

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

November 12, 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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Upcoming Deadlines

- **November 17** – PHEP BP2 Annual Progress Reports
- **November 22** – PHEP Direct Assistance (DA) Requests



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

PHEP Recipient Conference Call Scheduled for November 17

The next monthly PHEP recipient conference call will be held from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 17**. CDC will provide several updates regarding the PHEP Operational Readiness Review (ORR) implementation in the second half of Budget Period 3. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 160 752 4717

Passcode: 07271150

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



COVID-19 Response Activities

New Funding Now Available for COVID-19 School Testing

The Biden-Harris administration recently announced [Additional Actions to Increase COVID-19 Screening Testing in Schools and Keep Students Safe](#). Among the actions is \$10 billion in funding for COVID-19 screening testing for teachers, staff, and students in K-12 schools. This funding is in addition to the \$130 billion provided earlier to states and school districts that may also be used for testing. Screening testing is a critical strategy to identify positive cases of COVID-19 in students and staff and ensure K-12 schools can operate safely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CDC Provides Updated COVID-19 Travel Information for Non-U.S. Citizens and Immigrants

CDC has released updated information on what non-U.S. citizens and immigrants need to know before and during travel to and after arrival in the United States. To learn more, review CDC's [Non-U.S. citizen, Non-U.S. immigrants: Air Travel to the United States](#) web page. Additional information can be found at [Requirement for](#)

CDC and HHS Provides New and Updated COVID-19 Resources for Schools

- CDC's [COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Early Care and Education/Child Care Programs](#) provides updates that emphasize the importance of universal masking for everyone ages 2 and older, regardless of vaccination status. Additionally, this guidance provides more information on screening testing and updated guidance for fully vaccinated staff. Early care and education programs can promote vaccinations among staff and families, including pregnant women, by providing information about COVID-19 vaccination, encouraging vaccine trust and confidence, and establishing supportive policies and practices.
- CDC's [School-Located Vaccination Clinics: Best Practices for School Districts](#) provides information that can serve as a roadmap for how school district administrators can work directly with health departments and other vaccine providers such as pharmacies to [set up vaccination clinics](#) in places that K–12 students and their parents know and trust.
- On November 10, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Education released a [joint letter](#) urging school officials to (1) host COVID-19 vaccination clinics at their schools, (2) distribute information about the COVID-19 vaccine to all families with children ages 5 to 11 years old, and (3) hold conversations with their school communities on the COVID-19 vaccine.
- The HHS [School Learning Modalities \(HHS Protect Public Data Hub\)](#) displays school district learning modalities across the United States captured over the last 14 days. The learning modalities show whether a district is operating in-person only, remotely only, a hybrid of in-person and remote learning, or whether the district has no data. The data are refreshed weekly on Thursdays and comes from [Burbio](#), [MCH](#), [Return to Learn](#), and state dashboards. This data may be used to determine whether modifications to [COVID-19 prevention activities](#) may be needed.



What's on the Calendar

- **November 17** – PHEP Recipient Call



Preparedness and Response Resources

FEMA Hosts November 17 Webinar on Disaster Response and Disability

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Individual and Community Preparedness Division will host a webinar from **1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 17**, entitled "The Disaster Response and Disability: Approaches for Citizen Responders." This webinar will focus on disaster response actions that support people with access and functional needs, as well as those with disabilities. Federal, state, and academic subject matter experts will present approaches to increase inclusivity for individuals with access and functional needs and those with disabilities in disaster response. A question-and-answer session will follow the presentations.

For additional information and to register for this webinar, visit [Disaster Response and Disability: Approaches for Citizen Responders](#). Closed captioning and an American Sign Language interpreter will be provided. For reasonable accommodations or questions, email FEMA-prepare@fema.dhs.gov.

CDC Seeks Presenters for Follow-up Webinars on Connecting Public Health and Long-Term Care Partners

CDC and the [John A. Hartford Foundation](#) hosted a November 2 webinar for state health departments and other stakeholders on “Connecting Public Health and Long-term Care through [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#) COVID-19 Strike Team Funding.” This [webinar](#) provided examples of how public health and health care organizations have partnered effectively during the COVID-19 pandemic and discussed state strategies for successful collaborations to implement activities funded by the new [Nursing Home and Long-term Care Facilities Strike Teams and Infrastructure Project](#). Following the webinar, CDC received numerous requests for additional strategies and activities that other health department programs may be using to address the needs of providers in their communities. CDC is considering hosting additional webinars and is seeking public health and long-term care partner organizations willing to share successes and lessons learned that could assist others in their planning efforts.

In particular, CDC is interested in identifying innovative approaches for supporting long-term care providers in the following topic areas.

- Providing technical support to facilities to strengthen infection prevention capacity
- Training and provision of supplies to support safe use and handling of personal protective equipment, including implementing respiratory protection programs
- Increasing the eligible long-term care (LTC) direct care workforce
- Supporting the existing LTC workforce
- Addressing the staffing crisis by providing surge support

Public health agencies and long-term care partner organization with experiences to share should contact NHStrikeTeams@cdc.gov with a brief description of the activity and the contact information of the presenter **by Tuesday, November 16**. Given the intended audience for these webinars, only speakers from public health programs or long-term care provider and partner organizations will be able to serve as presenters.

CDC to Host November 18 Panel Discussion on Protecting Health Worker Mental Health

CDC’s National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) will host a special virtual event from **2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 18** with national experts from labor and medicine on the mental health of the nation’s critical health workforce. Speakers will discuss the current crisis and the impact of the pandemic, including the specific challenges facing the nation’s health workers. The discussion will also explore what is needed to design a better work experience for this workforce and introduce NIOSH’s five-part plan to tackle the growing public health crisis.

Webinar speakers include:

- John Howard, M.D., NIOSH director
- Vice Admiral Vivek Murthy, M.D., M.B.A., U.S. Surgeon General
- Elizabeth Royal, director, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) National Nurse Alliance
- Lotte Dyrbye, M.D., co-director, Mayo Clinic Program on Physician Well-Being

[Registration](#) is required. A recording of the webinar will be available on the [NIOSH website](#) at a later date.

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, November 12](#)
- [The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine in Children Aged 5–11 Years — United States, November 2021](#)
- [Progress Toward Regional Measles Elimination — Worldwide, 2000–2020](#)
- [HIV Prevention Program Eligibility Among Adolescent Girls and Young Women — Namibia, 2019](#)
- [Influenza Vaccinations During the COVID-19 Pandemic — 11 U.S. Jurisdictions, September–December 2020](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Received an Influenza Vaccination in the Past 12 Months, by Sex and Age Group — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2020](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Childhood Lead Poisoning Associated with Turmeric Spices — Las Vegas, 2019](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **UPDATED** [Non-U.S. citizen, Non-U.S. immigrants: Air Travel to the United States](#)
- **UPDATED** [Requirement for Proof of Negative COVID-19 Test or Documentation of Recovery from COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [Requirement for Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination for Air Passengers](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Early Care and Education/Child Care Programs](#)
- **UPDATED** [School-Located Vaccination Clinics: Best Practices for School Districts](#)

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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