

# Division of State and Local Readiness Friday Update

February 5, 2021



CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLRL) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the [CDC State and Local Readiness website](https://www.cdc.gov/stateandlocalreadiness/) or contact us at [preparedness@cdc.gov](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).

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**DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE** 

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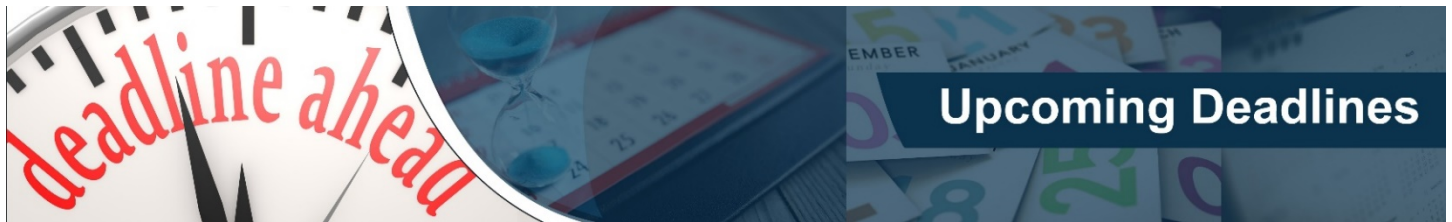
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- **March 16** – PHEP BP3 Application Deadline



### Joint HPP-PHEP Recipient Conference Call Scheduled for February 17

The next quarterly HPP-PHEP recipient conference call will be held from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST** on **Wednesday, February 17**. The joint call will start an hour earlier to accommodate the COVID-19 vaccination planning call that begins at 3:30 p.m. EST.

#### Participant Information

Dial-In: (646)828-7666

Meeting ID: 1617816178

Passcode: 52455471

Zoom Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1607524717?pwd=czhra1pScTQrS3ptR3pjMVVSRzEwZz09>

### CDC's February 10 PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights FDA Emergency Response Authorities

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar will be held at **1 p.m. EST** on **Wednesday, February 10**. The February webinar will provide an overview of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) emergency preparedness and response tools to facilitate access to critical medical countermeasures (MCMs) and provide related resources for emergency response stakeholders. Presenters Brooke Courtney and Andrea Gormley from the FDA will discuss emergency use authorizations (EUAs) and provide an overview of the FDA's COVID-19 response EUA efforts, as well as other emergency response authorities.



Participants can log onto <https://adobeconnect.cdc.gov/r6ooog3mlz5/> to view the webinar. To listen to the audio portion via phone line, dial 1-888-455-5125 and enter participant passcode 4495815. Registration is not required to join this webinar via Adobe Connect. This webinar will be recorded and accessible for later viewing. Continuing education credit will not be offered for this presentation. For more information on the PHEP Connects webinar series, contact [preparedness@cdc.gov](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).

### PHEP BP3 Application Resources Available in PERFORMS

Supplemental guidance and resources for the PHEP Budget Period 3 (BP3) application process are now available in the PERFORMS Resource Library and are located in the 1901-03 PHEP Cooperative Agreement folder. The resources include:

- Requirements for Laboratory Response Network for Biological Threats
- Requirements for Laboratory Response Network for Chemical Threats

- PHEP BP3 Guidance Application and Amendment Instructions

In addition, templates for the domain work plans and the PHEP program requirements can be found in the User Support Folder/Templates subfolder. PHEP recipients can use the optional templates to help develop their work plans in the PERFORMS BP3 application module for submission in GrantSolutions. Recipients can sort files via the “Publish Date” column in the Templates subfolder to locate the most recent documents. If recipients encounter any issues with the application module, they should contact the PERFORMS team at [performssupport@cdc.gov](mailto:performssupport@cdc.gov). As a reminder, BP3 applications are due March 16.



### **CDC Provides Update on Federal Retail Pharmacy Program**

The federal government has partnered with 21 national pharmacy chains and independent pharmacy networks to help administer COVID-19 vaccine in communities across the United States as part of the [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination](#). The initial phased implementation of the program will begin next week, with select retail pharmacies administering COVID-19 vaccine across the country as early as Thursday, February 11. CDC will provide jurisdictions with a list of the participating retail locations in their jurisdictions as well as points of contacts for pharmacy partners to facilitate coordination with partners.

The program will be implemented incrementally, based on the available supply of COVID-19 vaccines. As part of this initial phase, select retail pharmacies in each state and U.S. territory will receive a limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine directly from the federal government to vaccinate eligible individuals in their communities. Allocations to support the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program are separate from weekly allocations provided to jurisdictions. CDC worked with states and territories to select initial pharmacy partners to start the program in their communities. Jurisdictions made selections based on a number of factors including the number of stores, the ability to reach some of the populations most at risk for severe illness from COVID-19, such as those 65 years of age or older and socially vulnerable communities, and alignment with existing vaccination plans. As the vaccine supply increases, the program aims to expand the number of participating pharmacy locations, ultimately providing COVID-19 vaccinations in all 40,000 retail pharmacy locations nationwide.

CDC plans to provide jurisdictions with full access to program data to help plan and coordinate vaccination efforts and track progress. All pharmacy partners enrolled in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program are required to report inventory daily to VaccineFinder and patient administration information to jurisdictional immunization information systems as well as directly to CDC's Data Clearing House.

### **FEMA Launches COVID-19 Vaccine Support Website**

FEMA continues working with federal partners, state, local, tribal, and territorial authorities, private sector partners, and others to help accelerate COVID-19 vaccinations in the United States. As part of this effort, FEMA has launched a [Vaccine Support website](#) with a variety of resources, including information for the public on how to get vaccinated, and is establishing new vaccination sites to expand access to vaccines.



To reach underserved and rural communities, FEMA, in collaboration with federal partners, is coordinating efforts to establish and support fixed facilities and establishing pop-up or temporary vaccination sites and mobile vaccination clinics. As of January 28, nine federally supported sites are operational in Arizona, Nevada, Texas, and Washington. FEMA has deployed staff to states to support vaccination centers with personnel and technical assistance. FEMA is also supporting National Guard operations to expand access to vaccines and provide administrative and logistics support to vaccines sites.





## What's on the Calendar

- **February 10** – PHEP Connects Webinar
- **February 17** – Joint HPP-PHEP Recipient Call
- **February 18** – RealOpt© Training



## Tools and Resources

### Vaccine Confidence Consultations Now Available

The CDC Vaccine Task Force now offers vaccine confidence consultations for interested jurisdictions. The program will match jurisdictions with CDC experts to answer questions around vaccine hesitancy and develop strategies to instill vaccine confidence for hesitant populations. To request this service, interested jurisdictions should contact [confidenceconsults@cdc.gov](mailto:confidenceconsults@cdc.gov). Online tips for building vaccine confidence can be accessed [here](#).



### New CDC COVID-19 Resources Available on Online

Several new COVID-19 resources are now available on the CDC COVID-19 website. The resources include key data updates, infection control videos, toolkits for pregnant women and new parents, and materials from the January 28 Clinical Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) webinar.

- The [COVID State Profiles Report](#) (Governor's Report) provides an integrated, county view of key data for monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. This report is publicly available online at [COVID-19 Data Tracker](#) and will be updated weekly.
- Materials from the January 28 COCA webinar are now posted on the CDC website. The webinar, "Treating Long COVID: Clinical Experience in Post-Acute COVID-19 Care," highlighted long-term effects of COVID-19, commonly referred to as long COVID. Learn [more](#) about signs and symptoms of long COVID and interdisciplinary approaches to care. Free continuing education credits are available.
- The [Toolkit for Pregnant People and New Parents](#) provides resources and tools to help pregnant women and new parents caring for infants to protect their health. The toolkit also helps individuals who serve this population.
- [Project Firstline: Inside Infection Control Videos](#) provides resources that help frontline healthcare workers learn the basic ideas behind infection control, how to prevent COVID-19, and how using infection control actions while at work can protect workers, their patients, their co-workers, and their communities.



## News You Can Use

## Masks Now Required While on Public Transportation and at Transportation Hubs

Effective February 2, all passengers and crew are required to wear face masks on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations to help stop the spread of COVID-19. CDC encourages review of the [January 30 press release, guidance and FAQs](#), and [order](#), along with the general [guidance](#) on how to choose, wear, and wash a mask for maximum effectiveness against COVID-19.

## NACCHO to Host February 18 Webinar on Hygiene-Related Behaviors during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) will host a webinar scheduled for **3 p.m. EST on Thursday, February 18**. The webinar will focus on a review of hygiene-related behaviors during the COVID-19 pandemic among U.S. populations. CDC researchers will discuss findings from a range of quantitative and qualitative studies designed to better understand these behaviors. Click [here](#) for additional information and to register for the webinar.

## ASTHO Plans TechXpo: The Nation's First COVID-19 Technology Convening

The public health response to COVID-19 has spurred technological innovations in support of health care and public health systems. Save the date for ASTHO's 2021 COVID-19 TechXpo on **Wednesday, March 31**, where public health and technology leaders will meet to identify solutions to pressing problems and share how technology can be leveraged to create sustainable, optimized public health programs. View the meeting [agenda](#) for details on this national convening, and visit the [event page](#) for more information. The COVID-19 TechXpo Prospectus can be found [here](#).



## CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, February 5](#)
- [Demographic Characteristics of Persons Vaccinated During the First Month of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program — United States, December 14, 2020–January 14, 2021](#)
- [Early COVID-19 First-Dose Vaccination Coverage Among Residents and Staff Members of Skilled Nursing Facilities Participating in the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program — United States, December 2020–January 2021](#)
- [Sexual Orientation Disparities in Risk Factors for Adverse COVID-19–Related Outcomes, by Race/Ethnicity — Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, United States, 2017–2019](#)
- [Decreases in Young Children Who Received Blood Lead Level Testing During COVID-19—34 Jurisdictions, January–May 2020](#)
- [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Prevalence of Stress and Worry, Mental Health Conditions, and Increased Substance Use Among Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, April and May 2020](#)

## COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **UPDATED** [Understanding the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- **UPDATED** [Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Program for COVID-19 Vaccination FAQs](#)
- **UPDATED** [Pharmacies Participating in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program](#)
- **UPDATED** [When Vaccine is Limited, Who Gets Vaccinated First?](#)
- **UPDATED** [Cases in the U.S.](#)
- **UPDATED** [US COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants](#)
- **UPDATED** [New Variant of Virus that Causes COVID-19 Detected](#)
- **UPDATED** [Requirement for Proof of Negative COVID-19 Test or Recovery from COVID-19 for All Air Passengers Arriving in the United States](#)
- **UPDATED** [Wear Face Masks on Public Transportation Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs](#)
- **UPDATED** [Vaccines](#)

- **UPDATED** [Returning to Work](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC's Diagnostic Multiplex Assay for Flu \*and\* COVID-19 and Supplies](#)
- **UPDATED** [Test for Past Infection](#)
- **UPDATED** [Staffing Resources](#)
- **UPDATED** [Print Resources](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Employer Information for Transit Maintenance Workers](#)
- **UPDATED** [What Airline Customer Service Representatives and Gate Agents Need to Know about COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [Use of Masks to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [Community, Work, and School](#)
- **UPDATED** [Information for Laboratories about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- **UPDATED** [Information for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

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