May 2026 Graduation Deadlines

(Degree Conferral Date will be May 17, 2026)

STUDENT DEADLINES

Deadline	Activity	Notes
Tuesday, January 20	Online application for graduation **OPENS**	See [here](#) for more information.
Friday, March 13	Online application for graduation **CLOSES**	This deadline is absolutely firm. No exceptions will be made for students who forget or miss this deadline.
Thursday, April 2	Last date to declare a defense	Must submit the Thesis and Dissertation Defense Date Declaration form, no less than **two weeks** prior to the defense (per WVU Catalog rules). See [here](#) for form and processes, and [here](#) for catalog.
Thursday, April 16	Last date to hold a defense	Reminder: Thesis and Dissertation Oral Defense form must be signed and returned to the Eberly Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies within **48-hours** after the defense. See [here](#) for form and processes.
Friday, May 1 (5:00 p.m.)	ETD submission deadline	Reminder: the ETD must be submitted and accepted by Wise Library. Follow the University Calendar and check the ETD website for submission deadline. See [here](#) for more information.

DEPARTMENT DEADLINES

Deadline	Activity	Notes
Tuesday, March 17	Graduation application approvals	Please make sure all applications for graduation in the BANNER workflow are approved by the end of business. If a student will not be graduating, please deny application then email the student. *As applications roll over automatically now, please check your queue even if you do not expect to have graduates*
Tuesday, May 12	Tentative graduation list sent to departments	Tentative graduation list will be sent to Department contacts for their graduation certification review *on or around* this date. **Grades are Due Monday, May 11 at noon.** **Final certification must happen after grades post.**
Friday, May 15	Departmental deadline for final certification	**Final certification must happen after grades post.** Deadline for department to certify graduating students in Degree Works. After certification is concluded, send list back to Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies.