



TRUMAN
STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2026
COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 9, 2026
2:00 p.m.
Stokes Stadium

SPRING 2026 COMMENCEMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF GRADUATES

To commence is “to begin,” or “to start.” At the end of their college journey, our students begin a new chapter of their lives, as educated citizens who will protect our democracy and offer creative solutions to local, state, national and global problems.

Commencement is arguably the most exciting time of the academic year, if not of a student’s entire college journey. The Commencement ceremony celebrates the achievements of Truman State University students and honors the accomplishments of distinguished speakers and guests. Here are a few items that might be helpful as you plan your trip to Kirksville!

Schedule of the Day

12:30 Graduation candidates should be arriving in Baldwin Hall.

1:00 Family and friends may start arriving at Stokes Stadium.

1:15 Faculty arrive at McClain Hall and rank is closed by the Grand Marshal.

1:30 The Processional begins moving towards Stokes Stadium

2:00 The Processional enters Stokes Stadium and the Commencement Ceremony begins.

We ask that everyone please stand, if able, as the graduates enter the stadium. Our faculty will form two lines and greet the students as they enter the staging area. Once the faculty has moved to their seats, the President will begin the ceremony. When the ceremony has concluded, we ask that everyone remains in their seats until the students have exited the stadium.

Broadcast of Commencement

Truman State University's Public Relations Department will live stream the Commencement Ceremony on Truman's YouTube Channel and Facebook page. A link to the live stream will also appear on the [Truman website](#).

Disability Accommodations

If disability seating is needed for commencement, please have your graduate complete the Graduation Disability Seating request at <https://disabilityservices.truman.edu/> by Sunday, May 3, 2026. There will be no wheelchairs available. Guests requiring wheelchairs should bring them. Accessibility parking is available in front of Pershing Building and in the lot south of Stokes Stadium.

If disability accommodations (e.g., interpreter, wheelchair access) are required for guests, please have your graduate contact Disability Services at jsneddon@truman.edu.

General Parking

Parking will be available in most campus parking lots. The closest lots serving Stokes Stadium are the lots along Franklin Street across from Pershing Building, and the Ryle Hall, Pershing Building, Barnett Hall, and Campbell Apartment parking lots.

There is NO reserved seating for guests. Seating is on a first-come, first-seated basis. Stokes Stadium opens at 1:00 p.m. for seating.

Lodging Accommodations

Baymont by Wyndham	(660) 627-1110
Brashear House Bed & Breakfast	(660) 349-8213
Comfort Inn (Macon, MO)	(660) 395-8000
Days Inn by Wyndham.....	(660) 665-8244
Depot Inns and Suites (La Plata, MO)	(660) 332-4669
Hampton Inn	(660) 956-4686
Holiday Inn Express & Suites.....	(660) 956-4682
Knights Inn	(660) 665-8352
Northern Hotel (Edina, MO)	(660) 216-8304
Quality Inn	(660) 665-2205
Super 8 by Wyndham	(660) 956-0766
Thousand Hills Lakeside Cabins.....	(660) 665-7119

For accommodations outside of the Kirksville area, please use this link for more information: <https://visitkirksville.com/t/hotels-motels>

Dining Out

Visit <https://www.visitkirksville.com/t/where-to-eat> on the official Kirksville website for a list of the restaurants and diners in the Kirksville and surrounding areas.

Useful Websites

Kirksville Chamber of Commerce	http://www.kirksvillechamber.com/
Visit Kirksville	http://www.visitkirksville.com/
Truman Bookstore	https://truman.bncollege.com/