



# Stay Safe & Finish Strong!

## COVID-Safety Tips for Students and Families

As COVID-19 remains a concern in San Mateo County, events such as graduations and end-of-year parties require special considerations for planning and participation. This document provides tips for students and families so everyone can stay safe and finish strong.

### Be Aware of Local COVID-19 Conditions

Before planning or attending an event, make sure you understand the COVID conditions in your school community and county.

- Check the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)'s website](#) for updated conditions.
- Large outbreaks have occurred from indoor events like proms.

### Tips for Organizing an Event

With careful planning, social gatherings can be held safely in person. Find more details and links in the California Department of Public Health's [Events Playbook](#).

- Outdoor events are less risky; plan to hold events outside, if possible.
- Having fewer people in attendance is less risky; plan smaller events when possible.
- Keep doors and windows open when indoors. Ventilation keeps COVID particles from accumulating.
- If event is indoors, consider asking guests to wear a mask. Have masks available for guests.
- If event is indoors, plan to serve food outdoors, if possible.
- Ask attendees and vendors to show a photo of a negative COVID test before they attend. Consider offering testing onsite before the event begins.
- Encourage everyone to monitor their health and stay home if they don't feel well or have symptoms.
- Encourage attendees to register for [CA Notify](#), which will notify them if they have been exposed.
- Keep a list of attendee names and contact information to reach them if there is an exposure.

### Tips for Keeping Yourself Safe

It is important for individuals and families to protect themselves while participating in gatherings. Here are some tips for keeping yourself and family safe.

- Get vaccinated and boosted. This is the best way to protect yourself.
- If you're not feeling well, stay home and take a COVID test.
- Keep rapid antigen tests on hand to test yourself as needed.
- Carry a mask with you wherever you go; slip it on when in a crowded space or indoors.
- Ask if there are safety measures before attending. The risk is greater when hosts don't require testing.
- If the event is large and/or indoors, attending could be riskier.
- Avoid poorly ventilated, crowded spaces. Ask the host to open windows and doors to help ventilate.
- If household members are unvaccinated or at risk for severe illness, wear a mask, distance, or don't attend.
- Sign up for [CA Notify](#), which will notify you if you have been exposed COVID.
- Additional information on keeping yourself safe can be found on the [CDC website](#).