



# Advice & Words of Wisdom for the Class of 2026

The following messages were shared by alumni via text message  
during commencement week.

# PIONEERS

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Always use your voice to advocate for the rights of others. -Victoria

A piece of advice that has helped me in life, whether academically or professionally or in my personal life, is when you are struggling and feel like giving up, keep it pushing one day at a time, until you see it through- and you will always see it through! -Walla

I would say that it's ok to change plans and start over. Everyone gets committed to what their initial goals are and the thought of starting over is daunting, but you should do what makes you happy even if it's later in life. -Katarina

To never give up and follow your dreams. Once you graduate.. You realize it all depends on you to make use of your education. Apply yourself and keep learning, the sky is the limit. -Talha

It is a privilege to offer some encouraging advice to the upcoming graduates of cal state east bay. To the upcoming graduating class at cal state east bay, your hard work, perseverance, and dedication have brought you to this incredible milestone. The road ahead may not always be easy, but you are more capable and resilient than you realize. Remember that success is not only measured by achievements, but also by kindness and integrity. Keep learning, keep growing, never stop believing in your potential, and always stay true to yourself. Congratulations and best wishes for a bright future ahead! There you go.... I am always happy to help my alma mater many way i can. -Tracy

(1) Create a solid overall plan for your life, both professional and personal. (2) Learn to make decisions. In other words, be decisive. (3) Finally, ask yourself this question: are you a giver or a taker? -Robin

It's okay to feel nervous and excited at the same time for the unknown. Just don't let the fear stop you from trying new things. Good luck! -Madeline

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Although i am not a graduate of cal east bay my niece annika arroyo(blom) is. I'd like to say- be kind to your fellow mankind, respect each other, be sure to set achievable expectations and to stay off your darn phones!!! Don't be afraid to talk to one another!!! I'll end this by saying congratulations you did it!!!! -Marcus

Knowing yourself is an ongoing journey. Continue to stay curious and you'll find yourself in opportunities you'll only dream of. -Jennifer

No one is going to produce the results/life you want but you. You have to make your vision come true. You have the power to make it happen. -Magen

The mission doesn't stop here, the best is yet to come. -Christopher

Reaching out for mental health support is normal and encouraged. -Linda

Congrats to the graduates! My advice is to celebrate this win fully before rushing into the next big thing. Take a moment to reflect on how much you've grown since day one on campus. That perspective will serve you well in whatever comes next! -Juwana

Form connections. Networking can give you the boost to give you that competitive edge when there are many applican'ts. -Esther

Stay in contact with the friends you made along the way. -Nathaniel

Cherish this time you had in college. It is one of the best times in life. And to live life to the fullest and pursue your dreams and work hard. -Shane

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Hey. I'd like to share that it takes courage and patience to get through the challenges of student life, but never give up on your goals and dreams! -Zia

Stay true to you and remain diligent in your pursuits in your soul's journey in life.  
-Nicholas

Once you get your first job, start saving immediately, even if its just a little each month. Small, consistent savings compound faster than you think. In 23 years, youll be surprised by how much youve built, and goals like owning your dream home will start to feel truly possible. -Nga

Be patient and keep your focus on your future. You got this! -Annie

Don't be afraid to try new things, open your heart to god and allow hi'm to call you where he wants you to go and don't be worried if it's hard to get a job immediately after graduation, that is normal. -Matthew

I started out with one thing but felt like i should give more, haha: one piece of advice i would share with the class of 2026 is to not spend your life forcing yourself into environments that require you to shrink who you are or the dreams you want to pursue. As you begin your careers, there will be pressure to chase titles, stability, and whatever success is supposed to look like on paper, but over time you will realize that alignment matters just as much or even more. Pay attention to the work that makes you feel engaged, energized, and connected to something bigger than yourself, because you do not have to choose between ambition and purpose, strategy and creativity, or success and authenticity. The world needs people who can lead, build, solve problems, and create meaningful impact while remaining true to who they are. Lastly, never underestimate the power of authenticity, relationships, and meaningful impact, because people may forget your title, but they will always remember how you made them feel, what you built, and whether you helped make things better for others. -Joseph

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Advice: keep growing outside of the classroom. Learning as a life long pursuit.  
Stay curious. -Marc

When it comes to jobs or careers, keep searching even when things don't seem to very bright at the moment. There's always a light, whether it's small or big, it's an opportunity and don't be afraid to take a step towards it. -Tiffany

Build relationships and expand your network - that is what is going to help in the future in terms of getting new jobs, business connections or long last friendship. -Muni

Here's my piece of advice. There's no need to compare yourself to others. Believe in yourself and visualize your dreams coming true. I started my music studio in culver city in 2017 proud to be a csueb class of 2014 graduate! Feel free to check out my website! -Machiko

Always be yourself. Don't be afraid to advocate for yourself. Do what makes you happy and not what other people think you should do. Be grateful and make sure every decision made is based on strategy not emotion. Move with grace, confidence, integrity, patience and lastly intention. -Maurice

Continue with your education to get a post graduate degree. You will stand out in the market if you have a master's degree. -Ursula

Keep working hard and be open to different opportunities that will push you out of your comfort zone but also shape you into better people. Most importantly, trust god's plan and his will for your life. Congrats class of 2026! - Timothy

Keep your integrity compass due north and be resolved in the knowledge that it is what's right, and accept the wisdom to understand that it will not always be the comfortable path. -Robert

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Be happy with your choices and stick to your gut life is too short second guess your life and choices. -Justin

However your path takes you, always remember it's never too late to switch lanes. And there are always more lanes than you see, you just need to shine a flashlight to find the right lane for you. -Omar

Life begins at the end of your comfort zone. -Ken

Stay curious and keep building your network like you are still on campus. The degree gets you through the door, but your willingness to learn, adapt, and stay connected to people will carry you further than any single job or plan. -Samson

Trust in your timing. You are never late in your own story. -Danielle

Your path isn't linear. Enjoy the detours and "set-backs". It may lead you to something better than what you initially set out for! -Ariel

One piece of advice is to remind yourself how hard you've worked to get to this special day so don't forget give yourself so much credit and acknowledgement because you made it !!! -Joana

Always be learning! I know it's ebonics. It is important to continually be open to learning new things and different perspectives to expand your mind and especially career growth opportunities! -Mary

Tell the graduates not to always believe the media and to do independent research. And our tax dollars should be spent on america not on other countries and not getting involved with wars that don't concern us as a nation. -Emanuel

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The best piece of advice that i can share with 2026 graduates is "it's never too late to go back to school and once you're there be patient it's not a race, take the time to build authentic relationships, and don't be afraid to take risk and if something doesn't come out as you plan try again. But the most important of them all understand that we are humans and we are not perfect so mistakes are ways to help us learn and honestly in a way they make us stronger. -Beatriz

You have more options and pathways than you may think with any given degree (relives pressure to know). -Kylie

One piece of advice i could give would be, things are a lot scarier when you don't try them. Whatever idea, new opportunity, or even uncertainty about something, give it a go. Once you get your feet wet, it becomes a lot less scarier. -Nicolas

Be open, get to know and connect with others, get out of your comfort zone. - Sonia

Find the thing that you do well and focus on expanding it further. -Thuyen

Never give up on your goals and keep moving forward even if you need to take a pause or break. Remember to appreciate the journey because will make the destination more worth it. -Gabriela

This is my advise for the graduating pioneers: congratulations, pioneers! If i could share one thing, its this: master your 'why' so you don't get lost in the 'what.' Starting out, youll be tempted to just follow every manual and check every box to please the higher-ups, but that is how you lose your edge. Instead, focus on the logic behind your work. Don't let the overwhelming amount of busyworkthe 'kitchen sink' of tasks that companies throw at youdistract you from becoming a true expert in your field. Develop a solid personal standard for

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excellence and stick to it, even when the corporate environment pushes for the bare minimum. Be the professional who thinks critically rather than just following a checklist. Thank you again for reaching out, austin. -Mary

One piece of advice id like to share with the upcoming graduates is to remember that youll always be a student in the journey of life. The experience of earning your degree is more than an accomplishment; its the foundation for how you will steward and navigate the rest of your life. -Jenieka

One thing id tell the class of 2026 at california state university, east bay is: don't wait for the perfect time to start your career or go after what you want. Life moves fast. Sometimes days quietly turn into years while youre handling survival, responsibilities, setbacks, or just trying to figure things out. I learned that the hard way, and at one point i realized i was playing catch-up with goals i couldve started sooner. But the good news is its never too late to move forward. Start now, even if its messy, imperfect, or small. Consistency beats waiting every time. -Deandra

Congrats, class of 2026! My biggest advice: don't wait until you feel completely ready to take the opportunity. Growth happens when you step outside your comfort zone. Stay consistent, keep learning, build strong relationships, and trust the process your career path may not be linear, but thats often where the best opportunities happen. Go pioneers! -Josefina

The curiosity and grit it took you to graduate, will be the qualities you need to become the most successful and fulfilled version of you. Congrats class of 2026!  
-Sandra

Don't wait to be the most experienced person in the room before you speak. Your newness is data. Your perspective, knowledge, feedback and questions expose what others stopped asking. That is not weakness that is exactly what organizations need and rarely get. Let your voice be heard! -Chiriga

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Stay curious and track every shift in your industry's winds for the trends you follow today are the stepping stones of tomorrow. Hold your career lightly, with open hands and a flexible heart. You never know where the path will turn, one pivot might lead you to a role, a passion, or a future you havent even dreamed of yet. -Alexander

Well the time has come for you to soar. You have done all that is required and now it's time to see what you are really made of. Congratulations, stay grounded and remember take each step one at a time, and be true to who you really are. -Paulette

I would say, "remember, it's not as serious as you think and remember to take care of your physical, spiritual and mental health. You can function peacefully if all three work together. -Michael

Apply to all the jobs you are interested in, some employers will take the opportunity to train you and develop any missing skills. Do not be afraid! - Joselyn

Congratulations to the class of 2026. My biggest piece of advice is to let your passion for what comes next unfold naturally. You may have a plan in place, but life has a way of shifting things in directions you didnt expect. Sometimes those changes are out of your control, and thats okay. What matters is that you never give up on yourself. Stay committed to living life on your terms, even when the path looks different than you imagined. -Jamilan

Never feel insecure about your level of education. You graduated from a great academic school and had to study hard to achieve that. Congratulations, go obtain your dreams! -Jeremy

One piece of advice i would like to share with class of 2026 is always believe in yourself and stay consistent in whatever you want to achieve in life. You can make anything possible if you put your mind towards it! -Khadija

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Don't just stop here! Utilize what csueb has embedded in you. Make your own history!!! -Tameka

Being strong isn't about never falling it's about continuing to stand back up for others and for yourself. The world you're walking into needs kindness, integrity, and people willing to do the right thing even when it's difficult. Don't underestimate the difference one good person can make. Congratulations, class of 2026 go be the hope someone else needs. -Tameem

School may have given you tools but it is what is already inside of you that must steer what you create in this world with your life. Be bold, dare to be great not like someone else but in your integrity to your journey and sense of hope for a better world. Fail hard so that you rise again that much higher! Purpose was never meant to be an easy calling so don't be quick to take the easy way. Take the time to learn, and invest in understanding yourself and who you are with the same vigor that brought you across this stage and you will be an immovable force in this world. Lastly, greatness lays within you and can only be discovered not obtained, learn to love your life's journey and you will attain the greatest gift to have lived a life worth living. -Ross

My advice is to be patient with yourselves. Life after graduation doesn't unfold in a straight line, and success shows up in different forms and at different times. Your career is a marathon, not a sprint, and you don't need to have everything figured out right away. What you've accomplished at csueb has already given you a strong foundation trust your pace, stay open to growth, and keep moving toward the opportunities that feel right for you. You're more ready than you realize. -Sandra

The best opportunities are the ones you create by putting yourself out there and then working hard! Don't be scared to try something new or unfamiliar so many people out in the world are willing to teach you. -Raphael

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I would suggest they due the uncomfortable, leave a legacy for generations, become unforgettable, and challenge the unacceptable. -Vanessa

Invest in the stock market early. Work hard. Try to buy a house early as possible. Find a partner that will improve you as a personally and professionally. Get married and have kids, if that's your thing. Give back to those that have helped you get to where you're at. Be grateful for everyday and every opportunity that we have living in the usa. People in other countries don't even have running water or electricity and make it work but we have every opportunity and still finds ways to complain. Be humble and enjoy the journey. -Sukhamrit

Work hard, but work with curiosity. Don't be afraid to take on the projects that feel a little bit over your head, those are the ones that actually build your career. When you combine a strong work ethic with a willingness to stay in 'learning mode,' you don't just find a job; you build a future that you're actually excited to wake up for every day. -Laura

You don't need to have everything figured out, or know what you want to be. But you need to make sure you work hard so that when you catch your break, you're ready to jump out and grab it. -Zully

Truly embrace the pioneer spirit!!! Go out there and apply for the jobs that you "technically don't qualify for!" Apply and explore fields that interest your soul, whether it matches your degree or not! Everything we do is all interconnected and different disciplines provide different problem solving strategies, lived experiences, and creativity. Forge the path forward. -Lauren

Never give up, and always keep learning. Things are only hard because you don't understand it at first. Youll be amazed at what you can do if you just try. - Tommy

Hi! Thank you for reaching out! Id like to start by saying congratulations on your hard work! Your graduation is a huge accomplishment and marks the

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beginning of a new chapter in your life. Be proud of yourself and savor your last moments at csueb. A piece of advice: be patient, be proud of yourself, and try to listen more and talk less. I wish you all the best in your future ahead. Congratulations again! Nawar awad m. S. Construction management graduated in 2017. -Nawar

I would suggest they due the uncomfortable, leave a legacy for generations, become unforgettable, and challenge the unacceptable. -Saira

As you graduate and step into a new chapter, remember that everyones journey unfolds differently. Stay focused on your own goals, growth, and purpose. Comparing your path to someone elses can distract you from the progress youre meant to make. Trust your timing, keep moving forward, and celebrate how far youve already come. -Dulce

Continue to strive forward and remain dedicated on your path. Motivation is the key. Find and acknowledge your passion. -Kourtnee

If you want a village, you have to be a villager. People need each other now more than ever. Don't ever underestimate the power and importance of genuine, grass roots human connection. It's not just about who you know but how you can use what you know to help yourself by helping others. -Martina

Congratulations to the class of 2026! One thing id share is: stay curious and don't be afraid to start before you feel fully ready. Growth comes from taking chances, learning through experience, and staying consistent even when the path isnt perfectly clear. -Krutiben

Never count yourself out of the next possibility just because it's something you hadn't considered trying before. Your next "yes" could be just the thing that launches you into making an impact for generations to come. -Kelly

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My advice to the class of 2026 would be: don't be afraid if your path doesn't look perfect right away. A lot of people feel pressure to have everything figured out after graduation, but growth usually happens through trial, setbacks, and learning as you go. -Teana

Look at your life not from 0 to 100, but from -100 to +100 instead. It will help recontextualize how often your days tend to hover around 0. -Yuki

Growth comes from taking chances, learning from mistakes, stay humble, work hard, and remember that success is not just about what you achieve, but about the kind of person you become along the way. -Herminia

Think of your first role as a launchpad, not a final destination. Focus on gaining skills, experience, and professional connections. -Maritza

One thing I'd tell the class of 2026 is to give yourself credit for how far you've already come. There will be moments where you question yourself or feel like you're falling behind, but everyone's path looks different. Keep going, keep learning, and don't be afraid to take chances on yourself. Some of the best opportunities come from simply believing you're capable of more than you think. Congratulations, pioneers! -Nancy

You made it. All that hard work finally paid off. Celebrate today, celebrate you, and most importantly be proud of yourself. You deserve this moment don't let no one take it away from you. Congratulations. -Claudia

Once in a while we're able to reflect on an achievement. Use this opportunity to focus on what it truly means to you and your path will become more and more a reflection of your selflessness worthy of those around you. -Alexey

I would say have patience. You have just completed a huge goal and it's an amazing accomplishment! It's important to enjoy the process as you navigate

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entering the work force. Don't compare yourself to others and their timeline. Everything will fall into place accordingly. Just be kind, hardworking and an overall good human... And good things will come your way! -Rachel

Words of wisdom... - Don't overthink everything - get off your phones - look around - appreciate the people around you that matter most - don't dwell on how you're going to use your degree. No one cares that you have it unless you plan to be a doctor, lawyer or educator. - Follow a passion, not a job/career. - Live within your means and all will be okay. -Anthony

Always consider the needs of others and care about your needs too. Get that balance of caring and taking care of yourself. That brings the most fulfillment out of life. -Amanda

I would tell them to keep reinventing themselves and always be sure to keep your dreams on top of your mind in whatever you do. -Haile

Understand that you will do many things in your lifetime, you may change careers several times, you may become discouraged, but never give up. Do not be afraid, do not second-guess yourself, and follow your passions. -Ubong

Choose the path that requires a bit more courage. That's how you grow. And protect that courage. -Miguel

Have a plan but don't worry if it doesn't work out. Live life and get experience in as many ways as you can. Whether it be for work or just any social situations i'm in a field i never imagined i'd be in and love my job/work and life balance. -Tyler

My younger brother is graduating from east bay with a bs in computer science and his ceremony is on saturday. My advice for all new graduates is to remember you are not in competition with anyone. Once you stop comparing yourself to the success of others, you get to finally focus on yourself to be the

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better version of you. Enjoy the journey, be kind to others and yourself, and always remember to celebrate your wins no matter how big or small. -Zohal

Congrats to the class of 2026. One thing I'd say is trust the process, even when it feels slow. Keep your head down, stay consistent, and don't get distracted comparing your timeline to everyone else's. A lot of success comes from showing up every day, improving little by little, and staying patient when things don't happen overnight. The work you put in quietly today usually speaks the loudest later. -Ali

My advice would be "don't be afraid to take chances. Your efforts never go waste. Be courageous and be willing to put that extra effort in everything you do. Dream big! Never give up and always remember your choices shape your life! Congratulations class of 2026! Proud of you all!" Prajakta Patkar. -Prajakta

Your degree got you to the starting line. What will set you apart now is how you treat people, how you respond when things don't go as planned, and your willingness to keep learning along the way. Congrats to the class of 2026! -Leizl

One piece of advice I would give to the graduating class of 2026 would be to be open and curious to new opportunities even if they don't match with your original plan. That is the best way you can grow and learn in your career and life and can teach you very valuable skills. -Kaajal

Don't stress if your path doesn't look like everyone else's. A lot of the best opportunities come from being willing to learn, adapt, and start before you feel fully ready. Stay consistent, stay curious, and keep building real skills; that's what separates people long term. -Marc

I'd say it's less about which college you graduate from or which subjects you excel in, and more about the connections you build and how willing you are to step outside your comfort zone. The more you put yourself out there, the more opportunities you create for yourself. You can choose to spend your time

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partying and taking it easy, or you can use it productively join communities like pmi, attend events, and actively grow your network. -Tejaswi

Control what you can, laugh at what you can't, and don't take yourself too seriously. Life is mostly improv with occasional spreadsheets anyway. Things will go wrong, plans will change, and you'll probably end up somewhere you never expected. Don't compare your timeline to everyone else's either, life works out way less linearly than you think. Usually the moments that feel like detours end up mattering the most. Congratulations, class of 2026! -Sharon

Go pioneers! Education is important but don't forget actual hands on experience is valuable. A degree is the standard what makes you stand apart is experience working with others and learning valuable tools (volunteer, get an internship or find a job that can practice those skills) while looking for the actual career you seek. -Radhika

Congratulations, class of 2026! One piece of advice I'd share is: don't be afraid to start before you feel fully ready. Some of the best opportunities, relationships, and growth moments happen when you take the leap with confidence and a willingness to learn along the way. Give yourself grace, stay true to who you are, and remember that success looks different for everyone. Your journey is yours for a reason trust it. Go pioneers! -Stephanie

Don't hesitate to ask questions as you enter your next field of work or study. Graduating doesn't mean you stop learning, it means you have the tools to develop/ refine your work ethic, determination to get the job done/ stand on your own, and support whenever you need it. -Marisa

Congratulations grads as a graduate of the class of 1983, I can honestly say that CSUEB (formerly CSU Hayward) has duly prepared you for the next steps in your life. A criminal justice major, I had a successful career as a probation officer/manager for 33 years, and I made an enormous difference in the lives of many. Enjoy your graduation, reflect on your academic journey and your

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commitment to excellence, and then roll up your sleeves and put your stamp on the world! Pioneer power! Rhonda collins (moore). -Rhonda

First of all, congratulations to all the graduates this is a huge milestone and something they should be incredibly proud of. One piece of advice i'd give is: be kind to yourself. People will always tell you to work hard, keep pushing forward, and never give up and that advice matters. But in the process, it's easy to forget that you're human too. Give yourself the grace to pause, think, rest, and recharge. When you face setbacks or hit a wall, try not to be your own harshest critic. Growth doesn't come only from constantly pushing yourself; it also comes from learning to support yourself through difficult moments. -Ritu

Here's one piece of advice for the class of 2026: invest in building meaningful connections. Your network will help you learn faster, find opportunities, and navigate changes after graduation. Start now by reaching out to 23 people you respect (professors, peers, alumni) and asking for a short 15-minute chat. Be specific about what you're seeking advice on next steps, industry insights, or internship opportunities and follow up after the conversation. -Shannon

Congratulations, class of 2026! One thing I'd say is don't be afraid if your path doesn't look on schedule. Some of the best opportunities, friendships, and breakthroughs come from detours you never planned for. Stay curious, stay kind, and keep showing up for yourself even when things feel uncertain. Your degree is not just proof of what you learned it's proof that you can adapt, grow, and keep going. -Kamaljot

As a special major graduate of csueb, I am proud to have carried my learnings on to my career at AT&T, Wells Fargo, and Intel. I'm now CEO of a global aviation company, and cherish my experiences at csueb that is truly integral to my success today. -Simon

Do the hard things, not the necessarily the big things. The hard things keep the daily grind, keep improving yourself and never stop striving to be better than you were yesterday. -Randy

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Optimize for learning speed, not immediate status. The people who compound skills, relationships, and resilience over time usually outperform those chasing the fastest-looking win. -Nitish

Life is a roller coaster. You might not end up where you'd thought you'd end up and that's okay! Just follow the roller coaster and you'll be okay. -Nicole

Be respectful of people's time. Always return phone calls and be responsive to people. Most important, keep a positive outlook on life. There's always a sliver of hope when you focus on the positives, versus dwelling on the negative. Congratulations on your achievement! Regards, josh rush. -Joshua

One advice i would give is: "life comes with ups and downs. What you're doing now might not be what you will be doing in the next 10 years. Take each day as a new beginning and no matter what anyone says don't give up. Follow your dreams and passion. Most importantly, take action." I also do speaker events if you ever need anything in the future please let me know how i can be of help. Thank you, lakshaye. -Lakshaye

One piece of advice id give fellow graduates is this, your degree may open the first door, but what really determines your success afterward is the value you bring. The people who create opportunities for themselves are the ones who know how to sell themselves, work hard, stay adaptable, and continue learning long after graduation. Be someone who is always a student, always improving, and always finding ways to make yourself invaluable to the people and organizations around you. -Nicholas

Be your own seller. You decide how others view your and your university. Always remember what u speak is what people know of you. Your words become your reputation before your work ever does. You control if you are the main character or an npc. Respect the knowledge you gained. Use it well. Keep learning, be curious" - divya veligandla. -Divya

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Imagine the possibilities, don't limit yourself, failures are learning opportunities, and some of us come from humble beginnings, but those beginnings don't dictate our future, it's made us stronger, smarter, and more empathetic to our communities. In a world where ai is slated to take over, it can never replace human emotion. And we need that for one another more than ever now to create positive change for those who come after us. -Mizgon

What i would tell the class of 2026: don't be afraid to take risks and step outside your comfort zone. Some of the best opportunities come from moments that feel uncertain. Believe in yourself, stay grounded, and keep moving forward even when things get hard. Congratulations on this amazing accomplishment!  
-Kenia

Here is my advice for upcoming grads. Stepping into the job market during todays economy isnt easy, and it can feel a bit scary at times. Stay patient, be open to different paths, and keep pushing forward. Resilience and persistence will take you farther than you think. -Alexander

To the class of 2026 at california state university, east bay be proud of how far youve come, and don't underestimate the value of persistence. Many pioneer students balance work, family responsibilities, long commutes, and personal challenges while earning their degree. That resilience will carry you farther than having every detail of your future figured out today. Stay open to opportunities, even the ones that don't look exactly like your original plan. Some of the most meaningful careers, friendships, and life experiences begin with simply saying yes to a chance you didnt expect. And wherever life takes you next, remember that success is not only about titles or income. Its also about the impact you have on your community, the people you support, and the way you continue growing after graduation. Congratulations, pioneers you earned this moment. -  
Mayra

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Pioneers don't wait for paths. They create them. Take the risk, try new things, and create your own opportunities before you feel ready. Mateo bedolla, 2015. -  
Mateo

Don't build your life like a highlight reel. Build it like a city. Some years will be under construction, some roads will close, and some plans will detour completely. But if you keep adding skills, relationships, discipline, and curiosity brick by brick, you'll wake up one day standing in something solid that's truly yours. Class of 2026: your future is less like a lottery ticket and more like compound interest. Tiny choices stack up. Make a few good ones every day. -  
Jason

Don't rely on the education you received from college. Remain teachable. Never stop learning. Never stop pursuing the increase of your knowledge and skills. College didn't give you the answers, it gave you the piece of paper that will open the door to allow you to learn in new contexts. -Martha

As a fellow California State University, East Bay alumna, my biggest advice to the class of 2026 is: do not get discouraged if life does not go exactly how you planned it after graduation. My name is Jennifer Rios, and I graduated during COVID a time where many of us felt lost, uncertain, and unsure about what came next. I truly thought my path would look completely different, but over time I learned that success is not always linear. Do not compare your journey to anyone else's. Be open to learning, take opportunities even if they are not your dream job yet, and trust that every experience is building you into the professional and person you are meant to become. Stay consistent, work hard, and give yourself grace during the difficult seasons. Sometimes the unexpected path ends up teaching you the most. Congratulations class of 2026 once a pioneer, always a pioneer! -Jennifer

Soak in the relationships that you make at school. Whether it is with your classmates or teachers. Thank your teachers for the job they've done. Sometimes you may feel lost because you may not get that "dream job" out of college. Be patient. Meet people. Learn to connect. Skills that you built during your time at CSUEB. Take them with you for the rest of your life. -Jose

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Hi, success rarely happens all at once its built through consistency, resilience, and showing up even when things feel uncertain. Don't be discouraged if your path looks different from everyone elses. Some of the best opportunities come from unexpected turns, hard seasons, and moments where you had to believe in yourself before anyone else did. Be proud of how far youve already come, and keep growing into the person youre becoming. The world needs your voice, your perspective, and your determination. Congratulations, class of 2026! -Linh

We are as great as the things we understand and love and appreciate. When you listen to a song with love you are as great as the man who wrote it. When you enter into sympathy with a great poet the real glory of his achievement is yours too. -Raymond

Take the time to learn, explore, and find your passion. Don't worry if you don't figure it out right away. Keep trying new things, get uncomfortable, take risks, and continue learning along the way. The world is bigger than you can imagine, filled with endless opportunities waiting for you. California state university, east bay has equipped each and every one of you with the skills necessary to succeed. Now its your turn, go out there and make it happen. Go excel. Go get it. -Jordan

Find out who you truly are beyond the indoctrination of the schools you attended. Because your degree is only worth the money it was created with. Real power to have the life you want comes from understanding who you are and creating a life that aligns with your values. -Christine

Congratulations to class of 2026. Don't panic if your path doesnt look exactly how you imagined it would. Some of the best opportunities come from unexpected turns, setbacks, and moments where you have to pivot. Stay open, keep learning, and trust that consistency matters more than having everything figured out right away. And most importantly don't forget to celebrate how far youve already come. -Hengameh

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Make your passion your work! The thing that you feel in your heart when you wake up in the morning, that occupies your mind and soul without interruption, is what you should strive to pursue and spend the majority of your time doing. This day and age with the struggles and challenges of our political landscape, and the hardship of making a way for our ourselves and our families, you have to align yourself with passion and do what you most enjoy day in... - Alaric

Thanks austin. A long time friend of mine sent this to me. I would like to pass on my these words of encouragement to the graduating students: now that you are closing this chapter in your lives, things are about to change. Remember this by dan millman/@ inspiring thinkn. "The secret of change is to focus all your energy, not on fighting the old, but building the new." Enjoy the journey. - Carmen

Soak in every minute. Youve worked incredibly hard to reach this moment, and it will make a difference in your life. More importantly, you will make a difference in this world. Congratulations, class of 2026. -Hayley

One piece of advice i'd give to the graduating class of 2026 is: don't be discouraged if your journey doesnt look perfect or happen on the timeline you imagined. Life will challenge you, test your confidence, and sometimes force you to slow downbut that does not mean youre failing. Some of the hardest seasons of your life will shape the strongest version of you. After graduating from csueb, i learned that success is not just about intelligence or talent. Its about resilience, consistency, and continuing to show up even when things feel uncertain. Be kind to people, build genuine relationships, and never underestimate how far empathy and hard work can take you. And most importantly take care of yourself while chasing your goals. Your degree is important, but so is your mental health, your family, your happiness, and the life youre building outside of work. Trust yourself. You're more capable than you think. -Jesus

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Don't be afraid if your path looks different from everyone else's. Some of the most meaningful growth happens in the middle of uncertainty. Stay consistent, believe in yourself, and remember that success is not always immediate, but your hard work will pay off. Crystal green. -Crystal

Sure I can share a few words for the class of 2026: congratulations to the CSUEB men's basketball team, what an accomplishment! As an alumni of the class of 1989, I've continued in the field of GIS with the State of California... The development of computer sciences for almost 40 years has provided an enduring resource for the future... Good luck and lifelong experiences for the class of 2026! -George

First of all, thank you for reaching out. Second, congratulations to all graduates. They should be proud and knowing that many people are proud of them. I want to share a few words that they can forever tap into in their bright future ahead. Not to be a downer yet the real tests are coming and they may be easy, hard and smooth or rough in different seasons. These words will carry them through in the different seasons of life: hope - always have faith action - act on your hope, be accountable and adjust as necessary unwavering- stick to your commitment love - think, talk and act with love to yourself and others eternity - there is no finish line so commit to faith and act with love. Again, thank you for reaching out and I hope these words can resonate with the graduates. So proud of them!!! Love, Hau le. -Hau

Today truly is just the beginning of the greatness that you will become. Here's 3 things that helped me pull value from my degree and what I would do differently: 1. Leverage your degree even if you don't "directly" do "the thing" I graduated with a degree in mass comm and PR. While I no longer do PR, I use this degree everyday to communicate across various audiences 2. Keep going! I waited almost 20 years to get my masters degree. Don't let the engine get "that cold" if you know you're going to get that next degree. Take advantage of the momentum! 3. Keep tied with CSUEB. You never know where that next connection, job or opportunity can come from purely out of your qualifications and your connections. Congrats to the class of 2026! -Jneane

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Incoming message: congratulations to all of the csueb graduates! Earning your degree is a tremendous accomplishment and a reflection of your hard work, resilience, and dedication. As you move into this next chapter, remember that success is not always about having the perfect path its about continuing to learn, adapt, and stay persistent through challenges and opportunities alike. Be confident in the foundation youve built at cal state east bay, stay open to new experiences, and never underestimate the value of relationships, work ethic, and a positive attitude. Wishing all of you continued success in your careers and personal journeys. Go pioneers! Steven montgomery class of 93. -Steven

Big congratulations to the class of 2026! 1. Keep your faith, family, first in your life! 2. Map out your plan and strategy and as the saying goes failure to plan plan to fail! 3. Stay in touch with your classmates as they and you will be able to help and share information for the future! 4. Don't be disappointed or discouraged by things not going your way at first and don't be afraid to pivot and make adjustments along the way. 5. This is the game of life and have fun on your journey. Best wishes for terry hobson class of csuh 1980! -Terence

Absolutely. Congratulations to the graduating class of california state university, east bay. One of the most impressive things about csueb is the grit and determination of its graduates, especially working adults, parents, and single parents balancing real life while earning their degrees. That kind of accessibility creates a richness of experience and perspective that benefits communities and society as a whole. Some elite institutions may have prestige, but csueb graduates represent something just as powerful: resilience, opportunity, and the determination to succeed through real-world challenges. Go pioneers! -Scarlett

Congratulations to all the graduating students of california state university, east bay. Earning your degree is more than completing classes it represents sacrifice, resilience, growth, and the determination to keep going even when life became difficult. Be proud of yourselves. As you step into this next chapter, remember that success is not always immediate and life will not always go according to plan, but consistency, integrity, faith, and perseverance will carry you further than you can imagine. Don't allow setbacks, delays, or other peoples opinions to make you question your worth or your purpose. Walk confidently in who you

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are becoming. Continue learning, continue growing, and never underestimate the power of kindness, discipline, and hard work. The world needs your gifts, your voice, and your leadership. Congratulations again, class of 2026 your journey is just beginning, and your future is full of possibility. Class of 2018 master of science graduate sequoia stanley. -Sequoia

Congratulations !!!!! Dream with purpose and intent. Make a vision of your future with courage. Let curiosity be your compass, humility be your teacher, and purpose be your guide. Every meaningful success begins with a single brave choice, so as you turn this page, know that your path is what you chose to make it; no one else's choice, yours! Go for it!!! -Tina

One piece of advice i would give to graduates of california state university, east bay is first, congratulations on this achievement. Graduating is no easy task, and you should be proud of the work it took to get here. When times get difficult, and they will, reflect on this moment. Let it remind you that youre capable of overcoming challenges and accomplishing hard things. Now go be the person in the world that you once needed. Whether its in healthcare, nursing, business, education, engineering, public service, technology, or the arts, make an impact and leave your mark on the world. The world needs compassionate leaders, problem-solvers, and people willing to uplift others. Go be that person. -Derrick

Trust the process. You won't always land a job right after graduating. And when you finally do get a job sometimes it'll be outside of your field of study and thats fine too. -Howie

Here it is: (you could make it concise if necessary) congratulations to all dear csueb graduates; this graduation moment takes me back to my own graduation from this esteemed - diverse university 20 years ago, filled with same excitement, pride, uncertainty, and dream. In the years ahead, youll discover that success is less about having everything figured out and more about staying curious, resilient, embracing and collaborating on unexpected opportunities with razor focus on carving path per your vision. You earned this moment and deserve the journey ahead. Five years or even a decade from now, youll look back and realize that today was not the finish line, but the beginning

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of a journey with skills, friendships and mentorship gained here and all those footsteps of yours will connect to something you will create. And also, let the learning, thinking and building incrementally continue.. Wishing you all the opportunities to create something for humanity that you will be proud of one day. Kavitha kulkarni csueb ms-cs 2004-2006. Stanford gsb lead exec program 2025-2027. -Kavitha

No one has it all figured out, in all honesty most us are still learning as we are going no matter what stage in our career. Be sure to remember, closed doors aren't always you being rejected often times it's you being redirected. Don't let it discourage you want to be where you are valued. Best of luck. -Erica

Don't be afraid to "fail forward." If you are worried that something might not work out or you might fail at it, do it anyways! You will learn a lot about yourself and what you are doing even if things don't work out the way you hope. This teaches you resilience, bravery, and the ability to pivot when a challenge arises and problem solve a lot quicker to make things right. Being honest, accountable, and able to own your mistakes will bring you a long way in all the adventures of your life. -Franchesca

Enjoy the ceremony, and remind yourself of your accomplishments down the line when life gives you tough moments. It will help put things into perspective when you need it. -Bianca

Jeremiah 29:11 be willing to take the harder path in life!! Be willing to take the road least travelled! It will lead to a greater appreciation for the growth that you will achieve in life!! Don't let the circumstances of life change who god created you to be!! -Brian

Embrace the journey ahead. Life and careers are filled with both triumphs and setbacks, but each experience will shape your character, strengthen your resilience, and guide your growth. Stay curious, remain adaptable, and trust that every challenge is preparing you for the opportunities to come.

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Congratulations, graduates your story is just beginning. Best, amaury collins-mcmurray c/o 2017 - political science. -Amaury

Congratulations, graduates! This moment is a major milestone in your life of achievement, evidence of persistence, growth and endurance! There will be moments of feeling uncertain about your future. However, never give up on pursuing your dreams and goals! You e proven you can handle more than you thought you could. So as you step into what comes next, careers, family, travel, continued education, new cities, new relationships, carry this with you: you are capable, you are prepared, and your path is unfolding. Congratulations, class of california state university, east bay! Remember, your next chapter is already beginning. Wishing you the best! -Delnice

Congratulations on graduating one advice that my commencement speaker told us is don't let being practical hold you back from chasing your dreams. Which is really good advice. Its okay to be realistic, but don't talk yourself out of opportunities or passions just because they feel uncertain. Sometimes the things that seem the least practical end up being the most fulfilling. -Angelina

Yes, my words of encouragement are to continue to aspire to higher levels of education. Continue your growth and your journey in life. Contribute to your communities and know that you can achieve your goals. I graduated with a degree in speech communication from csuh in '91 and i'm now a middle school counselor in san lorenzo unified. I truly value my years at csuh/csueb. -Petrina

Well, graduation has arrived and your futures are right in front of you. Explore careers that are of keen interest and make the commitment to learn and grow in them. Things might be tough at first but use the knowledge you have gained, ask questions for clarification and find a mentor who has been successful at this before you. Do not be surprised if your interests and pursuits change.... It happens to most of us. You will.... Will, find a career path for success if you work at it. It will take commitment. The very best to you in the pursuit and remember that our education never truly ends. Congratulations!! Rich carson class of 1975. -Richard

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I graduated from California State University, East Bay as a 42-year-old single mother with a one-year-old son. Some days it was hard just to make it to class, and there were moments I wanted to give up but I didn't. After years of encouraging students to value education, I finally told myself: don't just talk about it, be about it. Class of 2026, know that anything is possible with hard work and dedication. This is only the beginning of your journey. As Nora Ephron said, your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead. -Yolanda

Yes! I'd want to tell them to spend time at the intersection of their aptitudes and interests; that's where they can make the most impact and be successful. Don't follow someone else's path - carve your own! Spend time figuring out what you are good at and what you enjoy and lean in heavily there. Ignore the naysayers, but seek the opinions and advice of sage mentors, who have your best interests in mind. -Lauren

As you graduate, remember to stand strong and pause to breathe. Unlock the vibrant hues of life's rainbow, for the world is painted with diverse colors, not just black and white. Consider how light's refraction touches each of us uniquely. By embracing our individual perspectives, we can experience and share moments beyond our own. Let's celebrate our differences, for in compromise and understanding, we discover more profound beauty and avoid fading into the ordinary. Jeffie Reber. -Jeffie

Congratulations to all of you for achieving such a remarkable feat. My best advice is to remember that failure is an opportunity to learn. By pivoting and being kind to yourself, you'll be better equipped to succeed in your next endeavor. Make sure to take time out for your family and, most importantly, for yourself. Remember, success is a long journey, not a short sprint. -Lavonne

Incoming message: focus on what you like to do, you spent your early years learning a broad set of things, some of which you like and others that you may not. As you make your way into the working world, make sure to find an area that fits with more what you like. When you enjoy doing things, it's easier, you will do better, you will achieve more, and the rewards will be better. Take a risk,

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go with your dreams and your heart, and do something that will make you happier, the world needs more happy people. -William

To the class of 2026 congratulations. You did something real. I walked the same halls you did, earned my bs in physical education and my ms in kinesiology from this university back when it was still cal state hayward. I know what it took to get to this day. The early mornings, the late nights, the moments you wondered if it was worth it. It was. What this university gave me wasnt just a degree. It gave me a framework for how to think, how to compete, and how to show up for myself and for the people counting on me. Heres what i want you to know: the credential opens the door. You are what walks through it. Don't wait for perfect conditions. Don't wait for someone to hand you the blueprint. Build one. Stay curious, stay humble, and stay hungry because your real education starts right now. Csu, east bay made you. Go make csueb proud. Congratulations, pioneers. The future is yours. -Michael

I have always believed that a degree is a door opener - not a destiny. It shows you attended, listened, and learned. But it doesnt determine whether you will succeed. That is decided by something no classroom can teach: your resilience, your determination, and your willingness to bet on yourself even when no one else does. Many of you will work in fields unrelated to your major. That is not failure - that is life. Skills travel further than subject matter. How you show up, how you are perceived, and how visible you make yourself - performance, image, and exposure - will matter more than your gpa ever will. Don't compete with the person next to you. Compete with the version of yourself from yesterday. A 1% improvement every day compounds into something extraordinary over time. The world doesnt need more people with degrees. It needs more people who refuse to be ordinary. Congratulations, class of 2026. - Homaira

Incoming message: hi csueb graduates! Congratulations! You should be very proud of yourselves for all you've accomplished! Your next steps can be scary and even frustrating. But you have the skills and the know how going forward. Your perseverance will see you through! Keep your options open. Don't limit yourself to only one thing. Often the right position will drop in your lap

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unexpectedly. Best of luck and stay positive! This is your time! Marsha p. -  
Marsha

5 Seconds ago incoming message: congratulations to my wonderful, intelligent niece, jaleah hardy. I'm so very proud of you and your accomplishments. To the entire 2026 class. All of your hard work has paid off. Congratulations, may god bless the class of 2026 in all of the endeavors you pursue. Kendrick a hardy former student athlete and b. S. Crja graduate 1991. -Kendrick

Congratulations, class of 2026! Walk across that stage with pride and confidence - you've earned every step. As you move forward, know that the road ahead will challenge you, shape you, and push you to grow in ways you can't yet imagine. Embrace it with humility, stay open to every lesson, and keep striving to be better each day. With purpose, resilience, a clear vision and a winning strategy, you won't just face the world but you'll rise and make your mark on it!  
Per aspera ad astra! -Ahmed

To the graduates of my cherished alma mater: congratulations! What you have accomplished is not simply a degree or credential- it is a testament to your dedication, your resilience, and your commitment to bettering yourself. This is an achievement you should carry with pride for the rest of your life. Cherish it. You earned it! As you stand at the threshold of this next chapter; whether you are continuing your education or stepping boldly into your professional journey, i want to leave you with one piece of advice, and i want you to remember it, because it may be the most important thing you will ever hear: never stop learning. If you reach your goals and find fulfillment in your chosen field- wonderful! Then go back and learn something new anyway. If your profession doesn't bring you the satisfaction you had hoped for... Go back and learn something else. This world is moving and changing at a pace none of us could have ever predicted, and sometimes our expectations fall short of our intentions. That is not failure. That is life. The most powerful thing you can do when this happens is to pivot. Go back to the classroom-literally, or figuratively- find excitement in new skills, new ideas, and new possibilities. When i graduated from this institution in 1986 with the first of many higher ed degrees i now hold, i walked this same stage with a fellow graduate in my major who was 72 years old. He received a standing ovation. And he instilled something in

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our minds and hearts i've never forgotten. I want you to remember this too. It is never too late to start over, start fresh, or simply start a new path. The diploma you hold today is your first answer. Let curiosity drive you to keep asking new questions for the rest of your life. With so much pride and warmest congratulatory, Denise Watson Lum, class of 1986. Ba, Maed, MSED., And current UC Irvine legal student. -Denise

To the future alumni of Cal State East Bay: the years you have spent navigating the rigors of your degree—the long hours in the library, the complex textbooks, and the countless personal sacrifices—are not merely a means to an end. They are the construction of a foundation. However, the true value of your education is not found in the credentials you hold, but in the people you will eventually champion. Your journey at East Bay has equipped you with a unique window of opportunity. The research you have conducted, the collaborative projects you have led, and the "better ways" you have discovered to solve problems are the very tools that will lead you into a world of incredible adventure. As you transition from students to pioneers in the professional world, remember that while receiving knowledge is a milestone, putting that knowledge into action for the benefit of others is your true calling. When you understand exactly who you are meant to serve, every decision you make and every path you take gains a profound sense of meaning. Go forward with the confidence that your time here has prepared you not just to succeed, but to lead with a spirit of service. - Aaron

To the graduating class of 2026 this is your time. Every late night, challenge, sacrifice, and moment of doubt has led you here. Keep believing in yourselves, continue chasing your goals, and never forget the strength it took to reach this milestone. The future is waiting for each of you to leave your mark on it. Congratulations and keep striving for greatness your journey is only beginning. -Maria

Absolutely. Here's a brief message you could share: congratulations to all of the graduates. Reaching this milestone reflects your hard work, resilience, and perseverance through challenges that were not always visible to others. As you move into your next chapter, remember that success is not about having everything figured out immediately. Growth often happens through

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uncertainty, setbacks, and continued learning. Trust in the skills, strength, and determination that brought you this far. Be proud of what you have accomplished and stay open to the opportunities ahead. Wishing you continued success, purpose, and fulfillment in whatever path you choose next. Warmly, erica martin, lcsw compassionate therapy llc (. -Erica

If i were there i would say something like: forty-two years ago, i sat where you are today excited, uncertain, and wondering what life would look like beyond graduation. What i've learned since then is that very few people have the path perfectly mapped out, and thats okay. The opportunities, challenges, and relationships you experience along the way will shape you far more than any plan ever could. As you begin this next chapter, work hard, stay open to learning, and never underestimate the value of kindness and integrity. Success is not only measured by accomplishments, but by the lives you touch and the character you build along the way. No matter where life takes you, you will always share the special connection of calling this place your alma mater just as proudly today as i have for the past 42 years. -Janice

Pioneers are those that set out based on a vision and promise of a better future! Armed with the confidence of conviction, your graduation is not an ending but a beginning. It's a commencement and as such contains a new beginning. Always be in process and keep your vision polished. Your education has hopefully delivered two types of sight: #1 ability to see things as they are and #2 the ability to see things as they can be. Now your work begins, enjoy this milestone in your life, celebrate and then get to work making things the way you see they can be. The greatest value of your education is out of the university and in the world. Go pioneers! Godspeed peter johnson ba pioneer 1996. -Peter

Study objectivism. Integrate mind and body. Connect yourself to the granite of reality. -Bill

Incoming message: hello austin! Sure! "Congratulations to the newest csueb alumni! You've conquered the hills of hayward and proven that you have the grit to thrive in the most diverse and dynamic regions in the world! Always stay

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connected to our east bay family, but use that powerful education to go out and show the world what a pioneer can do! -Heidi

As a csu east bay graduate, i know the journey can be challenging at times, but every step teaches you something valuable. My advice is to stay patient with yourself, keep moving forward, and never underestimate the importance of persistence. The right opportunities often come after moments of uncertainty. Congratulations and go pioneers! -Tahmina

Take the risk, bet on yourself, and fail a few times along the way. Thats usually where the good stuff starts. Go pioneers! -Adam

When life gets hard, and life will get tough at times. Keep your head about you, devise a plan and work around obstacles that show up. They are the true opportunities for growth and reveal who you are to you in adversity! Go pioneers! -Shanele

Hi, austin no real words of wisdom for the grads, except to say that in a way, they are true pioneers because they are at the beginning of what promises to be a whole new world of innovation. It's an exciting world, if a little bit dangerous, that they have in front of them. (I'm voice texting so please excuse the errors.). -Kristin

Life goes on, rain or shine, the carousel keeps spinning. -Dalena

Great to hear from you! One thing id tell graduating students is: its okay to not have everything figured out yet. Your first job probably won't be your dream job, and your career path may look completely different five years from now and thats normal. Don't be afraid to try things, fail, pivot, and reinvent yourself. Some of the biggest opportunities in life come from taking chances before you feel fully ready. Also, in todays world, communication, curiosity, and adaptability matter just as much as technical skills. Learn how to express your ideas, work

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with people, and keep learning. Wishing all the graduates the best on this next chapter. Go pioneers! -Lewis

As you embark on the exciting new chapter, remember that the degree you hold today is more than accomplishment it is a key that will open doors to endless opportunities and possibilities for your future. Take a moment to reflect on the journey that brought you here. Honor the family members, teachers, professors, friends, and peers who supported, encouraged you, and believed in you along the way. Most importantly, recognize and celebrate your own sacrifices, perseverance, and determination that made this monumental achievement possible. The road ahead will bring new challenges, growth, and success. Walk forward with confidence, purpose, and pride, and all that you have accomplished. Congratulations, class of 2026! Dr. Camille salter alumni, class of 2007. -Camille

Congratulations! You've done it and made it to the finish line, but really it's only the beginning! Some of you have your next adventure planned out and some of you are still exploring your options. Either way, be confident in the fact that you have the foundation, the strength and the bravery, to find your path. I am so thankful for my time at csueb. It gave me what i needed to maneuver the unknowns of my career. I'm proud of who i have become. I'm proud to be a pioneer alumni and i wish that 25 years from now, you'll be saying the same thing. Good luck and own your path, class of 2026! -Jennifer

Congratulations to all the graduates. -Karen

Don't get discouraged if someone tells you no. It only means the next opportunity is waiting for you. -Lolita

Loved my time at csueb. I had great encouraging teachers. -Diana

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You are graduating with more than a degree. Today you should be stepping forward with resilience, growth and endless possibilities and your journey is only beginning. -Pleshetta

Congratulations on your academic achievements! Wishing you much success in your future endeavors! -Yesenia

Your life journey is not a multiple choice questions and answers. You don't always have to choose the (obvious) options presented in front of you. Look beyond and be creative! Learn how to communicate effectively. If you can't summarize your questions or answers in less than 2-3 sentences, you don't fully understand the subject. -Spencer

Sometimes in life there are peaks and valleys; even if it is a season of a valley remember don't dwell on it and try to slowly get up to reach the peak. -  
Manisha

Take risks! Enjoy the process. -Irene

You have worked with determination, resilience, and purpose, and today you stand as a proud csueb graduate ready to step into your future. The challenges you overcame have shaped you into someone capable, courageous, and prepared for every opportunity ahead. Carry this moment with confidence, knowing you have everything you need to make a meaningful impact in the world. Congratulations, class of 2026! Deidre Johnson, csueb alumni, class of 1998. -Deidre