

BELLINGHAM **TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

# Commencement Ceremony 2026

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THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026  
7:00 P.M.

**Mount Baker Theatre**  
104 N. Commercial Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225

**FORGE** **PATH**  
YOUR OWN



# BTC Mission Statement

*Bellingham Technical College provides student-centered, high-quality professional technical education for today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.*

## Vision

Bellingham Technical College will be a recognized leader in providing innovative and effective technical education, maximizing student potential, and supporting the regional economy through development of a competitive workforce.

## Values

As a learning community, Bellingham Technical College is committed to educational excellence and equity realized through a positive, values-based environment. To fulfill Bellingham Technical College's mission and vision, the College will adhere to the following values:

### Student-Centered

Creating a supportive and inclusive community that results in a high level of student competence, professionalism, and success.

### Responsive

Embracing positive, effective change that creates opportunity and meets current and emerging needs.

### Collaborative

Creating and leveraging partnerships and resources to achieve shared values and goals for students, the College, and the community.

### Principled

Promoting a culture of respect and accountability, reflecting integrity in decision-making, and ensuring responsible stewardship of all resources.

## Board of Trustees

Robert DeCoteau, *Chair*

Alex Hildreth, *Vice Chair*

Ann McQuade

Richard Kaiser

Dr. Bradley Smith

## BTC Leadership

Dr. James Lemerond, *President*

Michele Waltz, *VP Student Services*

Dr. Heidi Ypma, *VP Instruction*

Chad Stiteler, *VP Administrative Services*

Dr. Raelyn Axlund McBride,  
*Executive Director of Institutional Planning & Assessment*

Zoe Fraley, *Director of Communications & Marketing*

Dean Fulton, *Foundation Director*

Allison Mack, *HR Director*

하나 Hannah (소희 Soo-Hee) Simonetti, *DEI Director*

*Bellingham Technical College is an equal opportunity institution. See our full statement: [www.btc.edu/eos](http://www.btc.edu/eos)*

# Commencement Program

**Processional**

**Land Acknowledgement** ..... **Dean Fulton**  
*Director of BTC Foundation*

**National Anthem**

**Welcome and Opening Comments** ..... **Dr. James Lemerond**  
*President*

**Greetings to the Class of 2026** ..... **Rick Kaiser**  
*Board of Trustees*

**Equity Statement** ..... **Dr. Heidi Ypma**  
*Vice President of Instruction*

**Student Speaker Introduction** ..... **Dean Fulton**  
*Director of BTC Foundation*

**Student Commencement Address** ..... **Piper and Lee Estabrook**  
*BTC Students*

**Faculty Address** ..... **Kevin Burkeland**  
*Information Technology*

**Introduction of Graduates & Candidates** ..... **Dr. Heidi Ypma**  
*Vice President of Instruction*

**Announcement of Graduate Names** ..... **Matthew Santos**  
*Dean of Allied Health*

**Katie Honeycutt**  
*Dean of Professional Technical Education*

**Awarding of Degrees** ..... **Dr. James Lemerond**  
*President*

**Recessional**

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*Guests are requested to remain seated until graduates have recessed.*

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Bellingham Technical College would like to acknowledge that our service area today is within the usual and accustomed lands of the Lhaq'temish or Xwlemi (Lummi) Nation, and of the Noxws'á?aq (NookSack) Tribe of the Coast Salish peoples, as well as the original territory of the s?éməš (Samish) Indian Tribe. Our respect and gratitude go to our indigenous neighbors, whose care and protection of the land and water continues to this day.

# Live Captioning of Ceremony

In order to provide an accessible and equitable experience of this year's commencement ceremony, BTC provides free live captioning. Simply scan the QR code below or **visit [btc.intellitext.us](https://btc.intellitext.us)** to receive a live transcript. We hope you enjoy the ceremony.

For live captioning,  
scan the QR code or visit  
[btc.intellitext.us](https://btc.intellitext.us)



# The Story Behind Commencement Attire

**The pageantry** of commencement has its roots in medieval times, dating to the early traditions of Europe's first universities. For centuries, academic dress has been associated with learning. Its origin is considered to be ecclesiastical, though the gown of the medieval scholars may have developed out of the ordinary civilian costume of an earlier period. The medieval scholar was often a monk or clergy who found the hood and gown protection against the cold of the unheated buildings. The sleeves of the gown were used for carrying books and supplies.

**American academic regalia** was standardized in 1895. A cap and gown indicates that the wearer is a member of a university or college, and an additional hood denotes the wearer has obtained a four-year degree or higher.

**The gowns** are usually black with three types of sleeves and three types of hoods denoting either a bachelor's, master's, or doctorate degree. Each category of sleeve and hood is larger and longer in length with respect to each of the three degrees, with the doctoral hood being the longest.

**The cap** is called a mortarboard or a tam, and the tam (resembling a cap) is worn only by individuals who have earned a doctorate.

**The hood** is draped over the shoulders and down the back. The trimming of velvet is in the color that represents the subject of the degree, and the lining of silk is the color or colors of the college or university granting the degree.

**The tassel** is fastened to the center button on the top of the mortarboard or tam and is worn in the left front quadrant by those who have obtained a degree. The tassel may be the color of the institution, the major field of learning in which the degree is conferred, or it may be gold, indicating some type of honor has been achieved.

**Gold cords** signify Summa Cum Laude honorees

**Silver cords** signify Magna Cum Laude honorees

**Bronze cords** signify Cum Laude honorees

**White stoles** signify Bachelor of Applied Science degree recipients

**Gold stoles and blue & gold cords** signify Phi Theta Kappa members

**Red, white & blue cords** signify Veterans

**Red & white stoles** signify TRIO students

**Lime Green cords** signify Impact students

**Rainbow cords** signify LGBTQ+ students

**Black & antique gold cords** signify BIPOC students

**Green & gold cords** signify Accessibility Resources students

**Blue & white stoles** signify ASBTC Executive Officers

# Degree and Certificate Recipients June 2026

## **Bachelor of Applied Science**

### **Engineering Technology**

Jonathan R Diaz

### **Operations Management**

Allen Vo Chao \* \* \*

Brayden Lewis Skinner

Danielle LaRae Poisson \* \* \*

Darron T Most \*

David Ariel Polyakov \*

Grace Vi Morrissey \* \*

James Dahl

Lucas Knudson \* \*

Mary E Gargett \* \* \*

Michael Dahl

Riley Jones \* \* \*

Tyler Lane Waslohn \*

## **Automotive Collision Repair**

### **Technology**

Benjamin Marcus Diskin

Christian Ramirez

Finn Moerchen

Jacob Sargent

Omar Ortega

Thomas R Fogle \* \* \*

Tristan Garreth Mathijs Hughes

## **Automotive Technology**

Aiden Miarecki \*

Andrew Joseph Mudgett

Arianna Sophia-Deann Morgan \*

Ariel Colin-Gonzalez \*

Caden Leigh Allbaugh

Caleb J Price

Cody Reeves

Colton Anderson

Ellie Morgen \* \*

Ethan King

Jonah Schultz

Joseph Fesalbon \* \*

Justin Spencer

Malcolm Shaffer Bosco

Nathaniel Gregory Weller \* \*

Reuben Paul Neff

Rykker Wayne Nephew

Solon August Rich

## **Business**

### **Accounting Technician**

Alejandra Rasmussen \*

Denise Lynn Boehringer

Eimy Mariana Marquez Gutierrez \* \*

Josie Roosma \*

Sarah A Klein \* \* \*

### **Administrative Assistant**

William Christopher Musso \*

### **Business Management**

Alyssa Lynn Shockey

Andrea Kamkoff

Ava Lunny \* \* \*

Celena Acevedo \*

Denise Marie Edwards \*

Dominick Pascal Barnett \*

Frank Bernard Laux \*

Gracie Mae Marshall \* \* \*

Heather Seigman \* \* \*

Kaylee Marie Patrick

Nichole Candice Mondares \*

Nicole Kent \* \* \*

Orion Bautista Hepker \*

Piper Estabrook \* \* \*

Ryder May \*

Sayward Kimmel \*

Tara Ann Robertson \*

## **Culinary Arts**

Analise Diane Mutchler  
Ash Stoane \*  
Ethan Klander  
Isabella Naomi Caldwell  
Kerri Renea Barnes  
Laasya Morgan Hammerstrom \*  
Lillian Imes \* \*  
Raine Gaskill

## **Dental Hygiene**

Chatrina Kaur Jaiyi \* \* \*  
Chloe N Douglas \* \*  
Eden C Wollman \* \* \*  
Emily Greathouse \*  
Jenny Foland \*  
Kaila M Andrews \* \*  
Krista Primus \* \* \*  
Malia Wong \* \* \*  
Natalie Anne Kurtz \*  
Seriana S Ordello \*

## **Diesel Technology**

Alec Jacob Byeman  
Cody Craig  
Conner Vanlieu \* \*  
Dylan Lewis  
Dylan Sturgis Schwenk  
Fischer Edwards \*  
Mikah Hernes  
Jack Starkenburg  
Jacob Aaron Smith  
Jacob Fearnough  
Javier Cardenas  
Jayden Sutton  
Logan Burks \*  
Oleg Elizavetsky  
Raziel Justin Burrell  
Will Worra

## **Electrician**

Alex David Kimbler \* \*  
Alec Munsen  
Alexander Diego Graber \* \*

Andrew James Curlett  
Anna Sande \*  
Anson Scherner  
Booker Thompson \* \* \*  
Casey Schene Davenport \* \* \*  
Colin Fritz  
Colin Gregory  
Elijah Purcell  
Faith-Ahna Star Jarman  
Forrest Sutton Collins  
Ivan Jose Garcia-Padilla \*  
Jack Parker  
Jacob Daniel Gomez \*  
Jake Harley Martin \* \* \*  
Jennica Blanchard \* \* \*  
Jose Perales \* \* \*  
Julien Rondale Nichols  
Keith Jacoby \* \* \*  
Kyle Ellis \* \*  
Luke Carson Johnson \*  
Marwin Sarmiento \* \* \*  
Matthew K Smith \* \* \*  
Matthew Perez  
Maxwell Stephen Johnston \* \* \*  
Michael Scott Church  
Nathaniel Hall \* \* \*  
Owen Lee Carpenter  
Peyton Rambow  
Porter Henry Willis \* \* \*  
Salvador Ramirez \* \*  
Sam Weeda \* \* \*  
Spencer Johnathan Reid  
Ty Ward \* \*  
Zane Gregory Strome \* \*

## **Engineering Technology**

### **Clean Energy Specialization**

Kevin Michael Beamish \* \*

### **Civil Engineering Specialization**

Caiden Shane Miller \*  
David R O'Connor \* \* \*  
Matthew D Brauhn \* \*

## **Composites Specialization**

David R O'Connor \* \* \*

Ian Dole \* \*

Mason James Love

Sydney Montana Papritz \* \* \*

## **Geomatics Specialization**

Aech Zephra Watts-Maddox \* \*

Alex Ok

Chester Anderson Hinson \* \* \*

Jose Jovani Ramirez Buendia

Maia Taber \* \* \*

Michael Brower \* \*

Milo Hofmann Brodsky

Ross Andrew Cummings \* \* \*

Tyler Aaron Wenz \* \* \*

Zachary Smith \* \* \*

## **Mechanical Design Specialization**

Bodie Groom \*

Emma Leigh Spooner

Joseph Alexander Clark \* \* \*

Michael Joseph St George

Nolan Kovach \*

Sydney Montana Papritz \* \* \*

Thatcher D Richins \*

## **Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences**

Amanda Resterer \* \* \*

Arturo Avila

Avery Maya Austin-Landers \* \*

Brandy Jones \* \*

Brian Kershaw \*

Casey Nylen

Ceiba Ember Ybarra \* \*

Crew Olpin

Danny Hays

Emma Camille Anderson \*

Jacob Zachary Beilock \*

Marcus Hans Ream

Megan Ashlock

Marcelline Paige Murray \* \*

Patricia (PJ) Heusted \*

Ryan Nowak-Crawford \* \* \*

Samuel Leonhardt \*

Sarah Rosina Guenther \* \* \*

## **Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration**

Benjamin Sobchenko

Christian Hildenbrand

Corbin Nicola

Devin Zickafoose

Erich Douglas Holcomb \* \* \*

Isaiha Burks

Kyle Haze Wheeler

Mason Byler

Nathan Randal Stipek \* \*

Nicholas Bruce Brown

Robert Miller \* \*

Timothy Kapustin

## **Industrial Maintenance & Mechatronics**

Aaron DeMare

Andrew D McIntyre \* \*

Blake Nolan \*

Brenden C Alvarez \* \* \*

Caleb Gingerich \*

Cole Nguyen

Galen Mockett Hutcherson

Jack Cheatham

Jose G Hernandez

Michael John Laurence \* \* \*

Nikola Popov \*

Scott Pacheco

Tyson Chandler Joslyn \* \* \*

## **Information Technology Computer Networking**

Alexander Oppfelt \* \* \*

Brittin Kellar \* \* \*

Bryan Campbell \*

Carlos Gustavo Jimenez \* \*

Draven Kane Hodgins \* \* \*

Elizabeth G Landstad

Eric Bliss \*

Gavin Daniel Thompson

Gustavo Sanchez-Flores \*

Harmit Lidhran

Jamil Clark \*\*\*  
Jordan Ondap \*\*\*  
Katelyn Elizabeth Clouatre  
Kurt Aagard \*\*\*  
Lilian T Miller \*\*\*  
Miguel Garcia Ramirez \*  
Richard Martin Monnik \*  
Tobin Roscoe Hall \*\*\*  
Vivian T Miller \*\*\*

### **Computer Networking Articulation to WWU Cybersecurity BS**

Ashley Delores Lucero \*\*  
Jathan R Briet \*\*\*  
Nicholas James Williams \*\*\*  
Stevan Bravo  
Vincent Warren

### **Computer Support Specialist**

Brock M McDaniel \*

### **Instrumentation & Control Technology**

Amanda Perez  
Angeles Tapuro  
Aydin Otool  
David John Hamilton \*\*\*  
Francesca Ramos \*  
Henry Jack Wilson Knight \*\*  
Jack Krutsinger  
Jacob Scott Nevins  
John Savage \*\*\*  
Kyle Juan \*  
Landon Richard Mark  
Regan Ray Swope \*  
Robert Eugene Norman II  
Ryan Cristian Dinnel \*\*\*  
Vitaliy Alter \*\*\*  
Zack Thronson

### **Machining**

Dakota D Stone \*\*  
Dalton Arthur Thompson \*\*\*  
Daniel Robert Zeller

David Guerrero  
Jacob Marlow Dodge  
Jeremy Permen  
Zeb Zollner \*

### **Medical Administration**

Aleisha Dawn Gitts \*  
James Burke \*\*\*  
Kaydence Kane  
Ronald Anderson \*\*\*  
Sukhpreet Kaur  
Tess Griffin

### **Nursing**

#### **Associate in Nursing DTA/MRP**

Abby Fulbright \*\*  
Ariane Danielle Brondial Daniel \*\*\*  
Atira Jukes  
Balvir Kaur \*\*  
Berna Kriselle Guinto Bautista \*\*\*  
Brandon S Dhillon \*  
Brittany S Hanson \*\*  
Carlen Marie Smith \*\*  
Casey Cunningham \*  
Christian Emmanuel Staley \*\*  
Corrie E Solomon \*\*  
Danielle Van Diest \*  
Dasia Kathleen Washington  
Dierdre A Tabscott  
Donyale Fe'nee Quainoo \*\*  
Emily Anne Robeson \*\*\*  
Ethan R Brown  
Fiona Parker \*\*\*  
Hi Sun Sabo \*\*\*  
Jacob Francis Bradburn \*\*  
Jaslyn Huntley \*\*  
Jessica Rowan \*\*  
Johanna Boyers \*\*  
June Payton \*\*  
Kaari Elizabeth Berry \*\*\*  
Kayla N Terpsma \*\*\*  
Kelsey A Berge \*  
Kiani Dean \*\*  
Kiara Almendra Rojo-Trickett \*\*\*

Kristi A Gallagher \* \* \*  
 Kristina Brennan \*  
 Kristina Siebol  
 Laura Janae Moores \* \*  
 Leah Munari \* \*  
 Lisa Anderson \* \*  
 Loveleen Kaur \* \*  
 Matt R Hoffmeyer \*  
 Maxine E Wolf \* \*  
 Melanie Dawn Cadwallader \*  
 Michael Bennett \*  
 Noelia Flor Cruz Hernandez \* \* \*  
 Parminder Singh \*  
 Patricia A Wagar \* \*  
 Prabhleen Kaur Moore  
 Rattana Choy \*  
 Ravleen Kaur \*  
 Raya Seitz \* \* \*  
 Samantha Rose Edwards \* \*  
 Satone Haratani \* \* \*  
 Schae Lyn Rowley \*  
 Selena Dauenhauer \* \* \*  
 Shannon Marie Warren \* \*  
 Shanon V Quinsey  
 Sherron Marion \* \*  
 Stephanie Travis \* \*  
 Tami K Chock  
 Tara Lyn Cleveland \* \* \*  
 Taylyn F Depauw  
 Thelma J Rodriguez  
 Tiana Brennan \* \* \*  
 Veronica Juliana Ordonez \* \*  
 Veronica Pratt \* \*  
 Victoria A Ramos \* \* \*  
 Yogesh Nahan \* \*

### **Associate in Pre-Nursing DTA/MRP**

Bhavjit Singh Bains \* \*  
 Eden Woods  
 Sukhvir Kaur Sandhu \*

### **Paramedic**

Alexander Christian Olafsen Leonard \*  
 Andrey Andreyevich Baydak \* \* \*  
 Jason Michael Wilkins-Sikkel \* \* \*  
 Scott Andrew Minaker \* \* \*

### **Process Technology**

Brian Jeffrey Hardesty \* \*  
 Caleb Fritch  
 Elijah Fritch  
 Evan Alexander Hernandez  
 Kyle J Speer \* \* \*  
 Lee Estabrook  
 Lukas Walters \* \*  
 Nolen Stephenson Atkins \*  
 Ryan Charles Glover  
 Samuel James McKinley \* \* \*  
 Santiago Angelo Esteban-Portes  
 Tucker Ty Harrison \* \* \*

### **Radiologic Technology**

Alyssa Lambe \* \*  
 Ana Giselle Sanabria Velazquez \* \* \*  
 Audra K Johnson \* \* \*  
 Bijay Basy  
 Brent Virginia Jennings \* \*  
 Caitlyn Christine Foy  
 Crystal Morales \* \* \*  
 Emily Bates \*  
 Eric H Gipe \* \* \*  
 Igor Leonid Shintar \* \* \*  
 Jagjit Kahlon \* \* \*  
 Jasmine Lee Weaver \* \*  
 Joshua J Coe \* \*  
 Josiah David Knebel \* \*  
 Justin Michael Lopez \* \*  
 Kameryn Mariah Raske \* \* \*  
 Katelyn Neher \* \* \*  
 Keiko Marriah Wilfong \* \* \*  
 Kelly E Carney \*  
 Mary Rose Garcia Pineda \* \*

McKenna Lynn Poynter \* \* \*  
 Melissa Harmony Woods \* \* \*  
 Michael J Broekstra \*  
 Natalie Marie Shikany \* \* \*  
 Nicole Russo  
 Nicole Wright \*  
 Rebekah Haskell \* \* \*  
 Robert Gould \* \* \*  
 Ryan Carpenter \*  
 Sara Rose Derry-Obeso \*  
 Tilor Colpitts \* \*

### **Surgery Technology**

Brendan Robert Burns \*  
 Jeff Emerson \* \* \*  
 Jessica Kiley \*  
 Julia Barton \*  
 Kimberly Ibarra \*  
 Marlene Trevino  
 Shelley Morgan \*

### **Welding & Fabricating Technology**

Alicia Nicol Pinholster  
 Andrew Griffin \* \*  
 Arturo Varela  
 Audrianna Marie Aakre \* \*  
 Austin Lynch  
 Ava Jean Hudson  
 Brandon Thomas Chadwell  
 Brit Elaine Nelson \* \* \*

Cameron O'Bryan  
 Carsten Fredrick Pfundt  
 Chance Ethane Ozmer  
 Collin Gray  
 Connor Davis Heuser \* \*  
 Daniel Albert  
 Elizabeth Anne Albaugh  
 Eric David Closson \*  
 Faith Marie Sanford \* \*  
 Frederick Bass III  
 Jesus Gonzalez Villa  
 Jon Olsen \* \* \*  
 Kaiser Ralstin Barker \* \*  
 Kelsi Anderson \* \*  
 Kyle Chavez  
 Lander Jefferey McLeod  
 Logan Harlan  
 Malaki Atilio Murillo \*  
 Marcus Tristan Easterby \*  
 Matthew Kalayanie Chesley  
 Mia Nelson-Vargas  
 Miles Lipson  
 Owen Daniel Hamilton  
 Owen John Bernardy  
 Pablo Mendoza  
 Quinn Tristan Mowilos-Keithly  
 Ryan Patrick Taliancich  
 Severn Stuckey  
 Tayah Tryon \* \* \*

**Academic Awards:** The following honors are awarded to each full-time student enrolled in a degree program with a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher at the completion of all degree requirements:

|                                         |                            |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| * Cum Laude: with honor                 | 3.50 – 3.74 cumulative GPA |
| ** Magna Cum Laude: with great honor    | 3.75 – 3.89 cumulative GPA |
| *** Summa Cum Laude: with highest honor | 3.90 – 4.00 cumulative GPA |

*The cumulative GPAs for students graduating this Spring or Summer are determined by their grades earned through Winter quarter. These are estimations for the Commencement Ceremony and are subject to change dependent upon final grades. The final award of a Degree or Certificate will follow verification of completion of all requirements. Students listed in this program are those who applied for a Degree or Certificate by the posted deadline.*

# 2025-2026 ASBTC Executive Officers

Celena Acevedo, *President*

Sammy Jurenka, *Director of Policy*

Ann Butma, *Director of Finance*

Grayson Herriott, *Director of Clubs & Outreach*

Lizbeth Gaspar Gonzalez, M.Ed., *Director of Student Life*

Ashley Misanes, *Student Life Coordinator*

## Acknowledgements

ASBTC Executive Team, former Student Life Director Chris Eder, BTC Commencement Committee, and BTC students.

Our special thanks to the employees at Bellingham Technical College for their continued support of the students in their professional technical education and for their assistance in our celebration.

## Nondiscrimination Statement

Bellingham Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, creed, color, sex, gender identity or expression, citizenship or immigration status, national origin, age, religion, disability, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, genetic information, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability, pregnancy, marital status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law in its programs, activities, and services. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies/Section 504: Director for Human Resources, 360.752.8354, or [hr@btc.edu](mailto:hr@btc.edu). For Title IX compliance, contact: Director of Compliance, 360.752.8305, or [title9@btc.edu](mailto:title9@btc.edu). Mailing address: 3028 Lindbergh Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225. BTC publications are available in alternate formats upon request by contacting the Accessibility Resources office at 360.752.8576.

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**YOUR OWN PATH**

