



Herkimer

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Application for Student Speaker--Commencement 2026

Name: _____ **Major:** _____

Daytime Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation from Herkimer College!

The Commencement Committee is seeking applications from members of the Class of 2026 who are interested in being the student speaker at Commencement. To assist you in preparing your application and a draft of your speech for consideration by the committee, here are some helpful guidelines:

- ✓ Select a general topic that will be inspiring and interesting to your fellow graduates, reflecting upon the past and talking about the future.
- ✓ Time allotment for the speech is five (5) minutes, so please prepare a draft that falls within that timeframe.
- ✓ Prepare a few drafts of the speech before you submit it to make it the best it can possibly be. Enlist the expertise of a faculty member, advisor or staff member you know who would be happy to assist you in reviewing your draft and giving you constructive feedback.

Why do you want to be the student speaker for Commencement 2026 (50 words or less)?

Please submit this application and attach a copy of your draft speech (double-spaced) to the Marketing & Communications Office in the RMCC Building, room 255, or via email to ruffingrj@herkimer.edu.

Deadline for submission of application and speech:
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026