



Guidance for Graduation Ceremonies

SARA BOSSE
Public Health Director

SIMON PAUL, M.D.
Health Officer

May 26, 2020

The March 19, 2020 California shelter-in-place order remains in effect. Despite modifications to this order since that time, closure of schools and cancelling of all gatherings remains in place. In addition to concerns regarding the risk of COVID-19 transmission at graduation ceremonies themselves, there is the additional concern that transmission of COVID-19 may occur if multiple households or groups of people congregate for celebrations before or after ceremonies.

The Madera Department of Public Health recommends that schools honor graduating individuals by doing one of the following:

1. Postpone ceremonies to a later date
2. Conduct ceremonies using online resources
3. Schedule appointments for graduates and their household members
4. Present graduates their diploma/certificate at a single-graduate private ceremony

The Department of Public Health remains very concerned about the transmission of COVID-19 in our community and we hope to prevent the tragic outcomes resulting from viral transmission that has occurred at gatherings such as funerals, parties, family gatherings, and weddings.

