

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

March 18, 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](https://www.cdc.gov/stateandlocalreadiness/) or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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- **April 1** – BP3 Budget Revisions Requiring Prior Approval



CDC PHEP Grants Management Call to Be Held March 24

DSLRL and CDC's Office of Grants Services (OGS) will conduct the next PHEP grants management conference call from **3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT on Thursday, March 24**. During the call, CDC will discuss grants management issues related to the PHEP and the Public Health Crisis Response cooperative agreements. Specific topics to be addressed include Office of Management and Budget flexibilities and prior approval requests; SF-424A contracts and consultants; expanded authority and Federal Financial Reports (FFRs); and key personnel and key contact roles. OGS will also highlight several useful resources and provide helpful reminders. PHEP directors are encouraged to share this call information with their business officials. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 161 200 5246

Passcode: 54682492

[Zoom Access Link](#)

PORTS Training Sessions Begin March 24

PHEP recipients should plan on attending one of four upcoming PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) training sessions, which are scheduled to begin Thursday, March 24. PHEP recipients will use the PORTS online data collection system to submit program evaluation data to CDC. The virtual, instructor-led technical training will familiarize recipients with how to enter data, upload evidence, and submit data to CDC for review. There will be one training session covering the same content offered on four different dates to accommodate time zones and schedules. CDC will also post webinar recordings on the CDC website.

Recipients can [register](#) for any of the following training dates but must have a [TRAIN account](#) to register.

- **Thursday, March 24** | Noon. to 3 p.m. EDT
- **Friday, March 25** | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT
- **Monday, March 28** | 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. EDT

- **Wednesday, March 30** | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. EDT

While local health departments are welcome to join the training, these sessions are specifically targeted to the 62 PHEP recipients: 50 states, four directly funded localities, and eight territories and freely associated states. CDC strongly encourages training participants to review the introductory materials provided with the registration information to familiarize themselves with PORTS and the ORR module. This advance preparation should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete.

If reasonable accommodations are needed to participate in the training, PORTS training attendees should email dslrtraining@cdc.gov. Any questions about this technical training should also be directed to dslrtraining@cdc.gov.

CDC Continues to Address PERFORMS Issues

CDC's PERFORMS support team has been working this week to address two issues that users have reported with the Budget Period 4 (BP4) application module. The team has resolved most issues with updating fringe information in the Properties tab and the Budget Detail Report. When editing the fringe rate of an individual line item, users will need to manually refresh the page to see the change. The pending issue with the Budget Detail Report is the inclusion of line items under the DA-Other category. CDC will notify users as soon as this is resolved.

PHEP BP4 Applications Due March 21

PHEP funding applications for Budget Period 4 (BP4) are due by **11:59 p.m. EDT on Monday, March 21**. Recipients must **enter all required information for each tab within the PERFORMS BP4 application module** and **submit** all required application amendment components in **GrantSolutions**. Recipients will update their work plan and budget information in PERFORMS in April after CDC provides final budget planning numbers. At that time, recipients will submit their application information in PERFORMS. Recipients should contact their PHEP project officers or grants management specialists with questions regarding the application submission process.



CDC Mental Health Survey Closes March 25

CDC's 2022 mental health survey is currently open to all U.S. public health workers who have been responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. All survey responses are anonymous, and no personal identifiers will be collected. Participation is completely voluntary, and participants may withdraw from the survey at any time. The [survey](#) can be taken on a computer, tablet, or cellular device. **The survey link is live and will remain open until 11:59 p.m. EDT on Friday, March 25.**

The survey is intended for full-time and part-time employees, contractors, fellows, and others who worked in state, tribal, local, and territorial public health departments in 2021 and will look at demographics, job categories, and questions to assess symptoms of anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). As CDC continues to measure and understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public health workers' mental health, the agency can better mobilize resources for additional psycho-social support.

Please share widely with health department staff at all levels and functions. For more information on CDC's mental health study, contact the survey team at stlthmproject@cdc.gov.

CDC Updates COVID Data Tracker Resources

CDC's [COVID Data Tracker](#) combines county, state, national, and global COVID-19 data from across the response in a series of interactive dashboards. Following are recent COVID Data Tracker releases and updates. CDC recently released a new COVID Data Tracker [homepage](#), which includes:

- Expanded national metrics presented at the top of the page,

- A search function that allows users to directly search for a state or county and be taken to the relevant County View page,
- A section that highlights the most popular COVID Data Tracker pages, and
- Sub-landing pages that group similar data.



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Preparedness and Response Resources

PFA Host Site Applications Due April 1

CDC plans to expand the current Preparedness Field Assignee (PFA) program to meet the growing preparedness and response needs of PHEP jurisdictions. DSLR is initiating a phased approach to strategically grow the PFA program and is currently seeking up to 10 additional PHEP jurisdictions to host PFAs to continue their public health emergency preparedness developmental experience. CDC funds the salaries of entry-level public health PFAs to develop their skills and provide additional field experience in state and local emergency preparedness and response. Preparedness directors will receive a separate email on March 21 with the PFA host site application. Interested jurisdictions that currently do not host PFAs must submit PFA host site applications dslrpfa@cdc.gov by close of business on **Friday, April 1**. New PFA positions will begin October 23. For questions regarding the application submission, contact Scott Tulloch at sdt2@cdc.gov.

CDC Provides Online Resources for Radiation Emergencies

CDC and other federal partners work together to plan for public health responses to radiation emergencies, with actions informed by the specific emergency, radiation doses, and assumed risks from those exposures. Preparedness planners can find a wide range of communication resources, guidance documents, and other planning tools on CDC's [Radiation Emergencies](#) website.

In addition, CDC will conduct an in-person workshop during the upcoming [NACCHO Preparedness Summit](#) on free simulation planning tools for radiation emergencies and other public health threats. During the **8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. session on Tuesday, April 5**, CDC speakers Lauren Finklea and Robert Garcia will unveil updates to the Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources (SimPLER). Designed by CDC, state and local health departments, and other partners, SimPLER provides free simulation planning tools that enable quick decision-making.

- CRC SimPLER (Community Reception Centers Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources) focuses on typical activities that are needed to conduct population monitoring, such as contamination screening, decontamination, and registration.
- POD SimPLER (Point of Dispensing Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources) focuses on anticipated activities involved in operating PODs during a public health emergency or exercise, such as dispensing of drugs, vaccination, triage or screening, observation, and registration.

More information on the SimPLER tools and related resources are available on the CDC website at [Population Monitoring, Community Reception Centers \(CRC\), and Shelter Resources for a Radiation Emergency](#). Following are just a few of the other radiation preparedness and response resources that state, tribal, local, and territorial planners may find most useful.

Guidance and Planning Documents

- [Radiation Response Briefing Manual: A Guide for Key Leaders and Public Health Decision Makers \(July 2020\)](#)
- [Population Monitoring Guidance](#)
- [A Guide to Operating Shelters During a Radiation Emergency](#)
- [Guide for Handling Radioactive Contaminated Decedents](#)
- [Radiological/Nuclear Law Enforcement and Public Health Investigation Handbook](#)
- [Use of Radiation Detection, Measuring, and Imaging Instruments to Assess Internal Contamination from Intakes of Radionuclides](#)

Communication Resources

- [Radiation Emergencies website](#)
- [Infographics](#)
- [Educational Videos](#)
- [Radiation and Your Health](#)
- [Radiation Risk Communication for Public Health](#)
- [Radiation Hazard Scale](#)
- [Radiation Thermometer](#)
- [Myths of Radiation: Communicating in Radiation Emergencies](#)
- [Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication](#)
- [Improvised Nuclear Device Response and Recovery: Communicating in the Immediate Aftermath](#)
- [Communicating During and After a Nuclear Power Plant Incident](#)
- [CDC Radiation Emergencies Media Toolkit](#)
- [Radiation Dictionary](#)

Training

- [Public Health Planning for Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism](#)
- [Radiation Basics Made Simple](#)
- [Community Reception Center \(CRC\) Overview Video](#)
- [Virtual Community Reception Center \(vCRC\)](#)
- [Use of Environmental Monitoring Data to Support Public Health Decision Making in Radiation Emergencies](#)
- [Screening People for External Contamination](#)
- [Radiation Emergency Training for Poison Center Staff](#)
- [Medical Countermeasures for Radiation Exposure and Contamination](#)
- [Medical Response to Mass Casualties](#)
- [Just-in-Time Training for Hospital Clinicians](#)
- [Radiation Epidemiology for Public Health Decision Making](#)
- [Psychological First Aid in Radiation Disasters](#)
- [Success Stories in Radiation Emergency Preparedness](#)
- [Radiation Risk Communication for Public Health](#)
- [Myths of Radiation: Communicating in Radiation Emergencies](#)

Tools

- [CRC Drill and Exercise Toolkit](#)
- [Community Reception Center Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources \(CRC SimPLER\)](#)
- [CRC Electronic Data Collection Tool \(CRC eTool\)](#)
- [Internal Contamination Assessment Tool \(ICAT\)](#)

- [Points of Dispensing to Community Reception Centers Planning Toolkit](#)

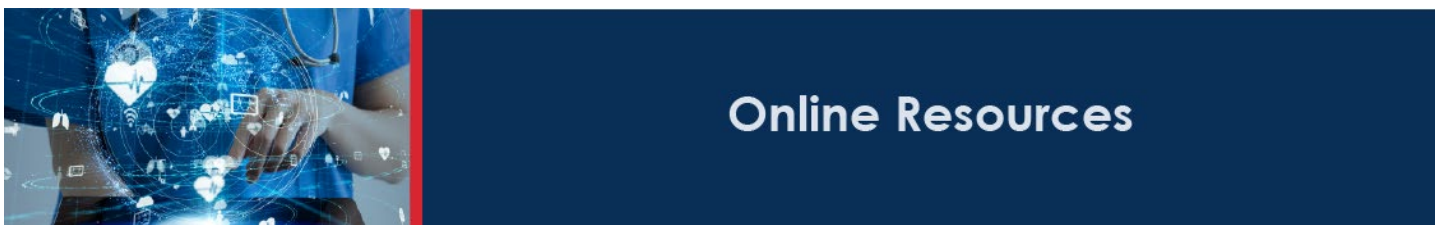


CDC Learning Connection Highlights Online Trainings

Spring into training this March with [CDC Learning Connection's](#) featured courses and earn free continuing education credit. Following are the current featured trainings.

- Learn about [Updated Guidance for Clinicians on COVID-19 Vaccines](#) for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised and review data on extended intervals between mRNA vaccine doses in the.
- Learn the basics of tuberculosis (TB) transmission, testing, and treatment with [TB 101](#).
- Does your work involve clinical laboratory testing? Learn about the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) and how to ensure lab testing quality with [Introduction to CLIA](#).
- Learn how to assess, treat, and educate patients at risk of clots in [Stop the Clot](#).

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



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, March 18](#)
- [Tobacco Product Use Among Adults — United States, 2020](#)
- [Progress Toward Achieving and Sustaining Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination — Worldwide, 2000–2020](#)
- [Reported Cases of End-Stage Kidney Disease — United States, 2000–2019](#)
- [The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Recommendation for Use of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine in Adults Aged ≥18 Years and Considerations for Extended Intervals for Administration of Primary Series Doses of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines — United States, February 2022](#)
- [Effectiveness of 2-Dose BNT162b2 \(Pfizer BioNTech\) mRNA Vaccine in Preventing SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Children Aged 5–11 Years and Adolescents Aged 12–15 Years — PROTECT Cohort, July 2021–February 2022](#)
- [Hospitalization of Infants and Children Aged 0–4 Years with Laboratory- Confirmed COVID-19 — COVID-NET, 14 States, March 2020–February 2022](#)
- [QuickStats: Rate of Unintentional Traumatic Brain Injury–Related Deaths Among Persons Aged ≤19 Years, by Age Group and Sex — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2018–2020](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **UPDATED** [COVID Data Tracker](#)

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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