



Class of 2025-2026
Commencement

Friday, May 15, 2026

5 pm

University of Dubuque
Heritage Center

NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Celebrate your achievement!

Share your commencement photos on social media and tag @neiowacc.

#niccgrad2026



Scan for a
Digital Program

Order of Ceremony

* Audience Please Stand.

Processional*

Advancement of Colors* _____ Dubuque Marine Corps League

National Anthem* _____ Brianna Ensign
Soloist, NICC Alumni

Introductions _____ Amy Gaffney
Vice President for Student Services, Northeast Iowa Community College

Welcome _____ Nick Fisch
Northeast Iowa Community College Board of Trustees

Commencement Address _____ Jordan Fullan
Co-CEO, HODGE

Student Remarks _____ Tyler Bly
Associate of Arts, '26

Presentation of Class _____ Kathleen Nacos-Burds
Vice President of Teaching and Learning, Northeast Iowa Community College

Conferring of Degrees & Diplomas _____ Dave Dahms
President, Northeast Iowa Community College

Musical Selection _____ Val Kennedy and Brianna Ensign
Accompanied by Troy Troftgruben

Recessional*

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

Commencement Speakers



Jordan Fullan

Co-CEO, HODGE

Commencement Address

Jordan Fullan serves as Co-CEO of HODGE, a Dubuque-headquartered material handling and logistics company she leads alongside her brother, Zach Hodge. A fourth-generation leader in her family business, Jordan is committed to honoring the values that shaped HODGE while

guiding the company toward continued innovation and long-term success. In 2025, she became the majority owner, marking a historic milestone as HODGE became a woman-owned business.

Jordan is a devoted wife, mother, business owner, athlete and mentor who believes deeply in helping others reach their full potential. She leads with intention and purpose, grounded in the power of mindset, the courage to get comfortable being uncomfortable and the discipline of building healthy habits. These principles shape her approach to life and leadership, and she inspires those around her to lead with clarity and confidence.



Tyler Bly

Associate of Arts, '26

Student Remarks

Tyler Bly is a Dubuque native through and through, a writer whose journey toward his Associate of Arts degree has been a 26-year masterclass in resilience. First enrolling at NICC in 1999, Tyler returned in 2014 to win the creative fiction category of the NICC writing contest—now the Larry Kruse Memorial — and see his work published in Julien's Journal. After a career in the trucking industry was cut short by a motorcycle accident, he returned to his studies in late 2025 with a renewed focus. Now a member of TRIO Student Support Services and the Creative Writing Club, Tyler is graduating in 2026, finishing what he started and honoring a family legacy that spans both the local publishing and lumber industries.

Outside the classroom, Tyler is a resourceful independent contractor and a “tried-and-true” outdoorsman who finds clarity hiking and exploring the Mississippi River. Driven by his role as a father to his daughter, Morgan, and a deep sense of duty to his community, Tyler is looking toward a career in journalism or community outreach. He aims to give back to the area that's given him so much and use his creative voice to “spread some knowledge, craft and love,” ensuring that through his writing, people walk away with a little more than they had before.

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.

2025-26 Graduates

* *Graduation Honors, cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher prior to commencement*

▪ *Member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society*

Jada Abitz

Dubuque

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Randa Ahmed

Dubuque

Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Yaryna Allison*

Dubuque

Accounting Specialist, AAS

Abram J. Ambrosy**

Zwingle

Associate of Science, AS

Zoe Ament

New Vienna

Business Administration, AAS

Evan D. Anderson*

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

William Bennett Anderson*

Galena, Ill.

Welding, Diploma

Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Ava Kathryn Marie Astgen

Durango

Associate of Arts, AA

Lucas Barnhart

Greeley

Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Rachel A. Barrett

Dixon, Ill.

Medical Assistant, Diploma

Rosa Esteffany Barrios

Cascade

Early Childhood Education, Certificate

Sarah A. Bartlett

Dubuque

Paralegal, AAS

Dulton Bengtson*

Braham, MN

Welding, Diploma

Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Beauregard Benson

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

John J. Berning*

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Associate of Science, AS

Alexis M. Bierman

Platteville, Wis.

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Luke C. Bies

Dubuque

Computer Analyst - Networking

Administration and Tech Support, AAS

Kyle Blasen

Dubuque

Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Tyler John Bly

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Andra Borgerding

Epworth
Associate of Arts, AA

Becca Brandenburg

Dubuque
Early Childhood, Diploma

Natalie Breen

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Charles Brehm

Farley
Diesel Mechanics, Diploma

Laney Breiner

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Ty Breiner

Sherrill
Psychology, AA

Taylor Breitbach

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Alicia Breitfelder

Colorado Springs, Colo.
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Gracie Breitsprecker

Potosi, Wis.
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Lauren Grace Brennan*

Clinton
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Brianna Renee Brillhart*

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Michelle Marie Brooks

Chicago, Ill.
Associate of Arts, AA

Heaven Debra Brotherton

Hanover, Ill.
Practical Nursing, Diploma

James Shay Brown

Dubuque
Accounting Clerk, Diploma

Jodi Lynn Burgin

Edgewood
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Amy Lynn Busch*

Lancaster, Wis.
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Kassandra E. Caceres*

Joliet, Ill.
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Antonio Darshaun Cain, Jr.

Chicago, Ill.
Associate of Arts, AA

Mason T. Caldwell**

Asbury
Computer Analyst - Networking Administration and Tech Support, AAS

Darrion M. Campbell

Dubuque
Psychology, AA

Patricia, Capalla*

Epworth
Administrative Office Associate, Diploma

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Mark S. Carlson**

Orange, Calif.

*Industrial Automation and Mechatronics, AAS
Industrial Maintenance Technician, AAS*

Yulissa Caro Garcia*

Galena, Ill.

Dental Assisting, Diploma

Heather Casey

Epworth

Medical Assistant, Diploma

Lillian Chapman

Dubuque

Dental Assisting, Diploma

Alexsandra Chavez

Delaware

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Olivia Lou Christopher*

Highlandville

Respiratory Care, AAS

Ezekiel John Church

Cresco

*Computer Analyst - Networking
Administration and Tech Support, AAS*

Joel Cipriano

Dyersville

Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Cheri Clark**

Ottumwa

Accounting Clerk, Diploma

Skyler Clemen

Dubuque

*Associate of Arts, AA
Associate of Science, AS*

Kasey L. Coakley

LaMotte

Business Administration, AAS

Ruby Coba

Dubuque

Dental Assisting, Diploma

Ashley Cocayne

Dubuque

Medical Assistant, Diploma

Daigon Coker

Dubuque

Welding GMAW Certificate

Anna Coniglio

Oskaloosa

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Ashley Elizabeth Cook*

Dubuque

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Brianna L. Cook

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Makayla Corkery

Manchester

Dental Assisting, Diploma

Ashley Kay Cornelius

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Margaret Johanna Coutchie*

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Brandi A. Cowan

Galesburg, Ill.

Associate of Arts, AA

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Ashlin Cox

Dubuque
Marketing & Digital Media, AAS

Brianna L. Cox

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Lucas J. Cox

Dubuque
Data Analytics Certificate

Matt Cox

East Dubuque, Ill.
Data Analytics Certificate

Cayden T. Davies

Edgewood
Business Administration, AAS

Logan William Dean

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Jillayne Hope Degeer*

Dubuque
Medical Assistant, Diploma

Jayden Randal DeMoss-Brown*

Monticello
Welding, Diploma
Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Macy Ann Deutmeyer

Manchester
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Samantha V. Diaz

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Rosie Douglas

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Ashley Emma Dragusica

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Shallan E. Dreessens

Platteville, WI
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Michelle Droessler

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Sierra Yesia Dunwoody

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Olivia Chantel Edison

Dubuque
Dental Assisting, Diploma

Bin Edwards

Dubuque
Welding, Diploma

Jessica L. Edwards

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Seth Edwards*

Dubuque
Associate of Science, AS
Welding, Diploma

Katy Elliott

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Samantha Elsmore*

Cuba City, Wis.
Medical Assistant, Diploma

Rachel Ann Erickson*

Luana
Paralegal, AAS

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Evan Eubanks*

Warner Robins
Associate of Science, AS

Gabrielle Marie Fagerlind

Peosta
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Jordan Marie Fangman**

Monticello
Marketing & Digital Media, AAS

Matthew Fenton*

Dyersville
Heating and Air Conditioning, Diploma

Carly Fischer

Peosta
Radiologic Technology, AAS

William FitzPatrick*

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Lane Folstad**

Dubuque
Graphic Design, AAS

Sidney Marie Fondell

Bellevue
Associate of Arts, AA

Kristopher Dwaine Frantzen

Saint Donatus
Welding, Diploma
Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Colby R. Frederick**

Dubuque
Psychology, AA

Nichole M. Freer

Davenport
Diesel Mechanics, Diploma

Keaira Elizabeth Funston

East Dubuque, Ill.
Biology, AS

Miles P. Gacioch

Asbury
Industrial Automation and Mechatronics, AAS
Industrial Maintenance Technician, AAS

Kylie L. Gansen

Farley
Associate of Arts, AA

Ethan Michael Gassmann*

Asbury
Associate of Science, AS

Cassie S. Gau

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Brelynn M. Gednalski

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Jenna Gerst

Delhi
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Luke Giegerich

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Chloe N. Goedken*

Petersburg
Dental Assisting, Diploma

Ryleigh A. Goerdts*

Elkader
Associate of Arts, AA

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Megan J. Gower

Dubuque

Business Administration, AAS

Business Administration, Certificate

Brett C. Graney*

Dubuque

Computer Analyst - Networking

Administration and Tech Support, AAS

Ty Gudenkauf

Monticello

Associate of Arts, AA

Gabrielle Hall**

Dubuque

Respiratory Care, AAS

Hayle R. Hall

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Dakota A. Hamann

Strawberry Point

Associate of Arts, AA

Erin Hansen

Dubuque

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Addison Hanten

Peosta

Business Administration, AAS

Gavin Harrington*

Council Bluffs

Associate of Arts, AA

Laura Harris

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Joel A. Hartman

Dubuque

Business Administration, AAS

Katelynn A. Harvey

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Rachel Hedley*

Dubuque

Welding, Diploma

Hilary Heim

Bondurant

Administrative Office Management, AAS

Carter Glen Henke*

Strawberry Point

*Gas Utility Construction and Service,
Diploma*

Lauren K. Hess**

Peosta

Radiologic Technology, AAS

Julia Hilbun

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Alicia Marie Hilby**

Milwaukee, Wis.

Business Administration, AAS

Amy Lynn Hildebrand

Dyersville

Associate of Arts, AA

Hayden J. Hingtgen*

Kieler, Wis.

Welding, Diploma

Welding (GMAW), Certificate

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Zachary Holland*

Johnson Creek, Wis.
Welding, Diploma
Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Jazmine A. Homa

Sanford, Maine
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Makayla Honshel*

Hazel Green, Wis.
Marketing & Digital Media, AAS

Faith Hoover

Maquoketa
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Jayden Alexander Hoskins

Dubuque
Business Administration, AAS

Megan Evelyn Howard

La Porte City
Accounting Clerk, Diploma
Business Administration, AAS

Kaia M. Hunter

Dyersville
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Lindsay Hute*

Maquoketa
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Callie Ihns-Petersen

Lost Nation
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Marissa D. Iverson

Dubuque
Computer Analyst - Business and Web Programming, AAS

Katie Jackson

St. Charles
Health Information Technology, AAS

Lauren J. Jacobus*

Hazel Green, Wis.
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Hunter Jewell

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Jennifer Jo Jewell*

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Cleo Ren'ee Jones

Chicago, Ill.
Business Administration, AAS

Andrew Kaalberg*

Cascade
CNC Machinist Technician, Diploma

Camryn M. Kapparos

Potosi, Wis.
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Brendan Kemp

Dubuque
Heating and Air Conditioning, Diploma

Marissa Kemp

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Ty V. Kenan

Rippey
Associate of Arts, AA

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Kiahra King

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Madeleine Kircher

Dubuque
Computer Analyst - Business and Web Programming, AAS

Sage Kirpes

Dubuque
Business Administration, AAS

Lauren R. Klauer

Dubuque
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Wendy Lizbeth Klein

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Michael M. Kleinhans, Jr.*

Kewaskum, WI
Sports Administration, Certificate

Rachel Kloft

Asbury
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Anna Kluesner

Farley
Associate of Arts, AA

Carly Jane Kluesner

Dyersville
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Kathryn Kluesner

Worthington
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Monicz Knepper

Sherrill
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Kaitlyn Knockel

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Makayla Koelker

Dyersville
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Maija E. Kompsie

Des Moines
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Molly Kraft

Peosta
Associate of Arts, AA

Allie M. Kramer

Epworth
Associate of Arts, AA

Megan Rose Kremer*

LaMotte
*Agriculture Business, AAS
Animal Science, Certificate*

Isabel Marie Krier

Dubuque
Associate of General Studies, AGS

Kiara Kronlage

Epworth
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Shane Martin Kudela*

Deerfield, Ill.
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Noah Kulper

Dubuque
Heating and Air Conditioning, Diploma

Sydney N. Ladd-Winders

Lake Geneva, WI
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Elliot Lahey

Dubuque
Diesel Mechanics, Diploma

Jackson W.A. Lampe*

Dubuque
Associate of Science, AS

Olivia N. Lange

Davenport
CNC Machinist Technician, Diploma

Austin Larson*

East Dubuque, Ill.
Associate of Arts, AA

Savanna Lehman

Dyersville
Associate of Arts, AA

Hannah Lehnhoff

East Dubuque, Ill.
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Lacey Lettman

Peosta
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Allison E. Leverentz

Dubuque
Medical Assistant, Diploma

Chrystina Lewis*

Dubuque
Gas Utility Construction and Service, Diploma

Benjamin David Lindberg*

Wayzata, Minn.
Welding, Diploma
Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Colleen Loney**

Dubuque
Marketing & Digital Media, AAS

Cameron M. Lovett**

Dubuque
Computer Analyst - Networking
Administration and Tech Support, AAS

Jamarious T. Lucius*

Peosta
Psychology, AA

Crystal Luna

Asbury
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Isabel Ava Luna*

Dubuque
Dental Assisting, Diploma

Lukas J. Mackedanz

Dubuque
Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Eva Madsen*

Cascade
Associate of Arts, AA

Alli Martin

Bentonville, Ark.
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Anthony I. Martin

Hazel Green, Wis.
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Olivia Martins

Monona
Respiratory Care, AAS

Katelyn Marie McCann

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Jennifer M. McCarron

Peosta
Marketing & Digital Media, AAS

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Ronesha McClellan

Dubuque

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Alyssa A. McCraney

Dubuque

Early Childhood, Diploma

Early Childhood Education, Certificate

Mallory McDonald

Dubuque

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Emma G. McKeon*

Peosta

Accounting Specialist, AAS

Grant M. McLane*

Dyersville

Computer Analyst - Networking

Administration and Tech Support, AAS

Ella Meyer

Epworth

Early Childhood, Diploma

Early Childhood Education, Certificate

Kael M. Meyers

Elma

Exercise Science and Kinesiology, AA

Ella Marie Middendorf*

Hazel Green, Wis.

Business Administration, AAS

Amber Miles

Dubuque

Associate of General Studies, AGS

Ava J. Miller*

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Sarah Miller**

Peosta

Associate of Arts, AA

Nicholas J. Miner*

Chadron, Neb.

Industrial Automation and Mechatronics, AAS

Industrial Maintenance Technician, AAS

Laney Minger**

Dubuque

Associate of General Studies, AGS

Korey Monahan

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Kaidan Moore

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Hector Vladmimir Moran, Jr.

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Evelin Moran-Gonzalez

Peosta

Associate of Arts, AA

Tierra Elizabeth Morgan

Earlville

Dental Assisting, Diploma

Caleb Mottet

Asbury

Secondary Education, AA

Taylor N. Mowry

Benton, Wis.

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Joseph Mullen*

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Tiana Alecia Muntz

Dubuque

Administrative Office Associate, Diploma

Associate of General Studies, AGS

Alicia Murphy**

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Ashlynn Murphy

Dubuque

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Enola Mustedanagic**

Asbury

Associate of Arts, AA

Associate of Science, AS

Gul Naz

Dubuque

Business Administration, Certificate

Meah Neal

Peosta

Associate of Arts, AA

Leah Neiers

Manchester

Radiologic Technology, AAS

Natalie A. Nenne*

Hudson, Ill.

Associate of Arts, AA

Emily Newmister

Guttenberg

Associate of Arts, AA

Joseph Robert Noel*

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Morgan Pamela Noel

Dubuque

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Pierce W. Oberfoell*

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Jaden D. O'Brien

Dubuque

Marketing & Digital Media, AAS

Heather Oehlerking

Peosta

Associate of General Studies, AGS

Business Administration, Certificate

Leah C. Omeara Scharpf

Dubuque

Medical Assistant, Diploma

Mackenzie Mae Osmond*

Green Bay, Wis.

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Kinnick Osterhaus

Dyersville

Diesel Mechanics, Diploma

Kayla A. Otting*

Earlville

Associate of Arts, AA

Alyssa Owens

Scales Mound, Ill.

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Austin C. Paisley

Peosta

Computer Analyst - Networking

Administration and Tech Support, AAS

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Cameryn Marie Pauls

Asbury
Respiratory Care, AAS

Maria Del Rocio Perez Mena*

Mexico City, Mexico
Associate of Arts, AA

Ivana Pernell

Dubuque
Paralegal, AAS

Peter Phan*

Stockton, Calif.
Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Danielle E. Pickens*

Oelwein
Associate of Arts, AA

Miracle Pinkston

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Megan M. Pins

Dubuque
Business Administration, AAS

Alicia Plein

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Chloe Ann Plumley*

Peosta
Radiologic Technology, AAS

Renee S. Poff*

Dubuque
*Computer Analyst - Business and Web
Programming, AAS*

Sara Anne Potts

Earlville
Psychology, AA

Ella S. Pregler

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Adeline Priebe

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Megan Puls

Cuba City, Wis.
Medical Assistant, Diploma

Miranda Ramer

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Maximus Ramirez

Dubuque
Associate of General Studies, AGS

Owen D. Ranson

Dubuque
Associate of Science, AS

Halana Rose Tokiwa Reed*

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Dawn Reiff

Farley
Accounting Specialist, AAS

Devin M. Reimer*

Garnavillo
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Mitchell K. Reimer

Dubuque
Engineering Technology, AAS

Alexis Iana Reyes

Hazel Green, Wis.
Practical Nursing, Diploma

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Madison Mae Rhomberg

Dubuque

Radiologic Technology, AAS

Shelby Jean Rice

Epworth

Respiratory Care, AAS

Kathryn Richardson

Galena, Ill.

Psychology, AA

Maddyx G. Rieniets

Hopkinton

Associate of Arts, AA

Deanna L. Roberson

Chicago, Ill.

Business Leadership, Certificate

Kristina Lynn Rodgers

Elizabeth, Ill.

Psychology, AA

Leonardo Roldan

Dubuque

Accounting Specialist, AAS

Jena Rowan

Bellevue

Radiologic Technology, AAS

Peggy Ruden*

Bernard

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Rachael Marie Rueckert**

Dubuque

Accounting Specialist, AAS

Brody Ruffridge

Dubuque

Business Administration, AAS

Ashley Avanelle Runde

Livingston, Wis.

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Kylie Sager

Vancouver, Wash.

Associate of General Studies, AGS

Logan Salow

Dyersville

Paramedic, AAS

Paramedic, Diploma

Mauricio Sanchez

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Anthony Sanchez-Vega

Santa Barbara, Calif.

Industrial Automation and Mechatronics, AAS

Industrial Maintenance Technician, AAS

Dreygon Lee Schear

Anamosa

Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Peyton Jared Schilling

Monticello

Business Administration, AAS

Jacob J. Schlarmann*

Hopkinton

Engineering Technology, AAS

Ashley Rose Schlecht*

Bellevue

Data Analytics, Certificate

Ashley Schmitt

Dyersville

Practical Nursing, Diploma

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Hannah E. Schmitt*

Cresco
Associate of Arts, AA

Grace C. Schmitz*

Dubuque
Early Childhood, Diploma
Early Childhood Education, Certificate

Samantha Schmitz

Dyersville
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Breckin J. Schneider*

Hazel Green, Wis.
Industrial Automation and Mechatronics, AAS
Industrial Maintenance Technician, AAS

Christi Lynn Schrodt*■

Galena, Ill.
Associate of Arts, AA

Madison Schroeder

Dubuque
Medical Assistant, Diploma

Nicole Schroeder

Farley
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Adrey Schumacher

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Adyson Kay Schwendinger

Anamosa
Accounting Clerk, Diploma

Dakota T. Scott

Windom, Minn.
Paramedic, AAS
Paramedic, Diploma

Hope E. Searles

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Alana Marie Seyer

Dubuque
Business Administration, AAS

Kapil Sharma

Delhi
Associate of Arts, AA

Carlee J. Sigwarth

Balltown
Dental Assisting, Diploma

Olivia Skemp*

Dubuque
Business Administration, AAS

Andrew Slaght

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Owen H. Slaght

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Allie Sparrgrove

Hazel Green, Wis.
Medical Assistant, Diploma

Theodore Andrew Speer

Dubuque
Associate of Science, AS

Alana Mary Splinter*

Kieler, Wis.
Business Administration, AAS

Ethan Stedman

Dubuque
Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Ann Steele*■

Garnavillo

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Cassie Lyn Steines

East Dubuque, Ill.

Associate of Arts, AA

Bria Claire Steinmeyer■

Grundy Center

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Kierra D. Stevenson

Chicago, Ill.

Medical Assistant, Diploma

Paige N. Stevenson*

Charlotte

Accounting Clerk, Diploma

Tiffany A. Stewart

Maquoketa

Medical Assistant, Diploma

Miranda S. Strauser

Manchester

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Maddan Streff*

Dubuque

Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Abbie Sullivan

Greeley

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Kaitlyn Thein

Edgewood

Dental Assisting, Diploma

Jaylen Theisen*

St. Donatus

Welding, Diploma

Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Lauren Theisen

Dyersville

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Courtney Kaylyn Thies

Monticello

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Sophia E. Thomas■

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

Brooke Tielbar

Manchester

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Cece Trenkamp*

Delhi

Graphic Design, AAS

Liliana Gabrielle Trentz-Joos■

Dubuque

Business Administration, AAS

Isabelle Marie Tsacudakis

Dubuque

Dental Assisting, Diploma

Kaleigh Tull

Bristow, Okla.

Associate of Arts, AA

Erin Ulbrich

New Vienna

Practical Nursing, Diploma

Allie J. Unsen

Dubuque

Criminal Justice, AA

Abigail Urban

Dubuque

Practical Nursing, Diploma

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Leyton Vaassen

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Paige VanNatta-Rowe*

Cuba City, Wis.
Associate of Arts, AA

Kaitlyn Laurel Vantiger*

Peosta
Dental Assisting, Diploma

Stephen Varga*

Peosta
Automotive Mechanics, Diploma

Matthew Vick

Manchester
History, AA

Adam Viner*

Dubuque
Industrial Automation & Mechatronics, AAS
Industrial Maintenance Technician, AAS

Corbin Wagenknecht*

Oelwein
Welding, Diploma
Welding (GMAW) Certificate

Kyler Wall

Dubuque
Welding, Diploma

Alexia Raelynn Walsh*■

Asbury
Associate of Arts, AA

Elizabeth M. Ward

Benton, Wis.
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Conner Warrick

Epworth
Welding, Diploma

Frank D. Washington

Dubuque
Associate of General Studies, AGS

Alyvia Johanna Waters

Dubuque
Dental Assisting, Diploma

Benjamin Weber

Earlville
Diesel Mechanics, Diploma

Natalie Weber*■

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Davin A. Weig

Dubuque
Associate of Arts, AA

Jadyn Welborn

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Madisyn Welborn*

Dubuque
Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Joseph Welch*

San Diego, Calif.
Welding (GMAW), Certificate

Madison Wemmer

Dubuque
Practical Nursing, Diploma

Hannah Elizabeth Wendling*

Dyersville
Dental Assisting, Diploma

GRADUATES

Class of 2025-2026

Maci Wessels

Farley

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Gianna E. Westhoff*■

Dyersville

Accounting Clerk, Diploma

Grace Mya Westphal

Durango

Associate of Arts, AA

Reed Whitaker

Dubuque

Industrial Automation and Mechatronics, AAS

Industrial Maintenance Technician, AAS

Danielle White

New Vienna

Associate of Arts, AA

Samantha M. White

Dubuque

Radiologic Technology, AAS

Benjamin Wiederholt*■

Plainfield

Associate of Arts, AA

Kajiyah L. Williams

Dubuque

Graphic Design, AAS

Morgan Lyn Wills

Galena, Ill.

Associate Degree Nursing, AAS

Linda Winders*■

Pottsville, Pa.

Health Information Technology, AAS

Symon Winsor*■

Luxemburg

Associate of General Studies, AGS

Inola Witt*

Maquoketa

Business Administration, AAS

Emily Kay Womeldorf*■

Decorah

Radiologic Technology, AAS

Ella Lynn Wulfekuhle*

Earlville

Associate of Arts, AA

Su Yamin*

Yangon, Myanmar

Marketing & Digital Media, AAS

William Joseph Yeo, III*■

Dubuque

Associate of Arts, AA

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 1966, the State Board of Education approved the formation of the Area I – Vocational-Technical School with Calmar as its administrative headquarters. This included the 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, career education programs in Calmar began with 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 the Darwin L. Schrage Administration Building, Max Clark Hall, Wilder Business Center, Industrial Technologies, Student Center, Agricultural Technologies, Child Development Center and Iowa's Dairy Center, a \$4.1 million dairy education center and applied research laboratory built in 2000.

The merged Area I 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, career education programs in Dubuque began at several locations throughout the city, including the Roshek building.

In April 1979, the Area I 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 most recently, the Industrial Technologies building, which opened in August 2010.

In 1988, the College was authorized by the Iowa Board of Education to award the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science and Associate of Applied Science degrees, as well as diplomas and certificates. The College also changed its name from Northeast Iowa Technical Institute 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 where they live 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 across the district approved, by a supermajority vote, a \$35 million renovation and construction bond levy for NICC. These funds supported construction and renovation of the industrial technologies buildings and health and science labs on each campus; renovations to the student center and Darwin L. Schrage Administration Building on the Calmar campus; a new library on the Peosta campus; and renovation of the Calmar campus Wilder Business Center, which opened in January 2013.

In fall 2011, the Aspen Institute Community College Excellence Program named NICC to the top 10 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 Main Building on the Peosta campus and Max Clark Hall on the Calmar campus, and updates to educational programming and services, infrastructure, security and technology.



Mission

Northeast Iowa Community College empowers learners and strengthens communities through accessible, high-quality, innovative education and training.



Vision

Northeast Iowa Community College will lead with intention and be forward-thinking in shaping and delivering education and workforce solutions.

Values

Respect

We value diverse perspectives and demonstrate consideration for one another, fostering trust, collaboration and accountability.

Innovate

We embrace creative solutions and forward-thinking strategies to excel in a changing world.

Serve

We listen and engage across our College and community, addressing needs and expectations while committing to sustainability in environmental, social and economic practices.

Engage

We prioritize clarity and open communication to build trust and foster meaningful connections.

Board of Trustees

Jim Anderson, *Chair* • Decorah

Kathy Gunderson, *Vice Chair* • Postville

John Finley • Elkader

Nick Fisch • Dubuque

Wendy Knight • Dubuque

Gary McAndrew • Peosta

Jason Norton • Dubuque

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Dave Dahms, *President*

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Lexi Wagner, *Vice President of Finance & Administration*

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Shea Herbst, *Executive Director of Marketing and Communications*

Connie Kuennen, *Executive Director of Human Resources*

Heather Groth, *Executive Assistant to the President and Board Secretary*

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.

Celebrate your achievement!

Share your commencement photos on social media and tag @neiowacc.

#niccgrad2026



**Scan for
a Digital
Program**