



Interim Guidance for Weddings and Celebrations (August 30, 2021)

Guidelines for Weddings and Celebrations: Any scenario in which people gather together poses a risk for transmission of SARS CoV 2, the virus which causes COVID-19. Organizers should create and implement a plan to minimize the opportunity for COVID-19 transmission. The guidance below will help organizers reduce the spread of COVID-19 among people attending the event and in their communities.

Without prevention strategies in place, these types of events- in which lots of individuals gather together closely- have the potential to be significant source of spread of COVID-19, so it is important that organizers implement a range of measures.

Weddings and Celebrations

NCDHHS strongly recommends hosts direct their guests and other individuals involved with the celebration to [Find Your Spot, Take Your Shot](#) and encourage them to get vaccinated before the event. For guidance on vaccinations, please refer to our [Interim Guidance for Individuals Who Have Been Vaccinated Against COVID-19](#) and [Recommendations for Protecting Each Other](#).

Hosts and event organizers should:

- Encourage all guests and staff working at the event to get vaccinated prior to the event.
- Event organizers should require their employees to report vaccination status.
 - Employees who are not fully vaccinated, or do not disclose vaccine status, participate in screening/testing programs and wear a face covering and maintain physical distance from others when they are indoors, unless the individual states that an exception applies.
- Have all guest and staff who are not fully vaccinated wear a face covering and maintain physical distance from others when they are indoors, unless the individual states that an exception applies.
- Have all guests and staff (regardless of vaccination status) wear face coverings when they are indoors and less than 6ft away from others, if they are in a county with high or substantial levels of transmissions as [defined by the CDC](#).
- Have a plan to isolate and remove guests and staff who become ill during their shift.
- Ensure compliance with any local orders in place at the time of the event.

Host and event organizers are recommended to:

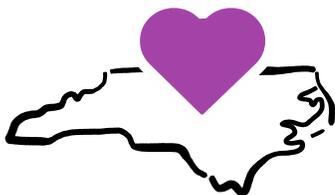
- Consider requiring attendees to provide proof of vaccination or provide negative test results from a specimen collected within 72 hours before entry for those without proof of vaccination.
- Consider canceling or postponing large gatherings that involve indoor settings in areas of high or substantial levels of transmission as defined by the CDC. If this is not possible, take steps to limit the risk of transmission such taking steps to increase airflow and ventilation, or moving events outdoors if feasible.

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- Encourage all individuals to wear a face covering outdoors, in crowded or dense settings where they can not maintain 6ft physical distance from others.
- Post signage saying all guests and staff to wear a face covering, if they are in county of high or substantial levels of transmission as defined by the by the [CDC](#). English: [Option 1](#) | [Option 2](#), Spanish: [Option 1](#) | [Option 2](#)
- Post signage at the main entrance to encourage people to stay 6 feet apart if they are not fully vaccinated.
- Arrange tents, seating, food service, and other areas so that sufficient social distancing can be maintained.
- Ensure sufficient room on a dance floor to allow for 6 feet of physical distancing between people of different households
- Minimize singing. If there is singing, maintain at least 6 feet or more of physical distancing between a singer and other people
- Follow the NCDHHS [Interim Guidance for Bars and Places that Serve Food](#) for restaurants or food service.
- Follow the [NCDHHS Interim Guidance for Places of Worship](#) for more information about services and ceremonies.
- Promote frequent use of hand washing and hand sanitizer for staff and guests. Require handwashing by staff immediately upon reporting to work, after contact with individuals, after performing cleaning and disinfecting activities, and frequently throughout the day.
- Provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) at the entrance, and any other areas that have commonly touched surfaces, such as games and attractions.
- Clean surfaces, prioritizing high-touch surfaces. If there has been a sick person or someone who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, clean and disinfect the space using an [EPA-approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2](#) (the virus that causes COVID-19).

Additional Resources

- NCDHHS: [North Carolina COVID-19](#)
- CDC: [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- CDC: [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)
- CDC: [Reopening Guidance](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)
- FDA: [Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- HHS/OSHA: [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: [Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce](#)



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