

**DSLRL**

# FRIDAY UPDATE

December 29, 2021

Holiday Edition

*Happy New Year*  
**2022**



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](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).

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### PHEP Critical Contact Sheet Data Due December 31

PHEP recipients are required to review and submit updates to their Critical Contact Sheet (CCS) data twice a year. The next deadline to submit CCS data is **Friday, December 31**. Normally, recipients can upload this information using CDC's online data collection system. However, since the new PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) will not be open until 2022, PHEP project officers have emailed recipients the latest version of the CCS to review and updated as needed. Recipients must return via email their CCS forms, noting whether they have validated or updated the information, to their project officers by the December 31 deadline.

### CDC to Upload Recipient Data in PHEP BP4 Application Module

CDC plans to release the PHEP Budget Period 4 (BP4) continuation guidance in mid-January, with applications due 60 days later in mid-March. Since the U.S. government is operating under a continuing resolution until February 18 or until a fiscal year 2022 appropriations bill is enacted, the BP4 continuation guidance will include recipients' current Budget Period 3 (BP3) funding allocations for planning purposes. CDC plans to populate the PERFORMS BP4 application module with recipients' current BP3 work plan and budget

information to ease recipient burden. To make this process as efficient as possible, CDC encourages recipients to review their BP3 budget information. Jurisdictions should ensure that the increased funding they received in BP3 is fully allocated in PERFORMS by **Friday, January 7**, so it can be used to populate their BP4 applications.

Recipients will be able to review and make necessary edits to this data and can use the documentation to prepare and submit their BP4 funding applications via GrantSolutions by the March deadline. PHEP recipients will submit revised budgets and work plans after CDC releases final BP4 funding allocations. Recipients must inform their project officers by **Friday, January 7**, if they would like to opt out of this process and can contact their project officers for more information.



### **CDC Finalizing Public Health Crisis Response NOFO**

CDC is finalizing the 2022 notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for the Public Health Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement and expects to publish the NOFO on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) in the next few days. CDC has tentatively scheduled an informational call on the new NOFO, CDC-RFA-TP22-2201, for **2 p.m. EST on Friday, January 7**. Once the NOFO has been released, CDC will provide additional details regarding the informational call. The NOFO is intended to establish a new roster of approved but unfunded (ABU) applicants that may receive rapid funding by CDC to respond to a public health emergency of such magnitude, complexity, or significance that it would have an overwhelming impact upon, and exceed resources available to, the jurisdictions. CDC will use this ABU list for emergencies that require federal support to effectively respond to, manage, and address identified public health threats.

### **CDC Updates and Shortens Recommended Isolation and Quarantine Period for General Population**

On December 27, [CDC updated and shortened the recommended isolation and quarantine period](#) for the general population. CDC shortened the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for those with COVID-19 to five days, if asymptomatic, followed by five days of wearing a mask when around others. The change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the one to two days prior to onset of symptoms and the two to three days after.

Additionally, CDC updated the recommended quarantine period. For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than two months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for five days followed by strict mask use for an additional five days. Alternatively, if a five-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person [wear a well-fitting mask at all times](#) when around others for 10 days after exposure. Individuals who have received their booster shots do not need to quarantine following an exposure but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure. For all those exposed, best practice would also include a test for SARS-CoV2 at day five after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

CDC will host a special session on this new guidance at **2 p.m. EST today, Wednesday, December 29**.

Invited call participants include state, tribal, local, and territorial preparedness directors, epidemiologists, health officials, public health laboratory directors, and nongovernmental partners. Register in advance for this webinar at [https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_zq8m0UudQqifl451m6mFSA](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_zq8m0UudQqifl451m6mFSA).

CDC also has developed a set of questions and answers about this change in policy for jurisdictional partners. PHEP recipients can find the document on the [Online Technical Resources and Assistance Center](#).

## FDA Grants Emergency Use Authorization for Two Oral Antiviral Drugs to Treat COVID-19

This week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted emergency use authorizations to Pfizer for [paxlovid](#) and to Merck for [molnupiravir](#). These oral antiviral drugs are now authorized for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adult patients ages 18 years and older who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19. Paxlovid is also authorized for use in pediatric patients ages 12 years and older. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) will oversee allocation of 10 million courses of paxlovid and three million courses of molnupiravir purchased by the federal government. HHS and ASPR will ensure fair and equitable distribution of these oral antiviral drugs to state and territorial health departments.

## HHS to Lead Federal Allocation and Distribution of Evusheld

On December 8, the FDA issued an emergency use authorization for AstraZeneca's [Evusheld](#) for the prevention of COVID-19 in certain adults and pediatric individuals (12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kilograms [about 88 pounds]). Evusheld can provide protection for those not expected to mount an adequate immune response following vaccination, including those who are immunocompromised due to a medical condition or who are taking immunosuppressive medications, as well as those individuals for whom COVID-19 vaccination is not recommended. In alignment with the terms of the EUA for Evusheld, HHS will oversee the allocation and distribution of this product to state and territorial health departments beginning on a recurring basis as product becomes available from the manufacturer. Health departments will, in turn, determine which healthcare facilities and pharmacies receive the drug. Recurring allocations to state and territorial health departments are determined based on the total adult population within the jurisdictions.



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## Preparedness and Response Resources

### CDC Learning Connection Highlights Online Trainings

The [CDC Learning Connection](#) website helps public health and health care professionals stay informed about trainings from CDC, other federal agencies, and federally funded partners. The website can help users locate courses via CDC TRAIN and other public health training websites and find continuing education (CE) opportunities and available fellowships and internships. Following are two featured trainings.

- [What Clinicians, Pharmacists, and Public Health Partners Need to Know](#) - Learn how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted antibiotic prescribing and ways to optimize antibiotic use.
- [Health and Disability 101](#) - Learn how to make health department programs and services more inclusive and accessible for individuals with disabilities.

[Sign up](#) to receive the CDC Learning Connection newsletter to stay informed about public health trainings from CDC and partners.



# latest news

## News You Can Use

### **CDC COVID-19 All-STLT Update Call Has New Zoom Link**

On January 3, the CDC COVID-19 All-STLT Update call will have a new Zoom link. Those interested in accessing the 2022 call series should [register at this link](#) before January 3. All registrants will be added to the COVID-19 All-STLT Update call distribution list and will receive upcoming meeting agendas and notes from previous meetings and will be added to the partner update distribution list. CDC disseminates partner update emails every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday featuring the most recent CDC COVID-19 resources, upcoming meetings, and MMWRs.

The All-STLT Update calls are held from 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. ET on Mondays unless otherwise notified. Once registered, all calendar invitations for the All-STLT call will be sent from [eocevent424@cdc.gov](mailto:eocevent424@cdc.gov) and will not include personal participant links. Please contact [eocevent424@cdc.gov](mailto:eocevent424@cdc.gov) with any questions.

### **NACCHO Extends Deadline for 2022 Model and Innovative Practice Award Applications**

NACCHO has extend the deadline to [submit an application](#) for its 2022 Model and Innovative Practice Awards to **11:59 p.m. EST on Friday, January 7**. NACCHO encourages local health departments to submit their best programs and practices so that they can be nationally recognized and shared with other health departments across the country. To learn more, visit [NACCHO's Awards webpage](#) or watch the [informational webinar recording](#).



## Online Resources

### **Community Preparedness Toolkit Available**

[Ready.gov](#) offers a variety of preparedness resources, including an updated [Community Preparedness Toolkit](#) that provides step-by-step directions and resources for making communities, safer, more resilient, and better prepared. Launched in February 2003, Ready is a national public service campaign designed to educate and empower the American people to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate emergencies, including natural and man-made disasters. The goal of the campaign is to promote preparedness through public involvement.

### **CDC MMWR Reports**

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, December 28](#)
- [Investigation of a SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 \(Omicron\) Variant Cluster — Nebraska, November–December 2021](#)
- [Evaluation of a Test to Stay Strategy in Transitional Kindergarten Through Grade 12 Schools — Los Angeles County, California, August 16–October 31, 2021](#)
- [Evaluation of Test to Stay Strategy on Secondary and Tertiary Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in K–12 Schools — Lake County, Illinois, August 9–October 29, 2021](#)

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

- **NEW** [MMWR Weekly COVID-19 Briefing](#)

- **NEW** [Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2](#)
  - **NEW** [Potential Rapid Increase of Omicron Variant Infections in the United States](#)
  - **UPDATED** [CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker](#)
  - **UPDATED** [Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Caregivers about COVID-19 Precautions in Schools](#)
  - **UPDATED** [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 for School Administrators](#)
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**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](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).



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