

FIFTY-EIGHTH COMMENCEMENT



River Valley Community College

May 15, 2026
Claremont, NH



River Valley Community College

MISSION STATEMENT

River Valley Community College transforms lives by providing a quality and affordable education through innovative personal approaches to lifelong learning and career pathways.

HISTORY

Since 1968, River Valley Community College, formerly New Hampshire Community Technical College at Claremont, has been providing quality education in an academic environment small enough to allow individualized attention. Students in over thirty career-oriented programs gain highly specialized skills and knowledge necessary to confidently and successfully enter the job market in a number of technical, business, and health-oriented fields.

In 1999, the College implemented an Associate in Arts degree that provides the first two years of a four-year bachelor program. In 2004, the College started offering courses at the Academic Center in Keene, NH. In the Spring of 2016, RVCC started offering classes at its location in downtown Lebanon, NH. The

Academic Centers not only provide local access and assistance in college admissions procedures, information regarding academic advising, support services and financial aid, but also provide accessible learning environments throughout the College's service area.

THE TRADITION OF THE ROSE



After each student receives their diploma, they will receive a red rose from the College Faculty, Staff, and Administration. The rose symbolizes the budding new career path taken by the graduate. The red color of the flower symbolizes the abiding love and support given by the family and friends of the graduate. After the conclusion of the ceremony, the graduate is to complete the circle of recognition by presenting this rose to the person most significant in helping them complete this important milestone.



Program for Friday, May 15, 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE
PROCESSIONAL
NATIONAL ANTHEM
Performed by Amanda Couitt

**President's Greetings &
Declaration of Commencement** Alfred Williams
President

**Greetings from the
Board of Trustees** Richard Ackerman

Graduation Speaker Peg Sullivan

Student Speaker Jeremy Patten

Awards

**Nursing
Excellence Award** Cynthia Smith, Associate Professor
Connie Powell, Professor

**Nursing
Tenacity Award** Cynthia Smith, Associate Professor
Connie Powell, Professor

**Nursing
Lifelong Learner Award** Cynthia Smith, Associate Professor
Connie Powell, Professor

**Nursing
Nightingale Award** Cynthia Smith, Associate Professor
Connie Powell, Professor



Program for Friday, May 15, 11:00 a.m.

History of Pinning and the Tradition of the Rose

TRADITION OF THE ROSE

Jennifer Cournoyer
Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

Presentation of Candidates Jennifer Cournoyer
Vice President of Academic
and Student Affairs

CONFERRING OF CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

Welcoming of Graduates Alfred Williams
as Alumni & President
Changing of the Tassel

Florence Nightingale Pledge
led by Professor Sonya Kuykendall

RECESSIONAL



Program for Friday, May 15, 2:00 p.m.

PRELUDE
PROCESSIONAL
NATIONAL ANTHEM
Performed by Amanda Couitt

**President's Greetings &
Declaration of Commencement** Alfred Williams
President

**Greetings from the
Board of Trustees** Donnalee Lozeau
Board Chair

Faculty Speaker Steven Zackowski

Student Speaker Jacqueline McGrath

Awards

**Early Childhood Education
Dr. T. Berry Brazelton Award** Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director
Early Childhood Education

**Early Childhood Education
Excellence in Family Child Care
Award** Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director
Early Childhood Education

**Early Childhood Education
Lucy Sprague Mitchell Award** Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director
Early Childhood Education

**Medical Laboratory Technician
Academic Excellence Award** Nancy Eckert
Program Director
Medical Lab Technician

**Occupational Therapy Assistant
Excellence in Occupational Therapy
Award** Megan Nichols, Program Director
Erin Damren, Associate Professor



Program for Friday, May 15, 2:00 p.m.

Awards Continued

**Physical Therapist Assistant
Laurel Clute Award** Kim-Laura Boyle
Program Director
Physical Therapist Assistant

**Physical Therapist Assistant
Clinical Excellence Award** Amanda Couitt
Professor
Physical Therapist Assistant

**Radiologic Technology
Peer Award** Jessica Horton, Program Director
Michelle Sweeney, Assistant Professor
Radiologic Technology

**Radiologic Technology
Professional Development Award** Jessica Horton, Program Director
Michelle Sweeney, Assistant Professor
Radiologic Technology

**Radiologic Technology
Clinical Excellence Award** Jessica Horton, Program Director
Michelle Sweeney, Assistant Professor
Radiologic Technology

**Radiologic Technology
Academic Excellence Award** Jessica Horton, Program Director
Michelle Sweeney, Assistant Professor
Radiologic Technology

**Respiratory Therapy
Academic Excellence Award** Kathy Hilliard, Program Director
Steven Zackowski, Assistant Professor
Respiratory Therapy

**Respiratory Therapy
Professional Development Award** Kathy Hilliard, Program Director
Steven Zackowski, Assistant Professor
Respiratory Therapy



Program for Friday, May 15, 2:00 p.m.

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as Alumni & President
Changing of the Tassel

RECESSIONAL



2026 Graduates

ACCOUNTING

Certificate

Meghan M. Smith

Jillian Davis
Program Director

ACCOUNTING

Associate of Science Degree

Michelle Armstrong
Mitchell Hayner*
Ashley Marie Laroche

Jillian Davis
Program Director

Anna Rose-Marie Morelli
Taylor Nichols
Devin Sabalewski

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Associate of Science Degree

Robert J. Germana III

Julie Robinson
Program Director

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Certificate

Nedra L. Keenan

Jillian Davis
Program Director

Meghan M. Smith

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Associate of Science Degree

Paige Alana Greenhalgh
Kevin Judd Jr.
Brittany Catherine Labarre
Verona Ellen LaMontagne

Jillian Davis
Program Director

Hayley Rose Parker
Melony L. Pickard
Ashley Ruth Rule
Alysha Mary Juliamarie Webster*

**Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society members
The gold tassel indicates academic honors
The teal cord indicates Student Government Association membership
The red, white, and blue cord indicates U.S. Armed Services active duty,
reserve, or veteran service member*



2026 Graduates

CYBERSECURITY & HEALTHCARE IT

Certificate

Aaron Silas Starbuck Olin

Marlon Gonzalez
Program Director

CYBERSECURITY & HEALTHCARE IT

Associate of Science Degree

Brenda V. Consentino
Cameron Tyler Mayberry
Holland Mayberry
Abraham E. Okojie

Marlon Gonzalez
Program Director

Aaron Silas Starbuck Olin
Anjolina Parajuli
Nathan F. Remick

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - LEVEL I

Certificate

Kristina Adele Downey
Morrigan Farnum
Erin Fielder
Tina Marie Greenwood

Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director

Lyndsay J. Knight
Carrie L. Page
April Reinartz
Mary VanAlstyne

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - LEVEL II

Certificate

Grace A. Moore

Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director

Jacqueline T. Skinner*

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Associate of Science Degree

Demeter Peach Gala
Malesa Leigh Seavey

Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director

Whitney Thibodeau



2026 Graduates

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INFANT AND TODDLER

Certificate

Demeter Peach Gala

Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Science Degree

Gabriel S. Chabot

John Lorenzi

Marlon Gonzalez
Program Director

Thomas Tsohonis
Maximus Welborn*

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & NETWORK ADMINISTRATION

Certificate

Brian R. Baril

Marlon Gonzalez
Program Director

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & NETWORK ADMINISTRATION

Associate of Science Degree

Alexander Miller

Marlon Gonzalez
Program Director

LIBERAL ARTS

Associate of Arts Degree

Hannah Othelia Barcelou

Irina Marjorie Rose Donato

Phylicia A. Roberts

Cara Chanoine
Program Director

V. M. Steiner
Maya M. Tomlinson

MASSAGE THERAPY

Certificate

Elizabeth Teresa Burnell*

Jennifer Lynn Cleveland

Shelley Nina Clough

Wendy M. Courtemanche

Michael Jacovina
Program Director

Larry R. Cummings
Adrianna Ellis
Erin E. Ryan

Genevieve AMR Williams*



2026 Graduates

MEDICAL LAB TECHNICIAN

Associate of Science Degree

Kirstin Rae Carter*
Alicia M. Davidson*
Amanda Ferguson

Nancy Eckert
Program Director

Melody M. Mason*
Zachary Tinsley

NURSING

Associate of Science Degree

Kelsey R. Adams
Maria del Mar Aponte
Achiaa Baffour-Akoto
Kelsey Barker
Kelly Ann Beausoleil*
Michaela Marie Belville
Courtney Ann Bourgeois
Cheryl Byrne*
Julianne Danielle Cerino
Jassy Custer
Amanda Marie Day
Heather H. Fontaine
Emily Anne Franklin
Shauna Friend
Calista Marie Fuller
Sierra Gonsalves
Bonnie Goodman
Chauncey Hayes
Alexandra Maeve Hebert
Melissa Anne Heck
Victoria Nubia Hickey
Lyndsay Rachel Humphrey
Carine Kounga

Denise Ruby
Department Chair

Michael G. Lambert
Laura Pauline Lanoue
Hannah B. LaRoche
Taylor Leister
Andrew Edward Limric
Megan Nicole Myhaver
Nova Neiman
Faith Ohnesorge
Margaret Onofrio-Barker
Jeremy C. Patten
Fiona K. Pike
Lisa Jeanne Rayes
Madison Paige Sanville
Brittany Lee Shay
Hanisi Hevani Smith
Amalia Faith Stenersen
Rhovie Grace T. Sumalinog
Hailey Teal
Daniel James Thayer
Brianna Rae Thorburn
Holly Marie Towne
Briana Rose Uvena
Brianna Lee Warren



2026 Graduates

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

Associate of Science Degree

Julia L. Dugas*

Victoria Lee Perregaux

Meagan Nichols
Program Director

Zahna Rice*

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Associate of Science Degree

Emma E. Holt

Mariah Mallett

Sadie May Mills

Nicole Elizabeth Mooney

Kim-Laura Boyle
Program Director

Kaylyn Faye Sheldon

Chelsea Lynn Urie

Ria Theresa Warren*

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Science Degree

Connor Austin*

Kandis Barrett

Eden Lynn Ferland*

Tela Mae Harty

Michael Allen Johnson*

Lewaa Massoud

Max McAuley

Jacqueline C. McGrath

Jessica Horton
Program Director

Hailey Marie Miller*

Jennah Ramsey

Olivia Kimberly Rebetz*

Emily Paige Roy*

McKenzie Elaine Russell

Noah Taylor Simino

Sarah Welwood*

Bryan Alex Yagual

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Associate of Science Degree

Erin M. Bullard*

Sheridan L. Garneau

Taylor M. Leoutsakos*

Kathy E. Hilliard
Program Director

Morgan Celia Parrish

Tandra L. Rogers

SOCIAL SERVICES

Certificate

Sharmila Karki Niroula*

Kerry Belknap Morris
Program Director



RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

LEADERSHIP TEAM

President	Alfred Williams, BS, JD
Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs	Jennifer Cournoyer, BA, MLIS, EdD
Business Affairs Officer	Lori Leary, MS, MBA
Assistant to the President	Kelly F. Clark, BS, OT, MEd
Human Resource Manager	Jill M. Spurr, AS, BM
College Project Coordinator	Eric Sutphin, MFA

ALLIED HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Professor Eileen Glover, DNP, MSN, RN-BC, NEA-BC	<i>Chair</i>
Professor Nancy Eckert, MS, BS, MT(ASCP) ^{CM}	<i>Medical Laboratory Technician Program Director</i>
Associate Professor Kathy E. Hilliard BS, RRT, MSRT	<i>Respiratory Therapy Program Director</i>
Associate Professor Jessica Horton, BS, MSLD RT(R)	<i>Radiologic Technology Program Director</i>
Assistant Professor Sandra LaPointe, BSN, RN, CMSRN	<i>Practical Nursing Program Director</i>
Associate Professor Heather Newfield, MSN, RN, CEN, CPAN	<i>Practical Nursing Program Director</i>
Assistant Professor Kimberly Ambrose MSN, BSN, RN	
Assistant Professor Grace Desrosiers MSN NED, RN	
Assistant Professor Michelle Sweeney, BSRT (R) (CT)	
Assistant Professor Constance White, MSN, RN, CNEpv	
Assistant Professor Steven Zackowski BSRT, RRT, RRT-ACCS, RRT-NPS	



RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Professor Aimee Jahn, BS, MA, CAGS

Chair

Psychology Program Director

Professor Richard Andrusiak, BS, MA, MAT, EdD

Mathematics Program Director

Professor Cara Chanoine, MFA, PhD

English Program Director

Professor Julie Robinson, BA, DC

Biological Science Program Director

Assistant Professor, Julie Foote BS, MS, PhD

NURSING DEPARTMENT

Professor Denise Ruby, MSN, BSN, RN

Chair

Professor Connie Powell, MSN, BSN, RN

Associate Degree Nursing Program Director

Associate Professor Traci Fairbanks, MSN, RN

Professor Sonya Kuykendall, MSN, RN, CHPN, CNEcl

Professor Aime Reed, MSN, BSN, RN

Associate Professor Cynthia Smith, MSN, RN



RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Assistant Professor Jillian Davis, BS, MBA

Chair

Accounting Program Director

Business Management Program Director

Marlon Gonzalez, AS, BBA, MSIT

IT & Network Administration Program Director

Cybersecurity & Healthcare IT Program Director

Professor Kerry Belknap Morris, BA, MEd

Early Childhood Education Program Director

Social Services Program Director

Associate Professor Robert Morris, AAS, BS, MS

REHABILITATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Professor Kim-Laura Boyle, BA, MS, DPT

Chair

Physical Therapist Assistant Program Director

Assistant Professor Megan Nichols, BS, MOT *Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director*

Assistant Professor Michael Jacovina, BFA, AOS, LMT *Massage Therapy Program Director*

Professor Amanda Couitt, BA, DPT

Associate Professor Erin Damren, OTD, OTR/L



RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC ADVISORS

Elizabeth Guimond, BS, MBA

Accounting, Early College

Nickole Milo, BA, MEd

Healthcare Applications

Diane Nocco, BS, CLS

Liberal Arts

Dixie Vestal, BA

Allied Health

PHI THETA KAPPA

Phi Theta Kappa is an international honor society devoted to recognizing and encouraging scholarship, leadership, service, and fellowship in two-year colleges. Membership is by invitation. River Valley Community College hosts the Alpha Delta Chi Chapter.

GRADUATION HONORS

CGPA 3.20 - 3.59 = Cum Laude

CGPA 3.60 - 3.89 = Magna Cum Laude

CGPA 3.90 - 4.00 = Summa Cum Laude

Graduates earning a CGPA of 3.50 or higher are entitled to wear a gold tassel.

Congratulations Graduates and Welcome Alumni!

Whether you graduated from New Hampshire Vocational
Technical College, New Hampshire Technical College,
New Hampshire Community Technical College,
or River Valley Community College,
we are proud of your success!



**GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
THE HONORABLE KELLY AYOTTE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM OF NH
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President Alfred Williams, RVCC

**River Valley Community College
Advisory Committee**

Rob W. Taylor, Chair

Catherine Bardier

David Finnerty

Ashley Greenfield-Romeo

Cheryl Kahn

Timothy McNulty

Phil Shaw



RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Today's academic procession is derived from European religious processions of the 12th and 13th centuries when universities were forming but were still closely associated with the medieval church. The order used in the procession evolved in this country as institutions of higher learning began to value the role of ceremony. At River Valley, the President is at the front of the line carrying the Mace, followed by the Commencement Speaker, Platform Guests and Faculty. followed by the honored Graduates. A similar order is used for the Recessional.

THE MEDALLION OF OFFICE

The Presidential Medallion is designed around the official college seal and is worn on ceremonial occasions. The college seal contains the founding year and images of a falcon, shield, the book of knowledge and a river. These symbolic icons embody the ideals of freedom, courage and intelligence, and the regional abundance brought together by the powerful rivers that connect River Valley Community College to the environment, industry, agriculture, and the economic and educational communities we serve.

THE MACE

The word "mace" is derived from the Latin "mateola", meaning mallet or staff. In the Middle Ages, these staffs, with a ball of copper or brass at one end, were used as weapons against armored warriors. As weaponry became more sophisticated, the mace evolved as a symbol of power. Universities in Europe adopted the mace as a symbol of authority and unity, and today many institutions use the mace in a ceremonial capacity.

THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

The caps, gowns, and hoods seen today evolved from European medieval costumes worn during religious processions to distinguish church and university members from the laity. Most medieval scholars had taken at least minor orders and, like clerics, wore long robes for warmth in unheated buildings. In present times, the attire serves to indicate, by style and adornment, the chief academic degree attained, the major field of study, and the college or university attended by the wearer.



THE NIGHTINGALE PLEDGE

I pledge myself here, before my God and in the presence of this assembly, to practice my profession with integrity.

I will endeavor to maintain and elevate the standard of nursing, both as a science and as an art.

I wholeheartedly recognize the importance of high standards of care and of personal accountability.

I devote myself to the healing, protection, and welfare of those committed to my care.

I accept a duty to work for the improvement of health in the communities in which I live and work.

I will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping, and will respect the privacy of medical information.

I will act with compassion in ethical matters.

I will not knowingly administer or consume any harmful substance.

I commit to interdisciplinary collaboration and lifelong learning.

I fully acknowledge the seriousness of the responsibility that I accept in my calling, and the significance of this pledge that I take today.



RIVER VALLEY

Community College

Claremont • Keene • Lebanon

