

# Joint DHHS/DPI Guidance on Prom and Graduation

*Decisions to conduct special events or graduation ceremonies are at the discretion of local school boards and superintendents.*

- Events must comply with applicable capacity limits required by the current Executive Order (which, as of March 26-April 30, 2021, is [Executive Order 204](#)) and the applicable public health requirements outlined in the [StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#).
- Local education leaders should consult with their legal counsel and local health officials to ensure any school-sponsored events comply with public health requirements.
- All attendees age five or older must wear a face covering.
- When possible, hold events outdoors.
- Implement practices that encourage physical distancing: 6 feet between groups at all times, small cohort groups, avoid mixing of households.
- Provide visual cues of 6 feet distancing in line areas, restrooms, and other areas.



# Joint DHHS/DPI Guidance on Prom and Graduation Continued...

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- Utilize rapid tests, available for free to NC schools to implement an advanced screening protocol for students and staff members participating in the event.
- Avoid sharing food buffet-style.
- Consider developing entry point symptom-screening protocols for adults.
- Provide hand sanitizer stations available for participants.
- Develop a plan for seating both students and visitors.
- Post signage about the 3 Ws and reminding symptomatic people to avoid the event.
- Stagger arrival times so seating can occur more easily with proper distancing.
- Increase outdoor ventilation to indoor areas when possible.

*For more information, see [NCDHHS Guidance for Ventilation/Indoor Air Quality](#).*

*Follow [NCDHHS Guidance for Meeting Rooms and Event Spaces](#), as appropriate.*

