



Santa Fe Indian School
2021 Graduation Ceremony Information Sheet
(June 4, 2021, 11:00 AM, Thomas Atencio Field)



May 19, 2021

As communicated to our Governors in the presentations for the 2021 graduation, Superintendent Roy Herrera and Principal Rosetta gave their commitment to our Governors to host a COVID-safe event. We all have to respect our Governors', tribal leaders', and SFIS Board of Trustees' guidance and support and thank them for allowing us to have this in-person graduation. Therefore, each graduating senior will be permitted to bring 4 guests to the graduation ceremony. Guests must be over the age of 16 years. We are also strongly encouraging all guests to be vaccinated. No one under the age of 16 will be permitted to enter campus on the day of the graduation. Small children and infants or additional guests will not be permitted to enter the campus. This will be strictly enforced by school staff, who will turn people away if you or your guests bring additional people.

Parents/guardians will need to contact Donalyn Nieto 505-699-6322 to RSVP by June 1, 2021. Please be prepared to share guests first and last names and phone numbers for the purposes of entering the campus and contact tracing for the day of the ceremony. By sharing this information and attending the ceremony, seniors and their guests are agreeing and consenting to the following health and safety procedures:

- wearing an appropriate face mask at all times during the ceremony and while on the campus, (exceptions will be made for those graduation speakers who will be distanced from the audience)
- answering all health screening questions,
- allowing security to take your temperature,
- not bringing any food or drinks,
- social distancing from people outside of your guest cohort. (No hugs, high fives, etc.)
- notifying the school if you become sick with COVID within a window of 10 days after the graduation.

We also request that you share any accessibility accommodations when you RSVP so that we can be prepared for our guests.

We strongly encourage that graduates and their guests arrive in the same vehicle or at about the same time. Guests without a graduate will not be sat until the graduate arrives. ***Graduates who are not attending the graduation ceremony may not give their guest seats to other graduates.**

We will begin to allow people on campus at 10:00 AM. All participants and guests will be given a health screening, checked in according to the RSVP list, and provided wrist bands to enter the campus and field. All participants and guests must arrive by 10:50 to be allowed to enter the campus.

Security and staff will direct you to a parking spot. Everyone will remain in the vehicle until an usher escorts you and your guest cohort to your seating location on the field. Please note any needed accessibility accommodations when you RSVP.

Graduates will sit with their guest/family cohort on the field. Waters, umbrellas, programs, corsages and signs will be provided at each cohort's seating area. Participants and guests are not allowed to move or rearrange any chairs inside the cohort area or in any other places on the field.

Portable restrooms will be set up close to the field and individuals may get up during the time on the field to use the restroom. Participants and guests must continue to follow social distancing when leaving their seats.

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Students who will be offering prayers or giving speeches will be permitted to remove their masks while on stage and safely distanced from others.

We will be utilizing a limited amount of SFIS staff and only vaccinated staff will be permitted to participate in preparation and during the ceremony.

When it is time to receive diplomas, graduates will approach the stage in groups of 10 and maintain at least 6ft distance from all other graduates. No hugs, high fives, elbow/fist bumps, etc.

Once the ceremony is over, we will slowly release each cohort in an orderly fashion and will require that all participants and guests leave the campus immediately.

We will have photographers moving around the field to take pictures of cohorts and each graduate with their diploma. We will share these photos on Google Drive for graduates and families to access. You will be permitted to use your own cameras; however, you will not be permitted to leave your assigned seating area to take photos. All pictures must be taken from your assigned seating area.

Guests who cannot attend will be able to watch via live streaming either on Facebook or YouTube. Further information will be provided.

Specific to Graduates:

To be eligible to participate in the 2021 Graduation Ceremony you must adhere to the requirements outlined in your senior contract, mainly:

I understand that participation in senior activities is a privilege. I understand if I am not on track to graduate by May 28, 2021, I will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and senior banquet.

I agree to follow all directions of the Santa Fe Indian School staff during the graduation ceremony. I understand it is a requirement to wear traditional attire for the graduation ceremony. Any violation of school rules on the day of graduation ceremony will result in removal of the student from campus.

Offensive or inappropriate messages during the banquet and or ceremony could cause you to be removed from the graduation ceremony. A gentle reminder that school rules include the dress code which does not allow hair that is colored in unnatural colors.

These will be strictly enforced, whether or not the school received your signed contract.

Access to bathrooms will be limited and there will be no dressing rooms provided, therefore, on the day of the graduation ceremony, you want to come to campus dressed traditionally with your cap and gown. Please be sure your gown fits and is ironed. If you need a new size, contact Seatha at 505-629-3210. Please select one of your guests to hold your gown and help you put it on when you are signaled to approach the stage. When your row/aisle is signaled to approach the stage for your diploma you will then put your gown on and follow the usher to the stage. Graduates, please attend the virtual graduation rehearsal on June 2, 2021 (time to be determined).