

To All Students Planning on Graduating in March 2022

It has been officially decided that the March 2022 graduation ceremony will be held hybrid-style, both online via Zoom and in-person. Unless there is a sudden increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, the ceremony will be held this way. Details of the ceremony can be found [here](#).

To safely and smoothly implement the graduation ceremony, it is essential that we have the cooperation of our graduating students who will participate in the ceremony. Please read the guidelines below and follow them carefully to participate.

In addition, this time it will also be possible for parents/guardians to join the ceremony up to 2 persons. If they wish to attend, just like all ceremony participants we ask that they avoid unnecessary travel, regularly take their temperature, and take thorough measures to help prevent the spread of illness.

- ① Please refrain from eating together with friends and be sure to wear a mask, sanitize your hands, and take your temperature regularly especially in the two weeks before the ceremony. Please avoid risky behaviors that may not only affect you, but also spread risk to your friends.
- ② Do not under any circumstances hold graduation parties with eating and drinking. You have already been told this in many times, but eating and drinking at social gatherings is one of the main routes of infection. If an event like this causes someone to become ill it will have a major impact on their post-graduation life. We understand that you wish to celebrate each other's accomplishments, but please refrain from such behavior.
- ③ We also ask that you avoid social gatherings that include eating and drinking with current students. In the AY 2022 spring semester we are planning to offer in-person classes in principle. If illness spreads as a result of the graduation ceremony, then in-person classes will have to be reduced or cancelled. Please refrain from such behavior to protect your *kohai*'s student lives.
- ④ Please refrain from taking graduation trips. Moving through different areas also increases your risk.
- ⑤ Please be aware of your own health condition before and after the graduation ceremony. If you have a fever, lose your sense of smell or taste, or experience other symptoms, please contact your local health center. If you have any health-related concerns, we ask that you do not attend the ceremony in person but instead participate via Zoom. On the day of the ceremony we will take the temperature of all participants before they are permitted to enter the venue. Participants with a fever of 37.5°C or above will not be permitted to attend the ceremony.

In addition, please note that the above rules still apply even if you have already been vaccinated.

We are asking for everyone's cooperation to hold a healthy and safe graduation ceremony. Also, if you are diagnosed with COVID-19 after the ceremony, please contact the university as soon as possible. (Contact the Health Clinic, booking@apu.ac.jp). Of course, all personal information will be kept confidential.

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