



SAFER AT HOME Guidance for Graduation Ceremonies

May 6, 2020

Current State Restrictions

- Gatherings larger than 10 individuals are not permitted.
- Vulnerable individuals must remain at home.
- Individuals who are sick must remain at home.
- All participants [should be screened](#) for fever and symptoms before entering.
- All participants, including graduates, administrators, guests or family members, must remain at least six feet apart at all times.
- Mark 6 feet sections to help individuals understand what 6 feet looks like. You can use small flags, tape, balloons, etc. Indicate that people should stand on or by the markers and remain 6 feet from each other.
- To comply with the six-foot spacing, handshaking and hugs should not occur.
- If chairs are provided, they [must be disinfected](#) before and after use by school staff using proper protocol.
- All participants must wear cloth face coverings at all times.
- Ceremonies must be held outside.
- Inside ceremonies cannot occur.
- Diplomas, awards, medals, programs, etc. must not be handed out.
- Sharing or exchanging materials of any kind poses an increased risk for transmission/spread of COVID-19 and must not occur. (Throwing graduation caps, "Sign-in" practices, gifts, flowers, etc).

Boulder County Guidance

Boulder County Public Health recommends that all graduation ceremonies be conducted either virtually or using a drive-through or drive-in movie theater style/plan.

If holding a drive in or drive through event:

- Only minimal staff necessary for orchestrating the event should be present. If staff are not in a vehicle, they must wear face coverings at all times and practice social distancing.
- Students and families must remain in their vehicles at all times. If vehicles are to be parked, they must be at least 6 ft apart. If students and families are planning to put their vehicle windows down, everyone in the vehicle over the age of 12 must wear a face covering.
- Only members of the same household may share a vehicle.
- Ceremonies should be available virtually for students and families that do not have access to a vehicle or have underlying health conditions that prohibit them from attending.



If holding an in-person graduation ceremony:

- Gatherings must be 10 people or less total.
- Ceremony plans should include a virtual option for students and family members with underlying health conditions that are unable to attend.
- Ceremonies must be held outside with weather contingency plans of transition to virtual only. Interior ceremonies are prohibited.
- Ceremonies should include only students and immediate family, with minimal staff required to manage students, families, and flow of ceremonies.
- All students, families, and staff must stay at least 6 feet from others at all times, including entering and exiting the ceremony.
- No associated social gatherings of students or staff at facilities prior to or following the ceremony.
- All students, families, and staff over the age of 12 must wear face coverings at all times.

Additional Resources

- [Colorado Department of Education Graduation Ceremony Guidance](#)
- [Alternatives to Typical Graduation Ceremonies](#)
- [Boulder County Public Health Facial Coverings Order](#)

