Union*

Joe Hearn is a 38-year veteran of Dupaco Community Credit Union. He joined Dupaco in 1986 as Director of Marketing and was later promoted to Executive President. In that role, he oversaw all elements of the credit union's branding, marketing and public relations initiatives until 2008, when he transitioned to Chief Operating Officer. He was named President and Chief Executive Officer in 2012.

Under his leadership, Dupaco has earned many accolades, including the Forbes Best-in-State Credit Union, Newsweek Top Regional Credit Union, Des Moines Register and USA Today Top Workplace and Bauer Financial 5-star ratings for exceptional financial strength.

Joe has contributed his expertise and leadership to several board leadership roles, such as the Iowa Credit Union League and Foundation, Greater Dubuque Development Corporation, Steeple Square, Dupaco Foundation and Credit Union Executives Society (CUES). Joe holds a Certified Chief Executive designation from CUES, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Dubuque and is a Loras College alumnus.



**Haley Donovan**

*Associate Degree Nursing '25*

Haley first graduated from the Practical Nursing program at the College in May 2020, but the impact of COVID-19 delayed her plans to continue. She re-entered the Nursing program this past year, drawn by the quality education and support she received during her first time as a student. A 2016 graduate of Western Dubuque High School, she has enjoyed her time on campus, especially her involvement with TRIO-Student Support Services and the meaningful relationships built with her advisors.

Throughout the program, Haley worked as her schedule allowed at Bethany Retirement Home, where she treasures the opportunity to serve, connect with and bring joy to residents. After graduation, she will begin a new role on the surgical services floor at MercyOne in Dubuque. She is eager to apply her skills and critical thinking in this next chapter of her nursing journey.

Several scholarships and grants have supported her education, including TRIO, Iowa's Last-Dollar Scholarship and the John and Mabel Heinen Family Endowment. Haley is also a proud mom to her six-year-old son, Malakai.

## Graduates 2024-2025

<u>Graduate</u>	<u>Program of Study</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Jada Abitz	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Lillie R. Abitz*	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Haleigh A. Alexandra*	Early Childhood Education	Certificate	Colorado Springs, Colo.
Ashton Armstrong	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Katherine Gabrielle Atherley*▪	Associate of Science	AS	Dubuque
Melanie Jean Avitan*	Marketing and Digital Media	AAS	Postville
Serena Ayers	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Clara Barth*	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Alburnett
Jaiden Basalyga	Criminal Justice	AA	Dubuque
Brooke McKenzi Bauer	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Dubuque
Josie Belken*▪	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Jonathan Beltran Jara	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Thomas James Bergeron, Jr.*	Business Administration Sports Administration	AAS Certificate	Dubuque
Matthew Besler	Welding (GMAW)	Certificate	Dubuque
Janice D. Bildstein	Business Administration	AAS	Earlville
Anita Paula Blackburn	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Jacob Martin Blanchard*▪	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Kathleen Ann Block▪	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Madeline Kristine Boettner	Welding Welding (GMAW)	Diploma Certificate	Dubuque
Adam Bolduc	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Andrew Bonert	Welding Welding (GMAW)	Diploma Certificate	Epworth
Hunter Lucas Booth	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Cedar Rapids
Brion Bowman	Associate of General Studies	AGS	Dubuque
Carson W. Brehm	Psychology	AA	Dubuque
Laney K. Breiner	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque

*Every attempt has been made to provide an accurate listing of graduates. This listing includes those known at time of publication, but does not constitute an official record of graduation.*

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Morgan Brimeyer	Associate of Arts Sports Administration	AA Certificate	Dubuque
Anthony C. Brown*	Industrial Automation & Mechatronics Industrial Maintenance Technician	AAS AAS	Dubuque
William James Brown*	Computer Analyst - Business and Web Programming	AAS	Dubuque
Lillian Bruns	Exercise Science and Kinesiology	AA	Bernard
Samantha Burds*■	English	AA	Epworth
Jodi L. Burgin	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Edgewood
Bralyn Burnett	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	Chatfield, Minn.
Sydney Busch	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Lancaster, Wis.
Collin Card*■	Industrial Automation & Mechatronics Industrial Maintenance Technician	AAS AAS	Dubuque
Mark Sterling Carlson*	Industrial Maintenance Technician	Diploma	Cascade
Magdalena E. Carr	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Dubuque
Michael R. Carter*	Welding	Diploma	Story City
Ryan Carter	Graphic Design	AAS	Story City
Sheridan Cerwinske	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Bondurant
Jakob M. Chapman	Heating and Air Conditioning	Diploma	Mingo
Mason James Cigrand*	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Cheri Clark*■	Business Administration	AAS	Ottumwa
Alex Clemens	Accounting Specialist	AAS	Vinton
Kasey L. Coakley	Business Administration Sports Administration	Certificate Certificate	La Motte
Alex Collado*	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Dubuque
Laura R. Collins*	Welding Welding (GMAW)	Diploma Certificate	Waterloo
Anna Coniglio	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Oskaloosa
Jessica L. Connolly	Accounting Clerk Associate of General Studies	Diploma AGS	Dubuque
Porshia Conwell	Respiratory Care	AAS	Rock Island, Ill.

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Ashley E. Cook*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Andrea Cooper	Associate of Arts	AA	North Liberty
Shannon Marie Corkery	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Brooke Lynn Cortez	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Brianna L. Cox*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Camryn Alayna Cox*	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Mabel, Minn.
Eli Jeffrey Crist*	Heating and Air Conditioning	Diploma	Darlington, Wis.
Arian Jade N. Cruz	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Dubuque
Rose Marie Curler	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Alexandra Curoe*	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Schaumburg, Ill.
Ava M. Curwen	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Hazel Green, Wis.
Abigail Hermine Cutsforth	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Isabella E. David*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Cameron Davis*	Applied Management Business Administration Sports Administration	AAS Certificate Certificate	Dubuque
Cindy Day*	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Wyatt J. DeMoss	Heating and Air Conditioning	Diploma	Dubuque
Ka'Lynn DeShaw	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Bellevue
Jasmine Ann Dion-Cyr	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	Edgewood
Vanessa E. Dittrick	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Manchester
Bailey Jo Dix*	Business Administration	AAS	Janesville
Haley Donovan	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Peosta
Rose Douglas	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Mason Drees	Heating and Air Conditioning	Diploma	Dyersville
Shallan E. Dreessens	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Platteville, Wis.
Bin Edwards	Welding	Diploma	Dubuque
Trista Eggers	Associate of Arts	AA	Dyersville

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Katy Elliott	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Sanford, Mich.
Alyse Elmegreen	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Maquoketa
Madeline Enke	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Maddux Erhardt	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Vinton
Joshua William Erner	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Ben Ernst	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	East Dubuque, Ill.
Johnathan Dontrell Ervin	Computer Analyst - Business and Web Programming	AAS	Dubuque
Aaron Farley*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Nevada Farrey*	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Hazel Green, Wis.
Clair D. Faulhaber	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Addison M. Feldmann	Associate of Arts	AA	Epworth
Joey Fellenzer	Marketing and Digital Media	AAS	Dubuque
Olivia Mae Fessler	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Jenna Elise Foley	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Molly Catherine Foley*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Brandy Kay Folks	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Galena, Ill.
Hunter M. Fosdal	Computer Analyst - Network Administration & Tech Support	AAS	Epworth
Emily A. Frank	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Galena, Ill.
Korey Daniel Frank*	Engineering Technology	AAS	Dubuque
Leighana Franks	Early Childhood Education	Certificate	DeWitt
Kristopher Dwaine Frantzen	Welding (GMAW)	Certificate	Saint Donatus
Kristin Frazier	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Newport, N.C.
Mason Isaiah Freeman*	Psychology	AA	Dubuque
Dillon Freiburger*■	Associate of Arts	AA	East Dubuque, Ill.
Ethan E. Friederick*	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Evan R. Friederick	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Rachel Friedmann	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Dyersville

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Miles Gacioch	Industrial Maintenance Technician	Diploma	Asbury
Kathleen N. Gaertier	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Dubuque
Jaysen Gamblin*	Welding	Diploma	Chicago, Ill.
Michelle E. Gamblin	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Chicago, Ill.
Claudia M. Garrett	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	New Vienna
Maggie C. Gassman-Schueller	Respiratory Care	AAS	Cascade
Carter Daniel Gaul	Welding Welding (GMAW)	Diploma Certificate	New Vienna
Cassie S. Gaul	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Mia F. Gehl	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Cascade
Stephanie Gonzalez	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Sophia Gorton	Associate of Arts	AA	La Motte
Amie Gravenstein	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Lena, Ill.
Mallory L. Griffin*	Paralegal	AAS	Bellevue
Cameron Jay Guether	Associate of Arts	AA	Manchester
Alexander Guzman* ■	CAD Specialist	Certificate	Council Bluffs
Gina Haas	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Samantha Marie Hagedorn	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Bancroft
Paige J. Hahlen*	Social Work	AA	Farley
Zachary D. Hauptert	Paramedic	Diploma	Dubuque
Jaron Hazen*	Gas Utility Construction and Service	Diploma	Big Patch, Wis.
Angela Healey	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Durango
McKinsey Heims	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Cedar Rapids
Kyle Henneberry	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Peosta
James Henrise	Heating and Air Conditioning	Diploma	East Dubuque, Ill.
Morgan Hess*	Applied Management	AAS	Sherrill
Gwenyth Eliza Hesselbacher*	Elementary Education	AA	Galena, Ill.
Madison M. Hesselmann	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque

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Rose Colleen Heuchelin	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Colesburg
Alicia Hilby*■	Business Administration	Certificate	Milwaukee, Wis.
Brandon D. Hisler	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	Hampton
Jaquelyn Hochrein*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Keith A. Horton*	CNC Machinist Technician	Diploma	Moline, Ill.
Jennifer M. Hullett*■	Health Information Technology	AAS	Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada
Ashly Ideker	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Brownsville, Minn.
Callie Ihns-Petersen	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Lost Nation
Zachary Isely	Heating and Air Conditioning	Diploma	Browntown, Wis.
Erika Marie Jaeger	Associate of Arts	AA	Anamosa
Arianna James	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Dubuque
Emma Mabel Jecklin	Associate of General Studies Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	AGS Diploma Certificate	Durango
Memphis R. Jess*	Paralegal	AAS	Bellevue
Cristian A. Jimenez-Thomas*	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Cale Johnson	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Chelsea Johnson	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Murrieta, Calif.
Jamie Johnson*■	Associate of General Studies	AGS	Dubuque
Cleo Ren'ee Jones	Business Administration	Certificate	Dubuque
Lindsey Jones*	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Decorah
Alyssa Jordan*	Associate of Arts	AA	Dyersville
Emma Rene Julius*■	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Muscatine
Kambryn M. Keller	Dental Assisting	Diploma	East Dubuque, Ill.
Destiny Jean Kemp*	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Guttenberg
Marissa Kemp	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Austin Kennedy	Computer Analyst - Business and Web Programming	AAS	Evanston, Ill.
Alyssa G. Kirby	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Kristina Violet Kirschbaum	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Bagley, Wis.

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Skyler A. Klaas	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Hazel Green, Wis.
Quinton Klein	Social Work	AA	Dubuque
Rylee Klemann	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Maquoketa
Nevaeh Klenzman	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Kieler, Wis.
Sedija Klicic	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Madyson Kloser*	Graphic Design	AAS	Dyersville
Kathryn Kluesner	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Worthington
Madison Knapp	Business Administration	AAS	Cascade
Kaitlyn Knockel	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Ellison Knopp	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Peosta
Melanie Knuth	Respiratory Care	AAS	Galena, Ill.
Renya Knuth*■	Associate of Science	AS	Rockton, Ill.
Makayla L. Koelker	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dyersville
Brittany Kay Kolfenbach	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Lanie Sue Konzen	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Farley
Samantha A. Koppes	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Monmouth
Daniel Kramer	Welding Welding (GMAW)	Diploma Certificate	Cascade
Natalie C. Kuhle*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Sydney Noelle Ladd-Winders	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Lake Geneva
Brian Laird	Business Administration	Certificate	Dubuque
Hannah Lake	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Tianna Laue	Associate of Science	AS	Worthington
Jayden Nicole LeGassick	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Manchester
Hannah Lehnhoff	Practical Nursing	Diploma	East Dubuque, Ill.
Lauren A. Lloyd*	Accounting Specialist	AAS	Dubuque
Ashlea Lowe	Practical Nursing	Diploma	East Dubuque, Ill.
Evan Lubben	Automotive Mechanics	Diploma	Earlville

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Crystal Luna	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Asbury
Dave Lynn	Graphic Design	AAS	Dubuque
Whitney Lyons	Associate of Arts	AA	Peosta
Madilyn Malone	Business Exercise Science and Kinesiology	AA AA	Dubuque
Cody Martin	Automotive Mechanics	Diploma	Dubuque
Madison O. Martin*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Sydney Martin	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Milan, Ill.
Kelleigh Ann Martins	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Luana
Grady L. Mather	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	Edgewood
Michael A. Mattson	Computer Analyst - Network Administration & Tech Support	AAS	Lansing
Racey Maun	Associate of Arts	AA	Marshall Islands
Hannah Mayberry	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Andrew Mayne	CNC Machinist Technician	Diploma	Dubuque
Emily M. McAuliffe*	Data Analytics	Certificate	Peosta
Dana M. McCann	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Antoinette McCauley	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Chicago, Ill.
Brooke L. McCollough	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Fennimore, Wis.
Lillian McDermott	Accounting Clerk	Diploma	Eldridge
Mallory McDonald	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Tyler A. McDonald	Criminal Justice	AAS	Dubuque
Hailey McEowen	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Kaylyn Rae McGuire*■	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Darlington, Wis.
Christopher J. Meier	Industrial Maintenance Technician	AAS	East Dubuque, Ill.
Amy M. Meisenburg	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Ashley Rain Meyer	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Tiffany Meyer	Associate of Science	AS	Manchester
James Mihalakis	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque

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Amber Miles	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Dubuque
Samantha J. Miller*■	Graphic Design	AAS	Farley
Nicholas James Miner*	Industrial Maintenance Technician	Diploma	Perry
Morgan Montgomery	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Galena, Ill.
Taylor Mowry	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Benton, Wis.
Alexander Murdah*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Iowa City
Anathea Murray*■	Psychology	AA	Flagstaff, Ariz.
Emily Crystal Navarro*	Associate of Arts Radiologic Technology	AA AAS	Castalia
Allison Nefzger*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Earlville
Nicholas Nelson	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Peosta
Annika Neumann	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Dubuque
Claire Neumann	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Holy Cross
Katelyn Marie Newcomb	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Potosi, Wis.
Morgan Pamela Noel	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Megan Lynn O'Brien	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Jessica R. Oclon	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Maquoketa
Brandon L. O'Meara	CNC Machinist Technician	Diploma	Dubuque
Mackenzie M. Osmond*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Green Bay, Wis.
Austin C. Paisley	Computer Analyst - Network Administration & Tech Support	AAS	Peosta
Tanner Payne	Business Administration Business Administration Finance	AAS Certificate AAS	Colesburg
Danny William Phelps II	Automotive Mechanics	Diploma	Dubuque
Ellen May Pierce	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Hanover, Ill.
Miracle Pinkston	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Alicia Plein	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque

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Alyssa E. Ploeger	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Peosta
Sara Anne Potts	Psychology	AA	Earlville
Adeline A. Priebe	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Ty Printy*	Welding	Diploma	Dubuque
Veda R. Putz	Associate of Arts	AA	New Vienna
Jalen M. Quick*	Gas Utility Construction and Service	Diploma	Ryan
Alora Rapp-Uptegraph*	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Kameron Joseph Rector	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Camille Anne Reed	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Avery Regan	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Dawn Reiff	Accounting Clerk	Diploma	Farley
Reece M. Reiger*	Computer Analyst - Business and Web Programming	AAS	Galena, Ill.
Carter J. Reisdorf	Welding Welding (GMAW)	Diploma Certificate	Dubuque
Mateah Lyn Reisdorf	Paralegal	AAS	Dubuque
Andre Reyes Leyva*	Industrial Automation & Mechatronics Industrial Maintenance Technician	AAS AAS	Dubuque
Hannah Richard*■	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Kieler, Wis.
Emma G. Rielly	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Darlington, Wis.
Anthony Ries	Associate of Arts	AA	Bernard
James Michael Roberts*	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Holy Cross
Aimee Robinson	Accounting Clerk Accounting Specialist	Diploma AAS	Dubuque
Amanda Kathryn Roeth*■	Associate of Science	AS	Dubuque
Landon Rogers*	Associate of Arts	AA	Cuba City, Wis.
Joseph Ross	Engineering Technology	AAS	Dubuque
Peggy R. Ruden*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Bernard
Ashley A. Runde	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Livingston, Wis.
John Saunders	Automotive Mechanics	Diploma	Dubuque

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Michael Schilling	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	Colesburg
Joseph Schlickman II*■	Graphic Design	AAS	East Dubuque, Ill.
Madyson Schlie*	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Breckin J. Schneider*	Industrial Maintenance Technician	Diploma	Hazel Green, Wis.
Gaven Schneider	Business Administration	AAS	Miles
Nicole Schroeder	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Farley
Shai Schultdt	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Hopkinton
Adrey A. Schumacher	Paralegal	AAS	Dubuque
Mitchell D. Schuster	Automotive Mechanics	Diploma	Farley
Olivia M. Schwartz*■	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Katelyn K. Scott*	Criminal Justice	AAS	Manchester
Madison M. Skemp	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Dubuque
Chloe Smith	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Olivia Smith	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Taryn E. Smith*■	Associate of Arts	AA	Manchester
Chloey Spautz	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Tammy L. Spielbauer	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Guttenberg
Kylee R. Splinter	Associate of Arts	AA	Sherrill
Teri Keona Steele	Associate of Arts	AA	Chicago, Ill.
Bailey Stephenson	Associate of Arts	AA	Hazel Green, Wis.
Logan B. Stevenson	Computer Analyst - Business and Web Programming	AAS	Charlotte
Grace I. Stortz	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Decorah
Miranda S. Strauser	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Manchester
Timothy S. Swenka	Automotive Mechanics	Diploma	Manchester
Samantha J. Szalkowski■	Associate of Arts	AA	Peosta
Megan Marie Tallman	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	New Vienna
Briche't Tate*	Respiratory Care	AAS	Clinton

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Bobby E. Tedore	History	AA	Dubuque
Mikaylah L. Temperley	Biology	AS	Dubuque
Trinity Nicole Tenney*▪	Associate of Arts	AA	Maquoketa
Tiffany Theisen	Associate of Arts	AA	Colesburg
Cherylyn Thompson	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	East Dubuque, Ill.
Riley A. Tigges*▪	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Rachel Ruth Timmerman	Associate of General Studies Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	AGS Diploma Certificate	Dubuque
Ryan Daniel Traeger	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	Grundy Center
Katelyn Turbett*	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Kaden C. Turner	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	East Dubuque, Ill.
Lucas M. Tyler*	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Matthew R. Vaassen	Associate of Arts	AA	Asbury
Hendrik Christiaan van Pelt*	Associate of Arts	AA	Scherpenzeel, Netherlands
Paisley B. Vine*	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Dylan Vondra	Automotive Mechanics	Diploma	Dubuque
Alexandra Vosberg	Associate of Arts	AA	Cuba City, Wis.
Alivia Angelina Wagner	Business Administration	AAS	LaMotte
Cody James Wagner*▪	Business Administration	AAS	Dubuque
Allyson Grace Wartick	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Dubuque
Frank D. Washington	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Dubuque
Adam Wedewer *	Accounting Specialist	AAS	Dyersville
Tucker John Weimerskirch	Associate of General Studies Sports Administration	AGS Certificate	Dubuque
Carter J. Welbes*	Welding	Diploma	Asbury
Madisyn Welborn*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Dubuque
Ryan Welter	Associate of General Studies Sports Administration	AGS Certificate	Farley

## Graduates 2024-2025

<u>Graduate</u>	<u>Program of Study</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Raleigh J. Wentz	Heating and Air Conditioning	Diploma	Cuba City, Wis.
Kolton K. Werges	Diesel Mechanics	Diploma	Decorah
Debbie J. Wessels▪	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Cascade
Maci Lillian Wessels	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Farley
Kathryn Marie White*▪	Associate of Arts	AA	Galena, Ill.
Samantha Roshone White	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque
Mariah Wiemerslage	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Prairie du Chien, Wis.
Samantha Wienen*▪	Biology	AS	Galena, Ill.
Makenzie Marie Wiest*	Radiologic Technology	AAS	Cassville, Wis.
Terry R. Willenborg*	Applied Management	AAS	Dubuque
Morgan Lyn Wills	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Galena, Ill.
Kayla Wills-Casper	Medical Assistant	Diploma	Galena, Ill.
Foster Wolfe	Industrial Automation & Mechatronics	AAS	New Vienna
Arianna Wolter*	Criminal Justice	AA	Epworth
Jaylynn Zalaznik	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Bernard
Josephine Zalaznik	Dental Assisting	Diploma	Farley
Benjamin W. Zubler	Associate of Arts	AA	Dubuque

*Every attempt has been made to provide an accurate listing of graduates. This listing includes those known at time of publication, but does not constitute an official record of graduation.*

- \* Graduation Honors, cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher prior to commencement
- Member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society

# Awards Conferred

## **Associate of Arts (AA)**

This degree is issued to a person who completes a course of study designed to prepare the graduate for transfer to a four-year institution. The degree permits completion of the equivalent of the first two years of a baccalaureate degree in numerous institutions.

## **Associate of Science (AS)**

This degree is issued to a person who completes a course of study designed to prepare the graduate for transfer to a four-year institution for the purpose of earning a baccalaureate degree.

## **Associate of General Studies (AGS)**

This degree is issued to a person who completes an individualized course of study primarily designed for acquisition of a broad educational background rather than the pursuit of a specific emphasis in an associate's degree or professional/technical program.

## **Associate of Applied Science (AAS)**

This degree is issued to a person who graduates from a two-year technology program which consists of high-quality technical courses supplemented by a transferable core of general studies.

## **Diploma**

A diploma is issued to a person who graduates from a vocational curriculum of at least nine months but less than two years in length, and it specifies the type of curriculum completed.

## **Certificate**

A certificate is issued to a person who completes training in a specific occupational field. Certificate sequences are designed to enhance occupational competencies, employment marketability, specialized knowledge and skills.

## Commencement History and Tradition

The commencement ceremony is one of the most formal ceremonies in an academic institution, involving traditions that have their roots in medieval secular and religious institutions. It is also a time to celebrate the accomplishments and academic successes of our degree candidates. The caps, gowns and hoods worn at college and university functions date back to the Middle Ages. Monks and students of that time wore them to keep warm in the damp, drafty halls of learning. From these practical origins they have developed into the acceptable ceremonial attire, which symbolizes scholarly achievement.

### Gowns

Gowns for associate's and bachelor's degrees are black with unadorned pointed sleeves. The master's degree gown is also black with an oblong sleeve, square-cut at the rear with an arc cut-away at the front. Doctoral gowns have bell-shaped sleeves that are allowed three bars of velvet, while a five-inch velvet trim of the appropriate color adorns the front. The word "regalia" means decorations or insignia indicative of an office; in academia, the more color, ropes, sashes or velvet on the gowns, the higher the academic degree.

### Hoods

The hood gives color and meaning to the academic attire. Its silk lining bears the color of the institution conferring the degree. The hood is bordered with velvet of a prescribed width and color to indicate the field of learning to which the degree pertains. The velvet edging of two, three or five inches designate the bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree respectively. Hood lengths also vary from three-feet (bachelor's), three and a half feet (master's) and four feet (doctoral). The longer the hood, the higher the degree.

### Caps

Mortarboards or caps are usually square with a tassel attached to the middle point of the top of the cap. Tassels may be black, colored to indicate the discipline in which the degree was earned, or gold in the case of the doctoral cap or tam. At commencement, graduates wear the tassel on the right side, moving it to the left when their degree is conferred. Faculty and staff participating in the ceremony wear the tassel to the left throughout the proceedings.

### Cords

Students who qualify for an honors distinction are to be highly commended for their academic achievements. They are recognized in the commencement program and by the gold cords or sashes they wear over their gowns. Graduating veterans and military members are recognized for their distinguished service with a red, white and blue regalia cord. The cord colors replicate those of our nation's flag to denote the valor, excellence and sacrifice these individuals have exemplified in their service to the United States Armed Forces. Graduating TRIO Student Support Services participants are recognized by wearing a red, black and white cord.

## Military Challenge Coins

Veterans and active duty students graduating from Northeast Iowa Community College are awarded a commemorative Challenge Coin. Challenge Coins are pocket-sized medallions rooted in military tradition. Commanders use these types of coins to honor service members for their hard work, dedication and achievement. The College is proud to present a Challenge Coin to graduates in the military to acknowledge their service and commitment to our country.

# Northeast Iowa Community College History

In July of 1966, the State Board of Education approved the formation of the Area One Vocational-Technical School with Calmar as its administrative headquarters. The district approved included public school districts in Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek counties, as well as sections of Bremer, Buchanan and Mitchell counties.

On September 5, 1967, Area One Vocational-Technical School had 170 students enrolled in 12 programs. The school also broke ground on construction of college facilities on the 210-acre Calmar campus, which now includes Darwin L. Schrage Administration, Max Clark Hall, Wilder Business Center, Industrial Technologies Building, Student Center, Agricultural Technologies Building, Beef Education Facility, Child Development Center and Iowa's Dairy Center, a dairy education center and applied research laboratory built in 2000.

The merged Area One Vocational-Technical School was enlarged in 1970 to include the public school districts in Dubuque and Delaware counties and sections of Jones and Jackson counties. In 1971, the school began offering career education programs in Dubuque at several locations throughout the city, including the Roshek building.

In April 1979, Area One Vocational-Technical School changed its name to Northeast Iowa Technical Institute. This same year, the Peosta campus was established. The Peosta campus currently includes the main building, the Gas Utilities and Construction building, a Child Development Center, the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety and the Industrial Technologies Building, which opened in August 2010.

In 1988, formal approval of community college status for Northeast Iowa Technical Institute was granted by the State Board of Education to develop curricula and programs that would lead to awarding Associate of Arts, Associate of Science and Associate of Applied Science degrees. The school's name was changed to Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC).

NICC has since expanded to include service locations in Cresco, Dubuque, New Hampton, Manchester, Oelwein and Waukon. The purpose of these locations is to bring education and training to students in their communities and to serve as a catalyst for economic development. In 2008, the Town Clock Business Center in Dubuque was expanded to include a one-stop center with Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) and East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA).

In December 2007, taxpayers passed, by supermajority, a \$35 million renovation and construction bond levy for the College. The funds supported construction and renovation of the industrial technologies buildings on each campus, the Student Center on the Calmar campus, renovations to the health and science labs and a new library on the Peosta campus, the Darwin L. Schrage Administration Building in Calmar, and the Wilder Business Center, which opened in January 2013.

In fall 2011, the Aspen Institute Community College Excellence Program named NICC to the top ten of community colleges in the nation for the College's successful graduate outcomes, academic excellence and community impact.

Northeast Iowa Community College district voters approved a continuation of a \$39 million bond levy in September 2018. The funding supported renovations to the Peosta campus Main Building and Max Clark Hall on the Calmar campus and updates to educational programming and services, infrastructure, security and technology.

On July 1, 2022, Dr. Herbert Riedel began his tenure as the new president of Northeast Iowa Community College. Under Dr. Riedel's leadership, the College continued its mission to provide in-demand education and training focused on improving lives, driving business success and advancing community vitality.

On Oct. 16, 2023, Northeast Iowa Community College named current Vice President for Finance and Administration, David Dahms, as the College's acting President. After serving as acting President for ten months, David Dahms was named Interim President on Aug. 19, 2024.

# Northeast Iowa Community College

## Mission Statement

Northeast Iowa Community College provides in-demand education and training focused on improving lives, driving business success and advancing community vitality.

## Vision Statement

Northeast Iowa Community College will be the premier source for in-demand education, workforce training and partnerships, through innovative thinking and talent development.

<b>Service:</b>	We listen, identify, and respond to the needs and expectations of our internal and external communities.
<b>Respect:</b>	We show consideration for one another and encourage diverse perspectives to build trust, cooperation, and accountability.
<b>Stewardship:</b>	We use our resources in a responsible, impactful, and sustainable manner.
<b>Innovation:</b>	We foster the development and advancement of ideas through individual and team creativity.
<b>Integrity:</b>	We are ethically accountable to ourselves and others.
<b>Resiliency:</b>	We learn from our experiences, refocus, and seize the opportunity to improve and persist.

## Board of Trustees

Jim Anderson, Chair • Decorah  
Kathy Gunderson, Vice Chair • Postville  
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Wendy Knight • Dubuque  
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## Thank you!

The success of Northeast Iowa Community College students and graduates depends on the support of many individuals, donors, community organizations and business and industry partners throughout the year. By creating scholarships for students, providing input on academic programs as advisors, donating equipment to the College for training purposes and enhancing our students' learning experiences, community members make a difference in our graduates' future careers. Northeast Iowa Community College also expresses its gratitude to the families of students for providing the critical support they need while earning their college degrees and diplomas.