

POWERED BY: WAVE OF UNITY



# DFW PROM DREAMS

## School Partner Guide

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## 1.) About DFW Prom Dreams

DFW Prom Dreams exists to ensure that every senior has the chance to experience prom with confidence, dignity, and joy. The program is especially intended for students who might otherwise face barriers to attending or fully enjoying their prom experience.

**Through the support of community partners, schools, and sponsors, we celebrate these students by providing:**

- Prom attire (dress, suit, tux, shoes, accessories\*)
- Sizing & fitting support
- Styling services (hair\*, makeup, barber, nails)
- Curated shopping events
- Keepsake photos (shopping & prep day)
- A Prom Prep Day with final touches
- A VIP-style Prom Send-Off with group transportation

**\* = when available**

## 2.) How the Program Works

- **School Partnership** – Campus completes the School Partner Form; identifies a liaison.
- **Nomination Window** – Authorized staff submit senior nominations through the secure online form.
- **Selection Process** – WOU reviews all nominations and confirms the final group of students.
- **Announcement Day** – WOU visits the school to meet and officially invite selected students.
- **Parent/Guardian Meeting** – Required for selected students (exceptions for confirmed independent youth).
- **Shopping Events** – Students select attire with volunteers and stylists on site.

- **Prom Prep Day** – Students receive styling support, photos, and encouragement (venue revealed in welcome packet).
- **Prom Send-Off** – Celebration + group transportation to prom.

## Key Dates & Timeline

- **September 8th – January 9th** - School Partner sign-ups
- **January 12th - February 13th** - Student Nomination Period
- **February 16th - February 27th** - Nominations close & Selections
- **March 6th** - Announcements
- **March 19th** - Mandatory Parent/Guardian + Participant meeting
- **April 2026** - Suit/Tux Shopping Event\*
- **April 2026** - Dress Shopping Event\*
- **May 2026** - Prom\*

**\* = Dates TBA**

## 3) School's Role & Responsibilities

### Designate a Liaison

- Primary point of contact (counselor, administrator, or trusted staff member)

### Nominations

- Staff may nominate seniors who are deserving of recognition and celebration, particularly those who may encounter barriers to accessing prom attire, styling, or other essentials.
- Submit one form per student before the deadline.
- Provide a short, confidential statement explaining why the student is being nominated.

### On-Campus Logistics

- Provide a small space for Announcement Day.
- Assist with brief campus visit and photos (with consent).

## **Equity, Privacy, Safety**

- Maintain confidentiality.
- Support student dignity and inclusion (all genders, sizes, and abilities).
- Notify WOU early about any special accommodations.

## **4) School's Role & Responsibilities**

- Program management, selection, and student/family communication
- Attire procurement, fittings, styling coordination
- Event logistics: shopping events, prep day, send-off, and transportation
- Welcome packets, FAQs, and family updates
- Photo/media consent management
- Accessibility and accommodation planning

## **5) FAQ for Schools**

### **Who can be nominated?**

Seniors from participating partner schools are eligible. Schools are encouraged to nominate students who may face barriers to fully enjoying their prom experience and who would benefit from the support and celebration provided by DFW Prom Dreams.

### **How many students can our school nominate?**

Schools may nominate multiple students. However, the final number of students selected to participate will depend on available resources and the overall capacity of the program.

### **Who makes the final selection?**

Wave of Unity will review all nominations in collaboration with the designated school liaison. The final selection is based on need, capacity, and alignment with the mission of ensuring that all students have the opportunity to participate in prom with dignity and confidence.

### **Is there a cost to the school or families?**

No. There is no cost to families or schools. All attire, styling (as available), and event experiences are covered through Wave of Unity's sponsors, partners, and community support.

### **Are parents/guardians required to participate?**

Yes. A parent or guardian must attend all program events with their student, including the parent/guardian meeting, shopping events, prep day, and send-off. **The only exception is for emancipated or legally independent students, who may attend independently with the support of WOU staff and volunteers.**

### **What is the Conduct & Participation Agreement?**

All students and their parents/guardians (or independent students) are required to sign a Conduct & Participation Agreement. This form outlines behavior expectations, respect for staff, volunteers, vendors, and peers, and adherence to program guidelines. Failure to comply may result in dismissal from the program.

### **What happens on Announcement Day?**

WOU staff will visit the school to meet the selected students and formally invite them to participate. With consent, photos may be taken. The school liaison will help coordinate a private, respectful environment for this special moment.

### **What if a student has already purchased attire?**

These students may still be eligible to participate in other aspects of the program, such as styling services, photos, the prep day, and the prom send-off.

## **Are photos taken, and how is privacy handled?**

Yes. Professional photos will be taken by an outsourced photographer during program events, and each student will have their prom photos captured. Photos will only be taken with signed media consent. Students and families may opt out if they do not wish to be photographed.

## **How does transportation work?**

WOU will provide group transportation for students to prom to ensure that they arrive safely, in style, and on time.

Parents/guardians will be responsible for picking up their student after prom. Independent students may coordinate alternate transportation arrangements with the support of WOU staff and the school liaison.

## **Can families and friends attend the send-off?**

Yes. Families, friends, and community members are welcome to join the celebratory Prom Send-Off. However, during prep day, only parents/guardians, approved vendors, stylists, WOU staff, and trained volunteers may be present in order to maintain a respectful and professional environment. Participants are responsible for their guests, and if guests fail to conduct themselves appropriately, there will be consequences, including removal from the event.

## **What safeguards are in place for students?**

All WOU volunteers are required to complete background checks and training to align with program standards. Volunteers will support logistics and help maintain a safe environment, but supervision remains the responsibility of parents/guardians—or, for emancipated students, the student themselves.

## **Can schools publicly celebrate the program?**

Yes. Schools are encouraged to recognize the program in newsletters, announcements, or social media once student and family consent has been obtained. WOU can provide approved language and logos to maintain consistency.

## **What if a student or family cannot attend a scheduled event?**

Because each event is carefully coordinated, attendance is critical. If a student cannot attend due to a serious conflict, the parent/guardian or school liaison must notify WOU immediately. Make-up opportunities are not guaranteed and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

## **How can our school become a partner?**

Schools can complete the School Partner Form on the Wave of Unity website. After submission, a WOU representative will schedule an introductory meeting to review details, expectations, and next steps.

## **Who do we contact with questions?**

Questions can be directed to the participating school's assigned liaison or directly to the WOU program team by reaching out to DeAundra Hurd at **[dhurd@waveofunitydfw.org](mailto:dhurd@waveofunitydfw.org) or (972)-299-0161**



## Contact Information

We are here to support you every step of the way. If you have questions, need clarification, or want to discuss how DFW Prom Dreams will work best for your campus, please reach out to us.

Wave of Unity — DFW Prom Dreams Team

**Email:** [dhurd@waveofunitydfw.org](mailto:dhurd@waveofunitydfw.org)

**Phone:** (972)-299 -0161

**Website:** [www.waveofunity.org/dfwpromdreams](http://www.waveofunity.org/dfwpromdreams)

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