# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.

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# **Public Health Update**

COVID-19 Guidance | School End-of-Year Events

## Background

End-of-year school events, including proms and graduation ceremonies, are significant and important life events for students and their families and friends. Attending a large gathering or event also increases the risk of COVID-19 exposure. Marin County Public Health recommends the following multi-layered protective measures to decrease the risk of COVID-19 exposure and outbreaks.

## Guidance

## Vaccinations

Vaccinated people are at lower risk for being infected and infecting others and are protected from severe illness.

- Encourage all participants to be vaccinated and to stay up to date with recommended boosters
- Consider requiring vaccine verification for large indoor gatherings
- Ready to use vaccine promotion resources can be found at <u>http://toolkit.covid19.ca.gov/</u>

# <u>Testing</u>

- Ask people with any COVID-19 symptoms (including runny nose) to stay home and <u>test</u>
- Recommend same-day antigen testing to attend large indoor gatherings
- Instruct participants to monitor for symptoms and to isolate and <u>get</u> <u>tested</u> immediately if they develop symptoms.

# Social Distancing

- Host events outdoors (when practicable)
  - $\circ~$  Hold "open air" events, rather than enclosed/confined outdoor spaces when possible
- Improve <u>ventilation</u> (open doors and windows when the weather permits)
- Use a larger space, reduce the number of participants, and shorten the duration of activity
  - Consider limiting attendance to a fraction of the maximum allowable capacity set by Fire Codes (e.g., fifty percent capacity)
- For indoor <u>mega-events</u> with 1000 or more people, facilities and event operators should follow CDPH recommendations



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#### Face Covering

Face covering protects both the wearer and those around them from potential infection, especially in poorly ventilated settings or where some may be unvaccinated.

- Provide masks at the door for attendees who may not have one
- Conventional disposable paper masks are superior to cloth masks

#### **Environmental**

- Provide hand sanitizer stations for frequent cleaning of hands
- Use signage to remind participants of protective behaviors
- Limit food and drink consumption
  - If providing food and beverage service, individually served, box meals are preferred

#### Record of Attendance

Maintaining a list of attendees allows notification of potentially exposed individuals if contact tracing reveals COVID-19 transmission may have occurred.

• Maintain a list of participants with contact information for 2 weeks