



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Amending COVID-19 Travel and Funeral Policies, Enacting New Graduation Ceremony Policy, and Permitting Children to Enter Stores and Places of Business on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Constitution”) provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power “[t]o represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decision not inconsistent with or contrary to this constitution”; and

WHEREAS, Since the start of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, the Tribe has enacted, by resolution, a series of policies intended to mitigate the spread of COVID on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, As the situation on the Reservation develops, policies enacted by resolution periodically require amendment, include those enacted by:

- Resolution No. 09-2020-211 “Temporarily Amending the Tribe’s Travel Policy on Account of COVID-19;
- Resolution No. 09-2020-215 “Amending Temporary Restrictions on Funeral Arrangements and Services on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation”; and
- Resolution 04-2020-86 “Instituting a Stay-at-Home Order and Implementing Additional Precautionary Measures on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation”, which restricted children from entering inside any store and set limits on the amount of people who can enter stores; and

WHEREAS, The EOC continues to receive request from Local Education Agencies (LEA) regarding graduation and commencement ceremonies, and this day presents for enactment the attached “Graduation and Commencement Ceremonies Guidelines” policy; and

WHEREAS, The Tribe continues to see improvements in its incidence and positivity rate of COVID-19 on the reservation resulting in the Tribe advancing in its Reopening Plan and easing of COVID-19 restrictions; and

WHEREAS, The EOC, this day, presents for enactment updates and amendments (attached and incorporated herein) to the following previously enacted Travel Policy for COVID-19 and Funeral Guidance for COVID-19;

WHEREAS, The EOC also, this day, recommends that children be permitted to enter retail stores and businesses on the Reservation if they observe all precautionary measures; and

WHEREAS, The Council has reviewed the attached new policy, revised policies, and recommendations and finds that their enactment and adoption is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby:

- 1. Amends the Tribe’s Travel Policy for COVID-19, as attached;
- 2. Amends the Tribe’s Funeral Guidance for COVID-19, as attached;
- 3. Permits children to enter stores and businesses on the Reservation in observance of all COVID-19 precautionary measures including wearing a facemask;
- 4. Approves Graduation and Commencement Ceremonies Guidance policy, as attached; and
- 5. Reaffirms the Tribe’s facemask mandate to all residents and visitors on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

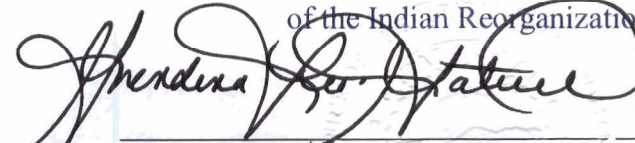

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it stresses that pastors may conduct their church services pursuant to the Funeral Guidance policy, and that the Council will discuss resumption of wakes as the Tribe continues to progress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairwoman, or in her absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on **APRIL 16, 2021** duly adopted by a vote of **EIGHT** for, **ZERO** against, and **ZERO** abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

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|--|----------------|--|------------------|
|  | <u>4.18.21</u> |  | <u>4-19-2021</u> |
| Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman | Date | Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary | Date |

White Mountain Apache Tribe
Public Health Emergency Preparedness
Emergency Operations Center

Pandemic Response

Policy Title: Tribal Employee and Resident Travel

Policy Date: 08/31/2020; V2 (04/12/21)

POLICY STATEMENT

The White Mountain Apache Tribe (Tribe) made an Emergency Declaration on March 12, 2020 in response to the worldwide Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. This declaration activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) whose main priorities are the mitigation and prevention of COVID-19 on the reservation. The Tribe, in its effort, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 implements the following travel guidelines for Tribal Employees.

Policy Guidelines

Employees of the Tribe are subject to the following travel restrictions until further notice:

1. All non-essential travel is prohibited.
2. Meetings and other trainings should be done virtually or telephonically.

Essential travel for Employees are subject to the following:

1. Travel must be done as part of the employee's department scope of work.
2. Travel should only be taken if other accommodations are not feasible including virtual and telephonically.
3. When a departmental/tribal vehicle is used as part of the travel, the Tribe's COVID-19 Tribal Vehicle Policy must be adhered to.
4. Employees are subject to the Tribe's Personnel Policy as it relates to infectious diseases/pandemic and all other local guidance and restrictions in place of the employees travel destination.
5. Employees returning to work after traveling off the reservation will receive instructions from their supervisor and/or organization policy.
6. When the returning employee returns from their off-reservation travel, they must monitor their symptoms for 14 days and seek medical attention as needed.
7. All travel by means of airplane, trains, buses, and other modes of transportation, other than tribal vehicles and/or personal owned vehicles is subject to a review and approval by the Tribal Treasurer in consultation with local health authorities.

This policy is in effect during the Emergency Phase and Phase One and Two of the Tribe's Reopening Plan.

During and after Phase Three of the Tribe's Reopening Plan, this policy shall not apply, the Tribe's Travel Policy shall be observed. Employees on travel are still subject to the safety measures contained in the Tribe's Personnel Policies, including the facemask wearing, social distancing, and all other applicable COVID-19 precautionary measures.

White Mountain Apache Tribe
Public Health Emergency Preparedness
Emergency Operations Center

Pandemic Response

Policy Title: Temporary Restrictions on Funeral Arrangements and Services

Policy Date: 08/31/2020; V2 (09/14/20); V3 (04/12/21)

POLICY STATEMENT

- The White Mountain Apache Tribe (Tribe) made an Emergency Declaration on March 12, 2020 in response to the worldwide Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. This declaration activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) whose main priorities are the mitigation and prevention of COVID-19 on the reservation. The Tribe recognizes the sensitive and somber time death brings to families; this is further complicated by the pandemic which has disrupted the grieving process for families across the reservation. Families may honor their loved ones with a private graveside viewing and graveside service.
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Policy Guidelines

All funerals on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation are hereby restricted to graveside or church services with the following restrictions:

1. All viewings and services shall not last longer than 4 hours:
 - 1-hour viewing
 - 1-hour service
 - 1-hour filling
 - 1-hour decorating of grave
2. Viewing and services are limited to 50 guests.
3. Organizers and guests must always wear a facemask during the graveside viewing and service.
4. Organizers and guests must physically distance themselves from other non-household members.
5. Children must accompany their parents and should be monitored.
6. Individuals who are ill are encouraged to stay home.
7. Organizers and guests must cover their coughs and sneezes.

Organizers must:

1. Provide access to a hand washing station or hand sanitizer for all guests.
2. Provide tissue for coughs and sneezes.

3. Set up garbage containers and dispose of these containers after service.
4. Ensure all tribal guidelines and restrictions are observed.
5. Provide clean and safe bathroom facilities.

If organizers desire to serve food as part of the service, food should be served in to go plates or pre-package. All efforts should be made to ensure the number of people serving the food is minimized.

Emergency Phase Restrictions:

1. Two hour graveside service, viewing, and burial.
2. 10 person limit.

Phase One and Two:

1. Graveside services ONLY.

Phase Three and Beyond:

1. Graveside and Church services are allowed and services are subject to the Tribe's Indoor and Outdoor Guidance as well as each church's safety plan.

White Mountain Apache Tribe
Public Health Emergency Preparedness
Emergency Operations Center

Pandemic Response

Policy Title: Graduation and Commencement Ceremonies during COVID-19

Policy Date: 04/13/2021

POLICY STATEMENT

- The White Mountain Apache Tribe (Tribe) made an Emergency Declaration on March 12, 2020 in response to the worldwide Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. This declaration activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) whose main priorities are the mitigation and prevention of COVID-19 on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. The Tribe, in its effort, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 implements the following travel guidelines for Graduation and Commencement Ceremonies on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.
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Policy Guidelines

All Participants:

1. Facemasks must be always worn.
2. Social distancing must be observed even while seated.
3. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
4. Contact between individuals must be minimal.
5. Handwashing or use of hand sanitizers is required.
6. Coughs and sneezes must be covered.
7. No food should be served at the event.
8. Participants must not attend if they are sick or were recently exposed to someone with COVID-19.
9. Participants who are quarantined at the direction of medical professionals, or because they are exhibiting symptoms must not attend the event.
10. Persons should not attend until they are fully vaccinated.
11. Abide by each school's COVID-19 protocols.

Organizers must:

1. Regularly clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces.
2. Provide handwashing stations or hand sanitizer.
3. Clearly communicate COVID-19 protocols in advance.
4. Limit the number of guests per student who may attend in-person.
5. Have a plan in place for staggered entrances and exits.

Facility

1. Outdoor events are encouraged.
2. Indoor facilities should be well ventilated.
3. Organizers should post COVID-19 prevention and mitigation information signage throughout venue.