Dear members of the Class of 2021,

We are excited to celebrate you next month at the School of Nursing’s Commencement Ceremony!

The ceremony will take place on **Friday, May 21, at 10:00 am at the Yale School of Nursing**. We will be located outside the building under a tent. The Doctoral Hooding Ceremony (for DNP/PhD students only) will take place on Thursday, May 20, at 4:00 pm at the same location.

The university will be sending information regarding registration requirements for commencement, but in the meantime please take a minute to respond to the [YSN Commencement RSVP](mailto:YSN_commencement_rsvp@yale.edu) by Friday, April 23.

We know there are many questions about the logistics of an in-person gathering, and we are pleased to share more information from the university’s commencement office.

*University health and safety leaders have finalized the new travel guidelines to align with recent CDC and State of Connecticut policy changes.*

**Testing/Vaccination**

All students are required to be tested at [Yale](https://www.yale.edu) for COVID-19 no later than 72 hours before your ceremony. The university will be sending us the testing locations as well as how to make an appointment.

- Fully vaccinated students (two weeks past your last shot) living in Connecticut must have 1 negative Yale test during the week prior to commencement.

- Fully vaccinated students (two weeks past your last shot) traveling from out of state must have 1 negative Yale test (obtained 2 or more days prior to the ceremony). You will not need to quarantine.

- Students who are traveling to Connecticut and are **not fully vaccinated** before arrival will need to comply with current university travel guidelines for testing and quarantining. You will
need to quarantine for 6 days and test twice at Yale. Test #1 should be upon arrival; test #2 should be obtained 2 or more days prior to the ceremony to ensure results are available.

Please note that students not meeting testing requirements (whether in state or remote) will not be allowed to participate in ceremonies. There will be no exceptions.

All graduates must complete the Daily Health Check before coming to campus. You cannot attend the ceremony if you are feeling ill, and you cannot attend if you are in contact quarantine or isolation or mandated travel quarantine.

- **Regalia**
  Cap and gowns can be picked up the week of May 17. You will be receiving more information from the university, including times and the location.

Below are the general guidelines set forth by the university.

- No food or alcohol is allowed at ceremonies, and receptions should not be organized for pre- or post-ceremony.
- No families or guests from outside the university are allowed to attend or be on the grounds of West Campus. We appreciate the understanding that this is needed to keep our communities safe and that there will be the ability to watch the ceremony online.
- Masks must be worn and social distancing maintained at all times, including those who are fully vaccinated.

Please note that everything noted above is subject to change based on CDC, state, and university guidelines.

Following these guidelines will ensure a safe environment in which we can celebrate your many accomplishments. We look forward to the ceremonies, and in the meantime, please let me know if you have any questions.

Please continue to monitor your email as more information will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,
Michelle

---

Michelle Koss
Senior Executive Assistant
Office of the Dean | Yale School of Nursing
400 West Campus Dr. | Orange, CT 06477
Ph: 203-785-5522