

To our Graduating Students

It has been officially decided that, as previously announced, the March 2021 graduation ceremony will be held hybrid style both online via Zoom and in-person. Going forward, unless there is a sudden increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, the ceremony will be held hybrid-style. To avoid crowding in the ceremony venue, the ceremonies for each college will be held separately. 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.

- 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 many times, but eating and drinking at social gatherings is one of the main routes of infection. If a student becomes infected at this stage it will have a large effect on their life just as they are getting ready to enter society. 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. From April 2021 we plan to hold large-scale in-person classes. 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.

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.
- ⑥ If you are concerned about taking the bus to campus, you may come to campus using your family's private car. Please refrain from being driven by other students.
- ⑦ Family members will not be permitted to enter the venue. They may watch the livestream of the ceremony from designated classrooms on campus, but for preventative reasons the number of classrooms will be limited. We ask for your understanding in this matter.