

BY THE NUMBERS



48.5%

GRADUATION RATE

For seven of the last 11 years, Colby Community College has had the highest first-year, first-time graduation rate among all 19 Kansas community colleges.



66.5%

RETENTION RATE

Retention is measured by the number of first-time, full-time degree-seeking students attending an institution for the fall semester and returning for the following fall semester.



19.2%

ENROLLMENT

Since 2015, Colby Community College has had the highest growth in headcount among Kansas community colleges.



SIXTY-FIRST COMMENCEMENT

May 15, 2026
Colby Event Center
Colby, Kansas



Scan the code to access this program online. The video archive of today's commencement will be posted in a few days.



Audio support is provided by MC Entertainment.

Thank you for attending today's celebration. Out of respect for all graduates and guests, please refrain from using air horns or other noise makers when names are announced. Excessive or prolonged noise may prevent other graduates' names from being heard and recognized.

Due to application deadlines and individual privacy preferences, not all graduates are listed in this program.

Board of Trustees

Patrick Toth	Chair
Jessica Vaughn	Vice Chair
Audrey Hines	Treasurer
Donna Henry	Endowment Representative
Arlen Leiker	KACCT/ACCT Representative
Zack Odell	Member

Endowment Foundation Board

Vernon Hurd	President
Lynette Andregg	President-Elect
Josh Ryan	Secretary/Treasurer
Cory Swartz	Member
Missy Siruta	Member

Administration

Dr. Seth Carter	President
Nikol Nolan	Executive Vice President
Angel Morrison	Vice President of Academic Affairs
Justin Villmer	Vice President of Finance and Operations

Recipients of the Tangeman Award for Teaching Excellence

1988	Dr. Max Pickerill	2007	Carolyn May
1989	Joyce Hansen	2008	Dr. Max Pickerill
1990	Cyril Leiker	2009	Allen Russell
1991	Victor Oelke	2010	Dr. Jennifer Martin
1992	Larry Koon	2011	Pat Ziegelmeier
1993	Dr. Philip Shuman	2012	Jean Ann Wilson
1994	Roger Hale	2013	John Olson
1995	Juliann Groom	2014	Deb Bickner
1996	Nick Wells	2015	Brad Bennett
1997	Kirk Hunter	2016	Pat Erickson
1998	Pat Erickson	2017	Rebel Mahieu
1999	Steve Lampe	2018	Bobette Maier
2000	Joan Jilka	2019	Crystal Pounds
2001	Tom Moorhous	2020	Shanda Mattix
2002	Sandy Harper	2021	Jori Steele
2003	Bob Selby	2022	Dr. Jeffrey Sekavec
2004	Vernon Wranosky	2023	Brad Griffith
2005	Krista Carter	2024	Krista Carter
2006	Carol Barnes	2025	Macie Batie

HONORARY ASSOCIATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Each year, Colby Community College awards the Honorary Associate of Arts Degree to recognize residents or former residents of Thomas County whose exemplary leadership, service, and contributions have significantly enhanced the College and the quality of life throughout the community.

1986 Helen Frahm	2007 Don Kready
1987 Don Phillips	2008 Joe Mildrexler
1988 Jimmy Nickel	2009 Dr. Floyd & Mary Smith
1989 Don Crumbaker	2010 Bruce and Cleona Flipse
1990 Marilyn Donelan	2011 Gracemary Melvin
1991 Bill Beck	2012 Dr. Richard Mosier
1992 Les Barrett	2013 Roger Hale
1993 Al & Ruth Lowenthal	2014 Lou Kersenbrock
1994 Charles Schiefen	2015 Dr. Larry & Joyce Washburn
1995 Gwen Young	2016 Jan Wolf
1996 Warren Hixson	2017 Charles & Debbie Schwanke
1997 Betty Secrest	2018 Dr. Tom and Nancy Barlow
1998 Jack & Betty Fitzsimmons	2019 Sue Draper
1999 George Elliott	2020 Arlen Leiker
2000 Charles Davis	2021 Rich and Judy Epp
2001 Max Embree	2022 Eugene & Kathy Robert
2002 David & Lois Ferguson	2023 Mark & Wendy Weishaar
2003 Matt Hamill	2024 Mark Winger
2004 Kenton & Sheila Krehbiel	2025 Gary Adrian
2005 David Jennings	2026 Tracy Rogers
2006 Jim & Betty Firestone; Jay Donelan	

PROGRAM

Processional

"Pomp and Circumstance" by Sir Edward Elgar
Pianist: Mrs. Pat Ziegelmeier

Welcome

Dr. Seth Carter, President

Presentation of the Mosier Award

Justin Villmer, Vice President of Finance and Operations

Presentation of the Ary Award

Mr. Mark Carlton, Humanities Instructor

Presentation of the Tangeman Award

Dr. Jeffrey Sekavec, Biology Instructor, STEM Chair

Presentation of Honorary Degree

Mr. Daniel Blake, Sociology Instructor

Presentation of Graduates

Mrs. Angel Morrison, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Conferring of Degrees and Certificates

Dr. Seth Carter, President

Mr. Patrick Toth, Chair, Board of Trustees

Recessional

"Joyous Fanfare" by Bober
Pianist: Mrs. Pat Ziegelmeier

TRACY ROGERS HONORARY ASSOCIATE DEGREE

A lifelong advocate for education and community service, Tracy Rogers is receiving the Colby Community College 2026 Honorary Associate Degree. The honor recognizes individuals whose service has significantly benefited the College and enhanced the quality of life in the region.

Rogers has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to Northwest Kansas through leadership and volunteerism. He has served on the Colby Community College Endowment Association Board, the Colby School Board, and the Thomas County Community Foundation Board. His additional involvement includes leadership roles with the Colby Kiwanis Club, Colby Swim Club, Colby High School Alumni Association, and the Colby All-Sports Booster Club. He also served as a regional vice president for the Kansas Association of School Boards.

Beyond formal roles, he is widely recognized for his hands-on volunteer efforts, particularly his support of student activities. He has spent countless hours assisting at events and driving activity buses, helping ensure students can participate in academic and extracurricular opportunities.

A former CCC student, Rogers earned his degree from Kansas State University in 1983. After working in Phoenix, Arizona, he returned to Colby in 1996 and built a career with Co-Ag/Frontier Ag. He and his wife, Robyn, have two children and two grandchildren.



2026 Phi Theta Kappa Graduates

Graduates wearing gold and blue cords are members of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for community colleges. PTK officers are also wearing medallions.

Esteban Alvarado
Christine Arjona
Spencer Owen Barnes
Blanca Gallegos
Aubreigh Gemmer
Zsofia Hardik
Karli Hills
Bailey Jackson
Jessica Jahay
Dylan Marks
Caroline McLean
Logan Nolan
Jenni Ortiz-Chavez
Ava Pezely
Alyssa Richardson
Noah Rodgers
Amisha Russell
Bryan Smotherman
Natalie Timbrook
Natalie Wederski



CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION

Bookkeeping

Makayla Dawn Modrow

Leadership

Nolan J. Hertzke

Veterinary Nursing Office Assistant/ Veterinary Office Assistant

Ada Dawn Adams	Jordan M. Hanna
Audrey Batton	Rubi Hernandez
Justice Booker	Amanda Michelle Hogsett
Mara Lyn Burgess	Kaydence Alexis DiAnn Kendall
Auston Jeanine Carr	* Berlin Elizabeth Lewis
Veronica Catano	Madison Emily Logging
Cassandra Lynn Cruz	Kira Christine Newbern
* Heather Day	Brooklyn Mariah O'Dell-Escalona
* Kelsey Myree Derks	D'Anna Adison Raymer
* Kelcie Isabella Dudding	Ryelee Grace Rockers
* Laci Dunlap	Brookelyn Tate
Brooklyn M. Ellis	* Karlee Layne Thrush
Elizabeth Louise Fay	Kelly Anne Titus
* Jessica Rose Fierce-Moravec	* Fatima Guadalupe Torres
Kassidy L. Figger	* Blanca Valverde
Justine Grace Fischer	* Grace Watson
* Dayaneli Gomez	Jasmin Weaver
* Keianna Guillory	* Kalyn M. Wilson

* Program completed in Fall 2025

+ Program scheduled to complete in Summer 2026

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

* Delal Aktay	+ Catherine Ashleigh Fischer
Christine M. Albers	Gabriel Fournier
Kaitlyn Sue Alexander	Sidney Fox
Kash A. Alley	Savieon Garrison
* Amanda Ann Anderson	Isabelle Lorraine Gillham
Parfaite Elia Ando	* Jacee D. Hammon
Kiera Rhian Bailey	Destiny Cheyenne Henry
Landon James Barnes	Anahi D. Hernandez
Thierno Barrie	+ Marco Antonio Hernandez
* Mario Gael Beltran	+ Aime Hernandez Perez
Zane Howard Betz	Nolan J. Hertzke
Chiara Binda	Karli Paige Hills
Lexi Cheyenne Brasted	Bailey Sue Jackson
Amanda Caputi	Tevin Eli Jackson
# Megan J. Carder	+ Cahmari Julia Johnson
* Rileigh Carr	Emma Celeste Johnson
Pedro Carrillo	Karlotta Kattai
David H. Cason IV	Chase John Kessler
Briley Elizabeth Jane Christensen	Tanna Kangchan Kistler
Caden Leigh Clifford	Dakotah Kotchuck
* Kami Yvonne Cowdrey	+ Emma Grace Kruse
Jared Alexander Cox	Jera Lynn Kruleski
Cally Grace Cramer	Charlie L. Langford
Cheyenne Rae Cramer	Pirikirearoa Annette Lewis
Darci Elaine Davis	Daveli Licano-Salcedo
Justin Nicholas Davis	Alexander R. MacDonald
Lucy Joye Davis	Jonathan A. Mader
Deangelo M. Delancy	Addison Rachelle Mann
Kenan Delestre	* Jazline Manriquez
* Abigail S. Dohm	Ariane J. McCary
# Gavin Douglas Driggs	Zion Messam
Rubi Duran	Adrian Jude Miller
Catherine Dutton	* Casie Raelynn Minton
Brooklynn Marie Ekker	Jacob Edward Mraz

* Program completed in Fall 2025

+ Program scheduled to complete in Summer 2026

Associate degree concurrently completed with high school graduation

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Adrian Marie Neal
+ Logan Grace Nolan
Lizeth Olivas
Jenni Ortiz-Chavez
Walter Parker
Janeli Perez-Medina
* Molly Grace Porteus
Madilyn Kay Powell
Emme K. Ratliff
Owen Kent Reece
Alyssa Richardson
+ Adamaris Romero
Isaiah Rosales
Dallen Lloyd Rude
Amisha Russell
Jalyssa Brianne Sabatka
Trey McKay Schroeder
+ Kristen Rae Shewey
Macen Shull
Abbie Mae Smith
Hunter T. Smith

Kylan Louise Sorenson
* Savannah Spady
Kylan Sarai Stroud
Emersyn Olive Supernor
Perla Bibiana Tena-Juarez
Stephany Tena-Juarez
+ Aleah Tew
Brody P. Torkelson
Dessirae Elise Ulmer
Siena Ivonn Vargas
Azeneth Maria Villegas
Charlotte Faith Walker
Dylan Eugene Wark
+ Dekanya T. Webb
Natalie Renee Wederski
* Tatum BreaAnn Wells
Kendra Marie Wendt
* Celeste E. Wolfe
Turner Eric Zdunich
Brooke A. Zinken
Katelyn Zukewich

— ONCE A TROJAN, ALWAYS A TROJAN —

*The beautiful thing about learning is that no one
can take it away from you.*

— B.B. King —

Congratulations to the Colby Community College Class of
2026.

TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES

Accounting/Management

Makayla Dawn Modrow

Beef Management

Lakoddah J. Downes
Kade H. Homm
Mara GraciAnna Kats
Kaleigh Belle Mason

Feedyard

Landon James Barnes
Mara GraciAnna Kats
Kaleigh Belle Mason

Practical Nursing

Morenikeji Magdalene Adigun	Kelvin Kiptoo Kimtai
Brenna C. Balderston	Kambree Lynn Lahnanen
Alysia Bebb	Kenli Jo Larson
Tiffani A. Benavides	Dalton Long
Rilee Marie Brown	Alexis L. Martinez
Trae L. Cliff	Serenity Hope Porter
Zsafia Da Silva Hardik	Taylor Russell
Aleecia Ann Day	Priscilla E. Stallings
Kaci Jo Dirks	Chloe K. Sullivan
Emma Mae Draper	Kayla Valenti
Louise Fonteles Lopes	Harlee Lace Voss
Reghan Leigh Haynes	Alyssa L. Wear
Danielle Lynn Headding	Samantha Michelle Williams
Musa Keita	Christine Michelle Zimmerman
Faith Jepchumba Kibet	

* Program completed in Fall 2025

+ Program scheduled to complete in Summer 2026

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Physical Therapist Assistant

+ Tatiana Allemang Rivero
+ Emma Mercedes Beltran
+ Matthew J Hahn
+ Zander A Luna
+ Caroline Belle McLean
+ Jada Rathbun
+ Madalyn M Schulte
+ MaKayla Mae Shean

Veterinary Nursing

Audrey Batton
Justice Booker
Tyanna N. Burnett-Porter
Josie Campbell
Sarah G. Carey
Auston Jeanine Carr
* Heather Day
* Kelsey Myree Derks
* Kelcie Isabella Dudding
Sophie Ann Easter
Brooklyn M. Ellis
Elizabeth Louise Fay
* Jessica Rose Fierce-Moravec
Kassidy L. Figger
Abigail Filson
Justine Grace Fischer
Jordan M. Hanna
Rubi Hernandez
Amanda Michelle Hogsett
Grace E. Kaberline
* Amy Kanorr
Kaydence Alexis DiAnn
Kendall
* Emma René Langley
Melanie DeShae McInroe
Cara Christine Moon
* Faith Philomena Mulholland
Kira Christine Newbern
Spencer Olivia Nichols
+ Caitlyn M. Parsley
* Abigail Marie Piercy
Leona M. Powell
Kairi Lee Ann Quinn
Trinidie Joleigh Quintana
Alana Michelle Ratzlaff
Ryelee Grace Rockers
Brookelyn Tate
Samantha Rae Thomas
Juliauna S. Throckmorton
* Karlee Layne Thrush
Kelly Anne Titus
* Mya R. Tritsch
Erin Elizabeth Upshaw
Katana Mai Walker
* Grace Watson
Alyssa Rose Wince
Melody A. Winkel-Fischer

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Kendra Mae Alexander
Esteban Alvarado
* Amanda Ann Anderson
Eliana Ayala-Mills
Kiera Rhian Bailey
Landon James Barnes
Thierno Barrie
Mario G. Beltran
Chiara Binda
Audrey Mae Burget
Isabella Catherine Byrd
Pedro Carrillo
+ Ella Grace Clark
Caden Leigh Clifford
* Cade J. Colglazier
* Kami Yvonne Cowdrey
Jared Alexander Cox
Cheyenne Rae Cramer
Kyli A. Daniels
Deangelo M Delancy
Kenan Delestre
* Braxton Aaron Dixson
* Abigail S. Dohm
Mica Donohue
Gavin Douglas Driggs
Rubi Duran
Brooklyn M. Ellis
Sidney Fox
Blanca Isabel Gallegos
Savieon Garrison
Aubreigh Danelle Gemmer
Isabelle Lorraine Gillham
* Jacee D. Hammon
Izabella M. Harrison
Destiny Cheyenne Henry
+ Marco Antonio Hernandez
+ Aime Hernandez Perez
Nolan J. Hertzke
Karli Paige Hills
* Lisa JoAnn Huff
Tevin Eli Jackson
Jessica Nichole Jahay
Emma Celeste Johnson
Madison Bree Johnson
Tanna Kangchan Kistler
Dakotah Kotchuck
Emma Grace Krase
* Carter John Krier
Jera Lynn Kruleski
Dawson Timothy Lemmer
Daveli Licano-Salcedo
Alexander R. MacDonald
Jonathan A. Mader
Addison Rachelle Mann
* Jazline Manriquez
* Dylan Micheal Marks
Kaleigh Belle Mason
Maranda Joleigh Mason
+ Ragan Marie Mauler
Nadine Gwendoline Muriel
Mcintyre
Savanah Justine Mertens
Zion Messam
Adrian Jude Miller
Jacob Edward Mraz
Adrian Marie Neal
Lizeth Olivias
Jenni Ortiz-Chavez

* Program completed in Fall 2025

+ Program scheduled to complete in Summer 2026

Associate degree concurrently completed with high school graduation

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Maria Nicole Parish	Trey McKay Schroeder
Ashlynn E. Pavlov	Macen Shull
Tamarío A. Petty	* Isabella Sisson
Ava Marie Pezely	Abbie Mae Smith
Eásha L. Potts	Kylan Sarai Stroud
* Miriam Rangel	Emersyn Olive Supernor
+ Jada Rathbun	Stephany Tena-Juarez
Owen Kent Reece	Natalie M. Timbrook
Dali Jean Reser	Brody P. Torkelson
Ayvah A. Reynoso	Kaitlyn Trejo-Carrillo
Alyssa Richardson	Siena Ivonn Vargas
Noah Denis Rodgers	Kendra Marie Wendt
Sebastian A. Rodriguez	Robert G. Whitaker
Dallen Lloyd Rude	Turner Eric Zdunich
Amisha Russell	Brooke A. Zinken
Edoney Ethan Russell	Katelyn Zukewich
Jalyssa Brianne Sabatka	

ASSOCIATE OF GENERAL STUDIES

Salvador Barintas

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Beef Production

Lakoddah J. Downes
Kade Homm
Mara GraciAnna Kats
Kaleigh Belle Mason

Business Management and Administration

Makayla Dawn Modrow

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Dental Hygienist

(In cooperation with and degrees awarded by
Northcentral Technical College in Wausau, WI)

Gisselle Dayana Aguirre-Apodaca	Johanna Grace Ridder
Katherine Nichole Downing	Lindsey Marie Sabatka
Yessica Martinez	Sara Lindsay Wright

Horse Production/Management

Sadee May Adamson
Kinlee May
Sidney J. Morgan

Nursing

Kaylee Renay Anglin	Jennifer Elaine Koerperich
Ivan Armendariz	Kelly Lopez
MaKayla Shabon Cadwalader	Katie Diane Meitl
Brooklyn Jade Carroll	Bryton A Mesch
Darcea Addalie Collins	Itzel Perez
Ashley Dawn Earl	Kayla Jo Shada Wid
Naidelinn Estrada Ortega	Fayth ShyLynn-Carson Smith
Kimberly Lynn Gallegos	Bryan W. Smotherman
Andromeda R Haussermann	Samantha Aaron Vogel
Aurora Paige Haussermann	Trizer Wangari
Emmersyn Lane Higley	Jace Thunder Wid
Nicole Irwin	

* Program completed in Fall 2025

+ Program scheduled to complete in Summer 2026