

August 13, 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 (DSLR) 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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- September 1 COVID-19 Workforce Development Budget and Work Plan Revisions



CDC to Host COVID-19 Workforce Funding Office Hours in Lieu of August 18 PHEP Recipient Call The monthly PHEP recipient conference call will **not** be held as scheduled on Wednesday, August 18. In lieu of the monthly call, CDC will host Crisis Response COVID-19 Workforce Funding Office Hours at 2 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, August 18.

During the office hours, CDC will address recipient questions regarding workforce development funding work plans and budgets, which are due September 1, and review the current timeline for other deliverables. **Recipients are strongly encouraged to bring their questions to the session.** CDC will also highlight CDC funding available to support the need for expanded COVID-19 testing across the country. Following is the participant information:

## Participant Information

Dial-in: (646) 828-7666 (Audio only)

Conference ID: 1612862773

Passcode: 44672971

Access Link: https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1612862773?pwd=MEFZbGN6RCtNOWJIR3loVVhQSy8zZz09

**CDC Reminds Recipients of Upcoming BP3 Deadlines** 

Two critical PHEP Budget Period 3 (BP3) deadlines are fast approaching, including responses to BP3 conditions of award (COAs). Recipients will use the BP3 program management module in PERFORMS to submit their responses to the COAs outlined in their BP3 award notices. CDC opened this module in June, 30 days earlier than usual to provide PHEP recipients with additional time to respond to their COAs and submit revised budgets and work plans, as required. Recipients must respond to all COAs noted in their award notices using the "Summary Statement/Technical Review Response to Weaknesses" amendment process in GrantSolutions.

Recipients must also revise their BP3 budgets to reflect the additional funding they received based on the final BP3 funding allocations. The funding increases may also require revisions to recipients' BP3 work plans. Recipients can provide all these adjustments within one GrantSolutions amendment. All required COA responses and budget and work plan revisions are due to CDC by **Tuesday**, **August 31**.

Further, CDC is awarding an additional \$1 million in fiscal year 2021 funding to support Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) activities. CDC will issue the funds as an administrative supplement to the PHEP BP3 cooperative agreements with the 50 states and four directly funded localities that receive CRI funding. The funding is intended to provide additional resources to supplement BP3 planning efforts within the CRI local planning jurisdictions. CDC expects to award the additional funds by **Friday, September 10**.

To officially apply for these new funds, recipients must submit SF-424 and SF-424A documents and brief budget narratives in Grant Solutions by close of business on **Friday**, **August 20**. Recipients should briefly describe in their budget narratives how they plan to adjust their work plans to account for this additional funding. A Word document or Excel spreadsheet will suffice for this submission. Recipients do **not** need to submit their CRI application documents in PERFORMS.

If applying for this CRI supplement causes a delay in meeting the August 31 deadline to respond to PHEP BP3 COAs, CDC recommends that recipients contact their PHEP project officers and OGS grants management specialists to request a deadline extension.

## **CDC PHEP BP2 Performance Measure Module Training Scheduled for August 18**

The PHEP Budget Period 2 (BP2) performance measure module is scheduled to open on **Monday, August 16**, for submission of BP2 performance measure data. The deadline for submitting the required data is **September 30**.

The PERFORMS team will host a training session on entering performance measure data in the module at 11 a.m. EDT on Wednesday, August 18. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666 (Audio only)

Conference ID: 1618419576

Passcode: 89238897

Access Link: https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1618419576?pwd=STJxRFRHbk9TT214KytGWCt0NjU5QT09



#### **CDC Funding Supports COVID-19 Testing and Surge Support**

As COVID-19 numbers continue to rise across the country, CDC encourages jurisdictions to consider establishing community testing sites or expanding current testing services using resources provided by CDC. Specifically, CDC's Public Health Crisis Response and Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) cooperative agreements and funding to expand disease intervention specialist (DIS) programs are available to support these efforts.

- Crisis response funding can provide immediate surge support for the public health workforce, including
  testing and laboratory staffing, outreach on testing, contact tracing staff, school health staff, and other
  public health and school workforce needs.
- ELC funding supports staff time, test kits, and materials, including home tests.
- DIS funding can increase jurisdictions' capacity to conduct case investigations, contact tracing, outbreak response, and to link people to care and treatment for COVID-19.

CDC encourages public health departments to review their testing efforts and evaluate current needs as soon as possible and to notify their CDC project offices if they have questions or need to make work plan changes.

Details regarding funding awarded directly to jurisdictions for testing and contact tracing, vaccine preparedness and distribution, laboratory capacity and genomic sequencing, and public health workforce development can be found on CDC's interactive map at <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/budget/fact-sheets/covid-19/funding/index.html">www.cdc.gov/budget/fact-sheets/covid-19/funding/index.html</a>.

## New Data Now Available on COVID-19 Vaccination Safety for Pregnant People

CDC has <u>released new data</u> on the safety of the COVID-19 vaccines in pregnant people. A <u>CDC analysis</u> of current data from the v-safe pregnancy registry assessed vaccination early in pregnancy and did not find an increased risk of miscarriage among nearly 2,500 pregnant people who received an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine before 20 weeks of pregnancy. Miscarriage typically occurs in about 11% to16% of pregnancies, and this study found miscarriage rates after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine were approximately 13%.

Previously, data from three safety monitoring systems did not find any safety concerns for pregnant people who were vaccinated late in pregnancy or for their babies. Combined, these data and the known severe risks of COVID-19 during pregnancy demonstrate that the benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine for pregnant people outweigh any known or potential risks.

Clinicians have seen the number of pregnant people infected with COVID-19 rise in the past several weeks. The increased circulation of the highly contagious <u>Delta variant</u>, the <u>low vaccine uptake among pregnant people</u>, and the increased risk of severe illness and pregnancy complications related to COVID-19 infection among pregnant people make vaccination for this population more urgent than ever.

#### New MMWR Web Page Focuses on COVID-19 Vaccine Effectiveness and Safety

CDC's primary publication for disseminating the science it produces is the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR). CDC recently launched a new web page to make it easier to find the latest information on COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness and safety. The new page can be found at <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/covid19">https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/covid19</a> vaccine safety.html.



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#### **CDC FY2020 Grant Funding Profiles Now Available**

CDC has updated its Grant Funding Profiles site with fiscal year (FY) 2020 data and profiles. The profiles provide quick access to information about CDC funding provided to health departments, universities, and other public and private agencies in U.S. states; territories and freely associated states; and the District of Columbia. Please contact CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support at <a href="mailto:CSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov">CSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov</a> with questions or comments.

## **HHS Provides Resources for In-Person Learning**

New resources from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are available to help public health and school workers reach out to students and staff as they return to in-person learning.

- The <u>Back to School Toolkit</u> from the federal "We Can Do This COVID-19 Public Education Campaign" has resources for school district leaders, teachers, parent leaders, and school supporters who want to help increase confidence in and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines in their school communities, answer questions, and outline school guidance about COVID-19.
- The <u>Guide to On-Site Vaccination Clinic for Schools</u> has specific suggestions and tips for how schools can host pop-up vaccination clinics for students returning to in-person learning, as well as a list of resources available to make school-located clinics happen. For detailed step-by-step instructions for how to facilitate school-based vaccination clinics, see the resources at <u>Considerations for Planning School-Located Vaccination Clinics</u> and <u>On-Site Vaccination Clinic Toolkit</u>.

ASTHO Launches Insight and Inspiration Webinar Series to Advance Public Health Leadership
ASTHO is scheduled to host a series of resilience-focused webinars aimed to equip public health practitioners
with perspectives they can apply during the COVID-19 response and beyond. This series will feature nationally
recognized thought leaders, authors, and strategic thinkers for insight and inspiration to motivate and advance
leadership within jurisdictions amid the COVID-19 response. Sessions are 45 minutes and open to public

health professionals at the local, state, or federal levels looking to ground themselves and their leadership in the midst of a national public health response. Following is the webinar series information.

- Leading Through Uncertainty
   Wednesday, August 18, 4 p.m. EDT
- Leading in Public Health: COVID-19 and PTSD in the Workforce Wednesday, October 20, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Insight and Inspiration with Mylynn Tufte: Leading with Gratitude Thursday, November 18, 4 p.m. EDT

Click <u>here</u> to register for the webinar series.



CDC Warns of Salmonella Infections Linked to Recalled Raw Frozen Breaded Stuffed Chicken CDC recently posted a <u>food safety alert</u> regarding a multistate outbreak of *Salmonella* Enteritidis infections. Following are key points regarding the recall as of August 11.

 Twenty-eight people infected with the outbreak strain of Salmonella Enteritidis have been reported from eight states. Eleven people were hospitalized, and no deaths have been reported. • Interviews with ill people, traceback information, and product testing results show that frozen, raw chicken products that are breaded, prebrowned, and stuffed are the likely source of this outbreak.

View the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recall notice for additional details.



# **CDC MMWR Reports**

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, August 13
- <u>Use of COVID-19 Vaccines After Reports of Adverse Events Among Adult Recipients of Janssen</u>
   (<u>Johnson & Johnson</u>) and mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines (<u>Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna</u>): <u>Update from</u>
   the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices United States, July 2021
- Alternative Methods for Grouping Race and Ethnicity to Monitor COVID-19 Outcomes and Vaccination Coverage
- Notes from the Field: Recurrence of a Multistate Outbreak of Salmonella Typhimurium Infections Linked to Contact with Hedgehogs — United States and Canada, 2020
- Erratum: Vol. 70, No. 29
- QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Daily Experienced Feelings of Anxiety (Feeling Worried, Nervous, or Anxious) or Depression, or Both, by Sex — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2019

#### **COVID-19 Guidance and Resources**

- UPDATED Cases in the U.S.
- UPDATED COVID-19 Integrated County View
- UPDATED COVID-19 Vaccines While Pregnant or Breastfeeding
- UPDATED Selected Adverse Events Reported after COVID-19 Vaccination
- UPDATED CDC Diagnostic Tests for COVID-19
- UPDATED Delta Variant: What we Know about the Science
- UPDATED COVID-19 and Animals
- UPDATED Families & Children
- UPDATED Operational Considerations for Community Isolation Centers for COVID-19 in Low-Resource Settings
- UPDATED Families with Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Members
- UPDATED Construction COVID-19 Checklists for Employers and Employees
- UPDATED What Construction Workers Need to Know about COVID-19
- **UPDATED** What to do if a Student Becomes Sick at School or Reports a New COVID-19 Diagnosis Flowchart

## **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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# **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

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