

The logo for donlife, with 'don' in yellow and 'life' in white, set against a dark grey background with a thin yellow arc underneath.

For Students

May 13, 2026



Purdue Fort Wayne to Celebrate Nearly 1,300 Graduates during Commencement Week

Purdue University Fort Wayne will celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2026 during two commencement ceremonies this week, recognizing nearly 1,300 graduates who are prepared to make an impact across northeast Indiana, the state, and beyond.

For the first time in university history, Purdue Fort Wayne will host two separate commencement ceremonies to recognize both graduate and undergraduate students. Graduate students will be honored Tuesday, May 12, at 4 p.m. in the Embassy Theatre, while undergraduate students will cross the stage Wednesday, May 13, at 4 p.m. at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

Together, the ceremonies will celebrate 1,278 graduates receiving a remarkable 1,444. degrees and certificates, including 990 undergraduate students and 288 graduate students. The Class of

2026 reflects the growing strength, reach, and academic excellence of Purdue Fort Wayne, with graduates representing 23 states and 28 countries.

This year's graduating class includes future engineers, educators, scientists, entrepreneurs, artists, technologists, counselors, business leaders, and public servants who are entering the workforce highly educated, highly trained, and ready to lead in a rapidly evolving global economy.

"These graduates represent the future of our communities, industries, and workforce," said Ron Elsenbaumer, chancellor of Purdue Fort Wayne. "At Purdue Fort Wayne, our students are challenged academically, inspired creatively, and prepared professionally. The Class of 2026 leaves this university ready to innovate, solve complex problems, strengthen their communities, and lead with purpose. We are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished and excited to see the extraordinary impact they will make throughout northeast Indiana, across our state, and beyond."

[READ MORE](#)

Share the story:



Senior Selection Highlights the Mentors Behind the Mastodon

Experience

This year, Purdue University Fort Wayne launched a new graduating senior recognition initiative called Senior Selection, giving members of the Class of 2026 the opportunity to recognize faculty and staff members who made a meaningful impact on their college experience.

Through Senior Selection, graduating seniors were invited to identify the mentors, advocates, encouragers, and supporters who helped shape their time at PFW and contributed to their success both inside and outside the classroom. The responses painted a powerful picture of the Purdue Fort Wayne experience, one rooted in connection, support, mentorship, and belonging. Students highlighted faculty and staff members who challenged them academically, encouraged them personally, supported them professionally, and helped them feel at home on campus.

[VIEW THE RECIPIENTS](#)

Share the story:



Watch for Special Summer Editions of *Don Life*

Throughout the 2025–26 academic year, *Don Life* delivered 36 weekly and eight special editions directly to your inbox, alongside essential updates from Chancellor Elsenbaumer. For a recap of

any past news or to stay connected after graduation, the **full archive** is available in the university's News Center.

Don Life is now on summer hiatus, with weekly editions returning on Aug. 12. Important updates will still be sent via special editions, so please continue to monitor your PFW email.

From all of us at *Don Life*, have a safe and relaxing summer!

Mastodon Moments

Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.



During a class break on a beautiful day, there's nothing like soaking up some sun and picking a banjo.

[Athletics](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[News Center](#)

[Don Life Archive](#)



Don Life is an official university communication sent weekly on Wednesday to all currently enrolled students. Don Life Special Edition is a supplement to the regularly scheduled newsletter. It covers breaking news and time-sensitive information directly related to university operations.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
FORT WAYNE

