

TSC

**TALLAHASSEE
STATE COLLEGE**

DIVISION OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS

SUMMER 2026 PINNING CEREMONY

Honoring Graduates of the
Dental Assisting Technology and
Management Applied Technology Diploma,
Emergency Medical Technician Applied
Technology Diploma, Paramedic Certificate,
Nursing, and Surgical Technology Programs

**JULY 28, 2026
4:30 P.M.**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Graduates,

On behalf of the District Board of Trustees, faculty, and staff of Tallahassee State College (TSC), congratulations on this remarkable achievement!

This evening, we celebrate your perseverance, resilience, and unwavering dedication in completing one of the most challenging and rewarding academic paths, your healthcare education. The journey to becoming a healthcare professional demands intellectual commitment, technical skill, and deep compassion. Whether in Dental Assisting, Emergency Medical Services, Surgical Technology or Nursing, you have demonstrated the determination and excellence required to succeed in these vital fields.

Each of your programs has presented its own unique challenges, from mastering intricate dental procedures, responding to critical emergencies in high-pressure situations, and managing life-saving medical care, to ensuring precision and efficiency in the operating room. You have endured rigorous coursework, demanding clinical rotations, and countless hours of hands-on training, all in preparation to serve patients and communities with knowledge, skill, and heart.

This moment is a testament not only to your hard work but also to the support of your family, friends, mentors, and instructors who have stood by you every step of the way. As you enter the healthcare workforce, you join a proud tradition of TSC graduates who have dedicated their careers to improving lives. The skills you have gained and the dedication you have shown will undoubtedly have a profound impact on those you serve.

We are incredibly proud of you and all that you have accomplished. Best wishes for a fulfilling and meaningful career, and always remember, TSC will always be your home.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jim Murdaugh
President, Tallahassee State College



PROGRAM

Processional (<i>please stand</i>)	
Opening	Angela Gruber <i>Associate Dean, Healthcare Professions</i>
Welcome	Dr. Jim Murdaugh <i>President</i>
Provost Remarks	Dr. Calandra Stringer <i>Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
Academic Reflection and Program Achievements	Dr. Stephanie Solomon <i>Dean of Healthcare Professions</i>
Alumni Reflection and Charge to Graduates.....	Heather Mitchell <i>Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the TSC Foundation</i>
Announcement of Graduates.....	John Schultz <i>Professor, Division of Communications and Humanities</i>
Program Pinning	
Dental Assisting Technology and Management Applied Technology	
Diploma Graduates	Lane Foreman, CDA, CRDH, BS
Emergency Medical Services Graduates	Jon Berryman, PMD
Emergency Medical Technician Applied Technology Diploma	
Paramedic Certificate	
Associate of Science in Surgical Technology Graduates ...	Yashica Clark, BSPH, CST
Associate of Science in Nursing Graduates	Jo Hendricks, DNP, APRN, RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing Graduates	Cherie Hodge, PhD, APRN, CNE
Ceremonial Candle Lighting and Recitation of Nursing Pledge.....	Cherie Hodge
Recessional (<i>please stand</i>)	

TSC DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Dr. Jim Murdaugh, *President*

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DIVISION OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS

Dr. Stephanie Solomon, *Dean of Healthcare Professions*

Angela Gruber, *Associate Dean of Healthcare Professions*

Dr. Ken Tellis, *Associate Dean of Healthcare Professions*

Dental Health Programs Faculty

Debra Burtoft, CRDH, MS, *Professor*

Lane Foreman, CDA, CRDH, BS, *Professor*

Rachel Kennedy, CRDH, MS, *Assistant Professor*

Melissa Olson, CDA, CRDH, M.Ed., *Professor*

Lorinda Simon, CDA, CRDH, MS, *Program Chair*

Emergency Medical Services Programs Faculty

Jon Berryman, PMD, *Program Chair*

Kayse Green, PMD, *Assistant Professor*

Derek Mitchka, PMD, *Assistant Professor*

Diane Morris, PMD, *Associate Professor*

Joshua Peebles, PMD, *Assistant Professor*

Michelle Siples-Ward, PMD, *Assistant Professor*

Nursing Programs Faculty

Ivette Berry, MSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Makeشيا Brockman, MPH, MSN/Ed, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Ashley Brown, MSN, APRN, *Assistant Professor*

Gaynell Brown, BSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Margaret Burden, DNP, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Suzanne Dean, MSN, RN, CNE, *Associate Professor*

Elizabeth Fillingim, MSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Angela Goodson, MSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Jo Hendricks, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, *Assistant Professor*

Cherie Hodge, PhD, APRN, CNE, *Professor*

Sarah McCarty, BSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

John Polisknowski, MSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Brooke Shealey, BSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Brittany Sullivan, MSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Amairani Trejo, BSN, RN, *Assistant Professor*

Surgical Technology Program Faculty

Jeremy Wortham, BSE, CST, *Program Chair*

Yashica Clark, BSPH, CST, *Assistant Professor*

SUMMER 2026 GRADUATES

Dental Assisting Technology & Management Applied Technology Diploma

Dalayah Clark

Blandine Sermon

Tyshantay Evans

Celeste Smith

Amelia Favors

Tianna Williams

Jazarie Jones

Briana Young

T'shyla Mitchell

Emergency Medical Technician Applied Technology Diploma

Gabriel Canabal

Janelle Octavien

Lautaro Desmedt Porcaro

Josh Ryland de Kloet

Snigdha Devullapally

Audry Sauls

Ashlyn Gorczany

Jonathan Thompson

Aiden Kingry

Gillian Tran

Sofia Lopez

Alden Vega

Maria Mankin

Cyrus Wilkes

Matthew Melley

Annemarie Wilson

Paramedic Certificate

Joshua Ciarlariello

D'Niya Harris

Maxx De La Ossa

Chase Raberge

Justin Eckel

Brianna Wood

Matthew Godwin

Associate of Science in Surgical Technology

Markeria L. Allen	Kathryn Nicole Kofler
Mackenzie E. Bing	Ta'Niya Lewis
Telvin J. Bryant	Markeem L. Martin
Najwa V. Davis	Liliana Perez
Ameenah Dellafield	Shelvin Pilot
Hezekiah H. Henderson	Gracyn Potter

Associate of Science in Nursing Graduates

Yetunde Adebayo ****	Janice Carter
Ebun Ajayi	Erik Chavez
Noraine Albao	Alethea Clarke
Benjamin Anderson	Brooklyn Cohen
Shalese Austin	Tamiya Cozart
Qudsi Baker ***	Thomas Creel
Jenna Banico	Erek Cyr +
Alexis Barnes	Thomas D'Alessandro ++
Keyshanda Bean	Sarah Darwish
Fritzisha Bellevue	Morgan Dial
Briana Boggs	Ricci Nicole Gagtan
La'Darius Bolden	Brianna Gaines
Taylor Bray	Montoya Garrett
Kennedy Brown	Kiera Grant
Jazlyn Byrd	Rafael Murin Guarda
Yesli Carrasco Nunez	Laurel Hamilton

Lakia Hawkins **

Ariel Howard

Nakisha Hughley

Natalie Hurst

Samantha Johnson

Keishana Jonas

Tre Jones

Eiana Joseph

Sarah Katz

Destinee Laramore

Deontae Lipkins

Tiana Lowe

Celestine Joy Magno

Kania Manning

Myakka Martin

Akinah Miller

Sara Mohamed

A'Laya Moore

Allison Ochoa

Grace Orth

Nataly Perez

Keri Peterson

Isabella Pichardo

Evelyn Plata-Sanchez

Alexis Pratts

Jordan Pyke

Ramiah Raiford +++

Tyrhonza Ratliff

Mia-Isabella Reyes

Victoria Richards

Nykael Sanders

Raegan Scott

A'syria Shuler

Jamila Simmons

Ja'Liyah Skeete

Garisa Slaton

Briana So

Mckenzie Sparks

Tyina Sparks

Corrine Statler **

Brianna Stephens

Bailey Strickland

Emily Thompson

Evelyn Villegas

Taylor Wade

Hope Waller

Ameria Washington

Jade Washington

Payton Weinstock **

Ambria Whitmore

Jetarshie Williams

Kanariah Williams

Sierra Witt

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Graduates

Denesia Barrett

Marshe Batie

Emily Childs

Paige Geller

Lizeth Gonzalez-Garcia

Arielle Johnson

Amari Rittman

***Highest GPA*

****HCA Capital Hospital Nurse Excellence Award*

***** Pinnacle Award*

+TMH Cathedral Award

++Bedside Manner Award

+++ Nightingale Award

NURSING AWARDS

Highest GPA

This award is for the student who has earned the highest-grade point average in nursing courses.

Bedside Manner Award

This award was initiated by Carl Wier, former owner of the TSC Bookstore, who began presenting this award in 1975 in honor of the compassionate nurse who took care of his son. This nurse went the extra mile with a caring heart and gave Mr. Wier the confidence to totally put his son in her care. This award is given to the student who shows not only knowledge but a caring attitude because "nursing is the heart of healthcare."

HCA Florida Capital Hospital Nurse of Excellence Award

The mission of HCA FL Capital Hospital is, "Above all else, we are committed to the care and improvement of human life." HCA's mission is the foundation of the Nurse Excellence Award, which is given to the nursing graduate who shows commitment to and embodies the essence of the HCA mission by demonstrating personal and professional growth throughout the nursing program. This student strives to provide the best care for patients and will be an asset to our profession.

Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Cathedral Award

The award can be best illustrated by a story: Three people were at work on a construction site. All were doing the same job, but when each was asked what his job was, their replies varied. The first replied, "Breaking rocks." The second, when asked what he was doing stated, "Earning a living." The third person's reply was "Helping to build a cathedral." Not many people can build cathedrals. All of us at Tallahassee Memorial join together to save lives, bring new life into the world, or ease the end of one's life. To the extent each employee can see the "Cathedral cause" in whatever job he or she is doing, the job will seem more worthwhile.

Nightingale Award

The Nightingale Award reflects a perspective that goes beyond completing required tasks to understanding the deeper purpose of nursing. Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, established a legacy rooted in dedication, compassion, and professional excellence. Like the individual who sees their work not merely as a job, but as part of building something meaningful, this recipient has approached the challenges of the nursing program with resilience and purpose. Through determination, perseverance, and a strong work ethic, this student has demonstrated the ability to rise above obstacles while maintaining a clear focus on providing exceptional care. This award recognizes a commitment not only to personal success, but also to the broader mission of nursing: improving lives through knowledge, compassion, and service.

Pinnacle Award

The Pinnacle Award reflects a mindset driven by purpose and sustained effort. While many complete the demanding requirements of a nursing program, this recipient has consistently demonstrated exceptional determination and commitment throughout. This student has remained focused on their goal, working through challenges with discipline and persistence. Their efforts reflect a clear understanding of the responsibility and expectations of the nursing profession. This award honors a student who has demonstrated consistent focus, resilience, and the level of determination required to successfully transition into professional practice.

THE NIGHTINGALE PLEDGE

I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly, to pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully. I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession, and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling. With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work, and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.

OUR THANKS

The Class of Summer 2026 would like to thank the TSC District Board of Trustees and Administration. Our sincerest thanks to our clinical partners, without whom the success of TSC's Healthcare Programs would not be possible.

Congratulations GRADUATES

Welcome to the TSC Alumni and Friends Association

You've joined an elite international group of former TSC students who can be found in every walk of life around the world. They are making positive change in the world every day, and in the life of our College.

Stay connected, visit ALUMNI.TSC.FL.EDU

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