

CARDOZO LAW

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW • YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

The Office of Special Events

PHONE: 646.592.6480

TO: 2026 Graduates, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

FROM: The Office of Special Events

SUBJECT: COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY AND EVENT DEADLINES
Commencement is Sunday, May 31, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM
David Geffen Hall 10 Lincoln Center Plaza New York, NY 10023

DATE: February 27, 2026

Please find important information about Commencement procedures, the ceremony, and other matters of importance in this document.

For up-to-date information on the upcoming ceremony, please visit:

[Class of 2026 Commencement | Cardozo Law](#)

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ATTIRE

This is a friendly reminder that if your degree requirements will be completed by May 29, your online graduation application **was due on Friday, January 30**. You can locate the link for the graduation application from your Student Dashboard.

Once you submit your online application, you will be prompted to click on a link to order your attire for commencement. **Note, you only need to complete this step if you plan to attend the May 31 commencement ceremony.*

Attire orders **were due by Wednesday, February 25**. If you miss this deadline, please reach out to the Office of Special Events. You can have the items shipped directly to your home for \$17.95. **You will be responsible for your own attire.**

If you are unsure if you have completed the attire order form, please email The Office of Special Events at Cardozospecialevents@yu.edu.

1. Students **MUST** pick up their caps, gowns, tassels, and hoods during these times:

Third Floor Lounge:

Monday, March 23 - Thursday, March 26

- **9:30 AM to 1:30 PM**
- **2:30 PM to 4:30 PM**

Office 1006:

Friday March 27

- **10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

If you will not be in the building that week, please email the Office of Special Events at Cardozospecialevents@yu.edu.

2. **For LL.M. and J.D. degree graduates only**; If you are not on campus or in the country during the week of distribution, please contact your department administrator to set up a time to collect your attire.

3. Students who missed the graduation application deadline cannot be guaranteed attire or tickets to the ceremony. Please reach out to Dean Kim (Jennifer.kim@yu.edu) if you have missed this deadline.

4. **Please be sure to try on your gown immediately.** If your gown does not fit, please return to the Third Floor Lounge (March 23 – March 26) or Office 1006 (March 27) during the distribution week to exchange it. Please note the gown's length is meant to be right below the knee, and caps are "one-size-fits-all."

5. Bring or wear your attire to Lincoln Center on the day of the ceremony, Sunday, May 31, 2026.

6. Tassels are worn on the left side of the tam/cap. Hoods are carried on your left arm as you walk to the stage.

TICKETS

1. Each graduate will receive **four guest tickets** for their guests to attend the graduation ceremony. All guest seating is first-come first-serve. Only physical tickets will be distributed. Unfortunately, lost or misplaced tickets **CANNOT** be replaced **under any circumstances**. We strongly recommend storing your tickets in a safe and secure location to ensure they are available on the day of the event.
2. Students **MUST** meet the requirements from the Office of Career Services before picking up their tickets.

Ticket distribution will take place from:

10th Floor Hallway (April 27 – April 30):

- **10:00 AM to 1:30 PM**
- **2:30 PM to 4:30 PM**

Office 1006 (May 1):

- **10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

3. For students looking for more than four guest tickets, please complete the [Ticket Lottery form](#). Students have the opportunity to be selected for one additional guest ticket.
4. Tickets **cannot** be mailed to the graduate or picked up by another student. If you are unable to retrieve your tickets in the week of April 27, please notify the Office of Special Events to make other arrangements.

THE CEREMONY - INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRADUATES

Please fill out the [Phonetic Spelling form](#) by Friday, April 24, in order to have your name read aloud at Commencement. If this form is not completed, it is not guaranteed to have your name read correctly at the ceremony.

1. Graduates should arrive at Lincoln Center’s David Geffen Hall **between 1:45 PM and 2:00 PM** on Sunday, May 31. Please follow the signs for the official “Graduate Line-Up”.
2. The lineup is alphabetical by last name in the order of the following groups:
 - 1) September LL.M.s
 - 2) January LL.M.s
 - 3) May LL.M.s
 - 4) All J.D.s
3. When you arrive at the theater, **immediately check in** with the faculty marshal assigned to you to report that you have arrived (look for the sign with the first letter of your last name). To ensure that your name is called at the ceremony, it is **necessary** to check in with your assigned faculty marshal. Faculty marshal assignments will be announced later this spring.

4. If you arrive late and the procession has begun, please find a Cardozo staff member for specific instructions.

5. Graduates march in and are seated in the center section of the theater. When approaching the stage, graduates will enter the stairs on the right (as you are facing the stage), and cross to the center of the stage. After you are handed your symbolic diploma, faculty members will be assembled on the left side of the stage to place the doctoral hood upon you. You may approach any faculty member you choose who is in attendance.

6. At Commencement, **Cardozo alumni** who have a spouse, sibling, or child graduating in the ceremony are welcome place the Doctoral hood upon their relation on stage. A Cardozo staff member will escort the alumnus to the stage when it is time to go up, and a photo will be taken by the ceremony photographers.

THE CEREMONY - INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

1. All guests with tickets to the ceremony will be permitted to enter the hall at 2:30 PM. No one will be allowed to attend the ceremony without a ticket. Children and infants will not be admitted without tickets. Please do not plan on having a child sit on your lap during the ceremony, as this will not allow more guests to attend.

Please note: David Geffen Hall strictly limits the number of tickets issued and the number of guests at the ceremony. No "standing room only" spaces are available.

2. **Graduates with guests who use wheelchairs or have other special accommodation requests** need to complete the [Accommodation Seating form](#) by Friday, April 24. If your guests are asked to report to the hall at a specific time, they should arrive promptly. We do not have access to all parts of the hall at the same time and will arrange arrival times for people with seating accommodations to minimize their wait. Arriving too early or too late might result in unnecessary discomfort or inconvenience for your guests. Special Accommodation seating is not necessarily in the front of the theater or premium seating.

Please complete the [Specialty Hooding form](#) if you would like to **have a direct family member (parent, sibling, or spouse) who is a Cardozo graduate** hood you at graduation by Friday, April 24.

3. **Seating for guests is unreserved.** Numbers on tickets do not refer to seat numbers, and available seats are taken on a first-come first-served basis.

4. The ceremony is approximately **2 hours long**, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

5. Parking information for Lincoln Center can be found at the following link: [Lincoln Center Official Parking Guide \(lincolncenterparking.org\)](http://LincolnCenterParking.org)

PHOTOGRAPHY

1. Island Photography, the official graduation photographer, will be taking multiple photographs of each graduate during the ceremony. Island Photography will also take candid photographs outside the theater after graduation. Proofs will be mailed to each student at a later date, and you may purchase copies directly from the studio. For more information on the photos or for ordering photos after graduation, please visit www.islandphoto.com.

Island Photography:

- Every graduate will be photographed 2-3 times as you cross the stage and return to your seat.
- To ensure you receive your free commencement day proofs quickly and accurately, you must complete this Selfie Check-in!
- Include family and friends to receive your proofs as well. No obligation to purchase and packages start at only \$7.95!
- Please complete your Selfie Check-in by clicking the link below *before your ceremony date!*
- It's fast, easy and makes so much sense!

<https://tinyurl.com/39saj84h>

2. Graduates can keep their graduation attire; you will be able to have photos taken after the ceremony fully equipped with cap and gown.

3. In addition to photography on graduation day, Island Photography will also be at Cardozo taking professional cap and gown and business casual portraits. Island Photography will be at Cardozo from Monday, March 23 – Thursday, March 26 **in the Third Floor Lounge**. Caps and gowns will be provided for your portraits. **Portrait sessions are \$10.00 to schedule to ensure attendance and last approximately ten minutes**. Proofs will be available for purchase online and sent to the mailing address you provide.

Appointments are required. Sign up online to make an appointment on Island Photography's site at: [Island Photography](#)

For Island Photography's Customer Service, please call (800)-869-0908.

AWARDS CEREMONY

Cardozo will host an awards ceremony at Cardozo on Sunday, May 31, from **9:00 AM to 10:00 AM** in the Moot Court Room. Students will be notified in April if they have received an award. Up to four guests of the Graduate may attend this ceremony.

Please complete the Awards Ceremony [Security Form](#) by Friday, May 8, if guests will be in attendance. This form will open on Monday, April 6.

STUDENT SPEAK-OFF

This year's LL.M. Student Speak- Off will take place on **Monday, March 9, at 12:40 PM in Room 1008**. The deadline to sign up as an LLM candidate is Wednesday, March 4, at 9:00 AM.

This year's J.D. Student Speak - Off will take place on **Monday, March 16, at 12:40 PM in the Third Floor Lounge**. The deadline to sign up as a JD candidate is Wednesday, March 4, at 9:00 AM.

The Graduation Student Speakers will be decided by a vote taken **from those who are present in person for the entire speak-off, following all of the speeches**. Please fill out the [Student Speak Off 2026 Sign-Up Form](#) (3L's and LL.M.'s only).

FAQ'S

1. Where is Commencement?
 - a. Lincoln Center - David Geffen Hall
10 Lincoln Center Plaza
New York, NY 10023
2. What time do graduates need to arrive at the ceremony?
 - a. All graduates must arrive promptly between **1:45 PM and 2:00 PM**, find their assigned faculty marshal, and follow their instructions.
3. What time do guests arrive at the ceremony?
 - a. Guests with tickets to the ceremony should begin arriving around 2:00 PM and will be permitted to enter the theater at 2:30 PM.
 - b. Graduates with guests who use wheelchairs or have other special accommodation requests should fill out the [Accommodation Seating form](#). Graduates will be contacted by the Office of Special Events with more information after the form closes.
4. Is there parking at Lincoln Center?
 - a. Parking information for Lincoln Center can be found at the following link - [Lincoln Center Official Parking Guide \(lincolncenterparking.org\)](#)
5. How many guest tickets do I get for graduation?
 - a. Each graduating student will receive four guest tickets.
6. Is there a way to get more than four guest tickets?
 - a. Students have the opportunity to receive one additional ticket via the "[Ticket Lottery](#)".
7. What is the Awards Ceremony?
 - a. Students who are being recognized for their achievements during their time at Cardozo will be notified and invited within the next few weeks to attend an Awards Ceremony taking place on the morning of May 31 in the Moot Court Room.
8. How do I know if I ordered my attire?
 - a. Please contact Cardozospecialevents@yu.edu to check if you've submitted your attire form.

9. What is the last day to submit my order for graduation attire?
 - a. The last day to submit your attire form was Wednesday, February 25. If you don't know if you have attire, please reach out to the Office of Special Events.
 10. When is my graduation application due?
 - a. The graduation application was due on January 30.
 11. What is phonetic spelling?
 - a. Phonetic spelling is a system of writing words that reflects their pronunciation. It uses symbols or letters to represent the sounds of speech, making it easier to understand and pronounce words.
 - b. Graduates must complete the Phonetic Spelling form to have their name read aloud correctly at Commencement.
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Please be sure to follow all graduation instructions above. We ask that all graduates arrive promptly between **1:45 PM and 2:00 PM**, locate their assigned faculty marshal, and follow their instructions.

Congratulations, Class of 2026! We wish you all the success as you finish your final months of law school and extend our best of luck as you prepare for the Bar Exam!

The Office of Special Events

Phone: 646.592.6480

Room: 1006

Email: Cardozospecialevents@yu.edu

The Office of Student Services & Advising

Room: 1043

Email: Cardozostudentservices@yu.edu

The Office of Career Services

Room: 1128

Email: Cardozocs@yu.edu

The Office of the Registrar

Room: 1034

Email: Cardozoregistrar@yu.edu