

COVID-19 Safe Practices: Guidelines for Holiday Gatherings



This guidance is intended for holiday gatherings hosted on the Navajo Nation. The upcoming holidays are Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. Holiday gatherings refer to gatherings to celebrate the upcoming holidays among family, businesses, and schools. Religious events associated with any of these holidays need to follow the *COVID-19 Safe Practices: Navajo Nation Reopening Guidelines for Religious Organizations/Places of Worship*. Large gatherings and parties are high risk activities during the holiday season.

General Requirements

- Limited in-person indoor/outdoor and drive-in gatherings are allowed.
- Door-to-door trick-or-treating is not allowed.
- Businesses must adhere to maximum occupancy limits per the current Navajo Nation Public Health Emergency Orders and Navajo Nation Executive Orders.
- Gathering (outdoor, places worship, schools, household) limits must follow the current Navajo Nation Public Health Emergency Orders and Navajo Nation Executive Orders.
- Wear masks in public, as they reduce the risk of airborne transmission of COVID-19 (per Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-15).
- Holiday gathering host are to follow Center for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 guidelines such as cleaning and disinfecting. (Access at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/celebrations.html>)
- Report all potential COVID-19 cases to local health care facility, and to the HCOC COVID-19 Report Exposure Portal. For questions about reporting cases, call the Health Command Operations Center at (928) 871-7014.

Who Can Attend?

Clearly communicate steps to be taken before, during, and after the gathering to ensure that family members, participants, staff, volunteers, and attendees are aware of safety protocols.

It is strongly recommended that those who attend are:

- fully or partially vaccinated (if eligible), or
 - o Take extra precautions if the gathering includes unvaccinated children.
- not currently required to isolate or quarantine due to a COVID-19 exposure or positive test result, and
- not currently sick and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Those who recently tested for COVID-19 and are still waiting on results should not attend until those results are final and “negative.”

