

Division of State and Local Readiness Friday Update

March 19, 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](#) or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE 

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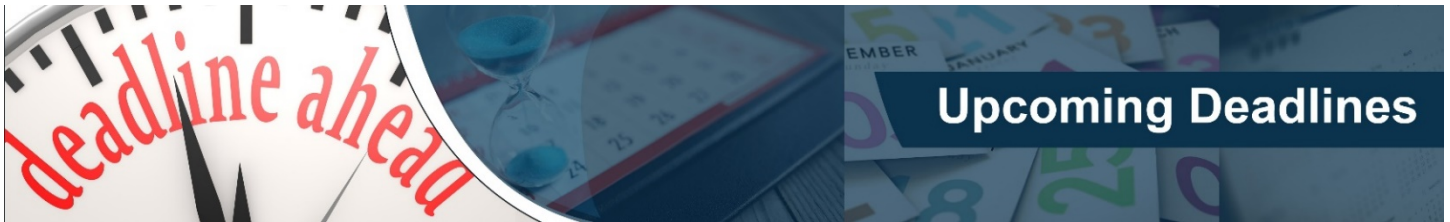
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Upcoming Deadlines

- **March 26** – CDC COVID-19 Related Health Disparities Funding Opportunity Letter of Intent Due (CDC-RFA-OT21-2103)



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

CDC Releases PHEP ORR Interim Guidance and BP3 Implementation Fact Sheet

CDC is expanding the Operational Readiness Review (ORR) guidance to assess all-hazards readiness across all 15 public health emergency preparedness and response capabilities and has developed interim guidance that outlines the associated reporting requirements and evaluation criteria. The PHEP ORR guidance is organized into three sections: descriptive and demographic, planning, and operations. Each section provides information about specific elements, details on how to enter data, and how reviewers will evaluate submitted information.

CDC has modified its PHEP ORR implementation approach and reporting requirements for Budget Period 3 (BP3) to focus on capturing COVID-19 pandemic response data. A two-page fact sheet has been developed to serve as a high-level introduction to the ORR interim guidance and a summary of BP3 implementation. Both documents will be sent to jurisdictions in a separate email. Recipients with questions about the interim guidance or fact sheet should contact their PHEP project officer or preparedness@cdc.gov.

March 17 PHEP Recipient Conference Call Slides Now Available

Presentation slides from CDC's March 17 PHEP Director conference call are now available in [On-TRAC](#). Topics discussed include information on the PREP Act Declaration Amendment, General Services Administration COVID-19 Response Support Services, and updates on the PHEP ORR implementation in BP3 and BP3 funding application process.

CDC PMS Temporarily Experiencing Reporting System Errors

CDC's Payment Management System (PMS) is currently experiencing technical system errors. PMS did not correctly update FFR information for the Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement. For recipients awarded no-cost extensions, this error indicates that final reports are due July 15. CDC is working to get this corrected and will update as soon as possible. Grant notes will also be entered to reflect this error.



COVID-19 Response Activities

HHS Authorizes PREP Act to Expand Vaccinator Categories

HHS has used its authority under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to add additional categories of qualified people authorized to prescribe, dispense, and administer COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, including dentists, EMTs, midwives, optometrists, paramedics, physician assistants, podiatrists, respiratory therapists, and veterinarians. This action also authorizes medical students, nursing students, and other health care students in the professions listed under

the PREP Act with proper training and professional supervision to serve as vaccinators. More information can be found [here](#). The [Expanding the COVID-19 Vaccination Workforce factsheet](#) provides additional information on which professions are qualified under this PREP Act.

Funding Opportunity on COVID-19-Related Health Disparities Now Available

CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS) has announced non-competitive grant, [CDC-RFA-OT21-2103 National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities](#). This non-research grant is funded through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021, which supports strategies to improve testing capabilities and other COVID-19 response purposes, including those to develop or identify best practices for states and public health officials to use for contact tracing. Through this funding mechanism, CDC will award \$2.25 billion to expand capacity and services to prevent and control COVID-19 infection (or transmission) among populations that are at higher risk and underserved, including racial and ethnic minority groups and people living in rural communities.

This funding opportunity is intended to address COVID-19-related health disparities and advance health equity by expanding capacity and services to communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Eligibility requirements and additional information can be found [here](#). CDC developed a workplan template and application checklist to ease the process. This funding opportunity is a non-competitive award, so all who apply and meet eligibility requirements will be awarded. Below are important dates regarding the application process:

- **March 26** – Letters of intent are due
- **April 30** – Applications are due
- **June 1** – Anticipated award date

CDC will host two webinars to provide additional information about this funding opportunity. Both webinars will provide the same information. Participant information is provided below.

Participant Information

Date: Tuesday, March 30

Time: 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. EDT and 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. EDT

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 16040976381

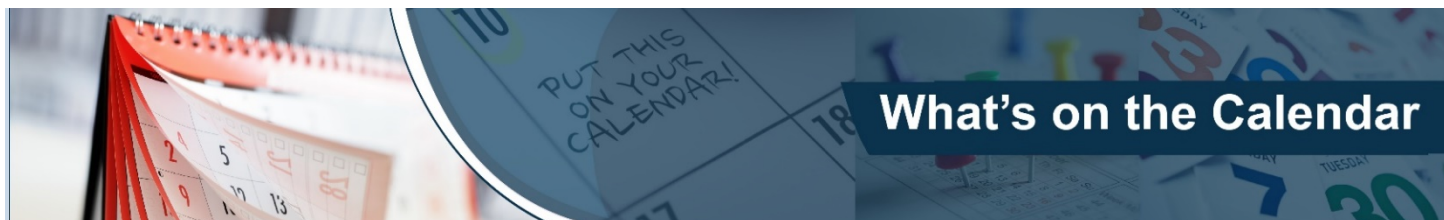
Passcode: 708148093

Webinar Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/16040976381?pwd=NmNjdFcrQlFVSjVPZ25nR0dHay9zdz09>

CDC Science Brief Provides Background Rationale and Evidence for Fully Vaccinated People

CDC's [science brief](#) summarizes the available evidence for the currently authorized COVID-19 vaccines (administered according to the recommended schedules). The science brief also provides additional considerations used to inform public health recommendations for fully vaccinated people, including the following.

- Vaccine efficacy and effectiveness against SARS-CoV-2 infection
- Vaccine performance against emerging SARS-CoV-2 variant strains
- Impact of prevention measures in the context of vaccination
- Population attitudes and behaviors towards vaccination and prevention measures



- **April 1-2** – [POD Essentials Train-the-Trainer Course](#)
- **April 22** – [RealOpt© Training](#)



ASPR Gathering Inventory Data to Aid in Decision Making During Public Health Emergencies

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) is developing medical countermeasure (MCM) and personal protective equipment (PPE) supply chain visibility tools for decision making in the current COVID-19 response and for future responses. Part of this effort is to collect inventory information to further develop a comprehensive picture of PPE supply chain capability. With common operating pictures of supply chain capabilities, public health and emergency management authorities will have methods to determine the best allocations of PPE and MCM resources.

The current COVID-19 response is providing an opportunity for ASPR to use actual supply chain response data to determine which collection methods, nodes, analyses, and interpretations can yield the most extensive supply chain intelligence and decision assistance. This effort not only helps refine the nation's current COVID-19 response but informs future stockpiling requirements.

As part of this overall initiative, ASPR's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) has requested all 62 PHEP recipients activate their inventory data exchange (IDE) capabilities for weekly reports on specific items related to the current COVID-19 response. SNS first contacted jurisdictions in January with a request to start the reporting process. Jurisdictions can use the IDE process regardless of which inventory management system they use.

Jurisdictions with additional non-technical questions may contact ASPR through their regional coordinator at soc.rc@hhs.gov. For additional technical questions about IDE or to learn more about SNS Inventory Management and Tracking System (IMATS), available at no cost to public health authorities, please contact the IMATS help desk at IMATShelp@cdc.gov.



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, March 19](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Second-Dose Completion and Interval Between First and Second Doses Among Vaccinated Persons — United States, December 14, 2020–February 14, 2021](#)
- [Effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Among Residents of Two Skilled Nursing Facilities Experiencing COVID-19 Outbreaks — Connecticut, December 2020–February 2021](#)
- [Association of Children's Mode of School Instruction with Child and Parent Experiences and Well-Being During the COVID-19 Pandemic — COVID Experiences Survey, United States, October 8–November 13, 2020](#)
- [Minimal SARS-CoV-2 Transmission After Implementation of a Comprehensive Mitigation Strategy at a School - New Jersey, August 20–November 27, 2020](#)
- [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in COVID-19 Incidence by Age, Sex, and Period Among Persons Aged <25 Years - 16 U.S. Jurisdictions, January 1–December 31, 2020](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **UPDATED** [How to Talk About COVID-19 Vaccines with Friends and Family](#)
- **UPDTED** [COVID-19 Vaccinations](#)

- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkit for Community-Based Organizations: Getting Started](#)
- **UPDATED** [Staffing Resources](#)
- **UPDATED** [Test for Current Infection](#)
- **UPDATED** [Correctional and Detention Facilities](#)
- **UPDATED** [Variant Proportions in the U.S.](#)
- **UPDATED** [About COVID-19 Vaccine Delivered and Administration Data](#)
- **UPDATED** [Reporting COVID-19 Vaccination Data for Long-Term Care Facilities](#)
- **UPDATED** [How COVID-19 Vaccines Get to You](#)
- **UPDATED** [Things to Know about the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 in Children and Teens](#)

CDC Wants to Hear from PHEP Recipients

CDC wants to hear how PHEP jurisdictions are preparing for and responding to incidents, emergencies, and disasters, whether it's the COVID-19 pandemic, recent weather events, or other public health emergencies. Recipients can highlight their experiences in emergency preparedness, response, or recovery by emailing the State and Local Readiness mailbox at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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