

# 2020-2021 End of School Year Gatherings and Graduations

Revised April 23, 2021

## Background

End of school year celebratory gatherings and graduations are encouraged, and should be held in a manner consistent with both the [Strong and Healthy Year Guidance](#) and the Gatherings and Events provisions of the [Vermont Forward Plan](#).

## In-Person Graduation Ceremonies

- In-person graduation ceremonies are encouraged as long as they follow established the guidelines outlined in the Strong and Healthy Year Guidance and the Vermont Forward Plan.
- In advance of these events, schools should advise participants about the public health requirements for these gatherings including advising potential participants that those people with COVID-19-like symptoms must stay home.
- Facial coverings may be removed while delivering speeches and accepting diplomas.

## Participation of Vaccinated Individuals

- The Gatherings and Events provisions of the Vermont Forward Plan draw a distinction between the participation of vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals. Schools should utilize some means of self-attestation to determine the vaccination status of all individuals attending end of school year events.
- For the purposes of attending an end of year celebration of graduation, a student shall be deemed to be vaccinated if they have received all required doses of a vaccine two weeks prior to an event.

## Other Considerations

- End of year field trips are permitted in accordance with the guidelines established under the Strong and Healthy Year Guidance. Out-of-state field trips are discouraged.
- Proms and other social events are permitted in accordance with the Strong and Healthy Year Guidance and the Vermont Forward Plan.
- Dancing may occur at proms and end of year social events, however participants must remain masked.
- In advance of any event, schools should advise participants about the public health requirements for these gatherings including advising potential participants that those people with COVID-19-like symptoms must stay home.