



Expanded Place of Worship Guidance Wedding Ceremonies *Religious and Non-Religious* Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

San Benito County, California June 24, 2020:

The State of California has expanded the [Place of Worship](#) guidance to include not only outdoor religious services, but cultural services, constitutionally protected activities and weddings (religious or non-religious) provided that physical distancing is practiced. Indoor venues are limited to 25% capacity or 100 people whichever is fewer even if the ceremony is held in a secular venue. Outdoor venues are limited by their natural limits depending on the size of the space that permits the distancing required in the guidance and approved by the local health officer. It should be noted that this guidance is specific to the wedding ceremony and wedding receptions/parties are not permitted at this time. San Benito County Public Health Department cannot predict in advance when larger gatherings and receptions will be permitted as it will depend on public health metrics, and state guidance.

The County is asking all businesses and activities to self-certify that they are complying with the state guidance by posting the San Benito County Self Certification Placard in public view - placard link [here](#).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q: Is a secular wedding held at a non-place-of-worship venue allowed at this time?

A: Yes, secular weddings are permitted under the same parameters as religious and following the guidance even in a non-religious venue.

Q: What is the capacity for an outdoor wedding?

A: The local Health Officer approves any outdoor venue without specified limit that permits appropriate social distancing between members of different households and does not encourage close interaction between persons of different households such as during photographs.

Q: Can I have a wedding reception?

A: Wedding receptions and/or parties are not allowed at this time.

Q: Can I have a quinceañera or sweet sixteen party?

A: Cultural ceremonies are considered religious rites. Wedding receptions, quinceañeras, and sweet sixteen parties are celebrations and therefore not permitted.

Additional language options and most current information can be found [here](#).