June 17, 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 (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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- **June 23** – CDC Partner Call on Monkeypox (1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT)
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Upcoming Deadlines

- **June 30** - PHEP BP3 Deliverables (See Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Budget Period 3 Benchmarks and Reporting Requirements Overview – April 2022)

PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

PHEP BP4 Funding Awards Scheduled for Release Week of June 20
CDC has updated its schedule for releasing the PHEP Budget Period 4 (BP4) funding awards and plans to begin issuing Notices of Award the week of June 20. CDC will award a total of $651,788,620 in BP4 funding. This amount now includes an additional $300,000 in funding to update gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) equipment in one additional state. CDC will now fund 14 jurisdictions with $300,000 each in BP4 to update chemical laboratory equipment. CDC plans to support laboratory equipment replacement costs for other testing laboratories in the Laboratory Response Network for Chemical Threats (LRN-C) over future budget periods based on available funds.

Gather Voices Video Site Remains Open for PHEP 20th Anniversary Submissions
CDC encourages preparedness staff and others to add their voices to the 20th anniversary commemoration of the PHEP program by recording a short video on the Gather Voices video site. The 2022 National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Preparedness Summit offered a Gather Voices video kiosk where attendees could record their PHEP 20th anniversary memories, with many attendees sharing messages on how the PHEP program has impacted their communities. The Gather Voices site will remain open online through September at Share your story - Recognizing the 20th Anniversary of the PHEP Program (gv-one.com). A montage of the recordings will be posted on the CDC website.

CDC Highlights Important Steps to Obtain PORTS Access
CDC opened its new PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) on April 8 and has completed registration for 378 PORTS users. However, nearly 100 prospective users still do not have access to PORTS as they have not yet completed all the steps necessary to gain access.

Users must click the link to the PORTS home page in the email notification they receive from Sams-No-Reply (CDC), sams-no-reply@cdc.gov, or DSLR IT Support, DSLRITSupport@cdc.gov, confirming their PORTS access. This will alert DSLR's IT support team to assign the requested user roles. CDC will assign user roles on a rolling basis. This link will expire if it is not activated within 30 days of receipt of the email,

requiring prospective users to submit new PORTS user applications. Recipients will only see the PORTS home page until their user roles are assigned. Once the user roles are assigned, the blue navigation bar on the left side of the home page will appear, indicating access to the ORR module.

ORR Friday Feature: Data Entry Requirements for PORTS ORR Module
The **June 30** deadline for reporting PHEP Budget Period 3 data is fast approaching. As a reminder, PHEP recipients must submit documentation regarding:

- Critical contacts and partner planning,
- PHEP benchmarks,
- Annual PHEP exercise with access and functional needs partners, and
- Operational data elements focused on the COVID-19 response
    - Vaccination for Critical Workforce Groups and Disproportionately Impacted Populations (VAC), and
    - Pandemic COVID-19 Incident Response (RSP).

Recipients will submit all required data through the PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) except benchmark data, which will be submitted via PERFORMS.
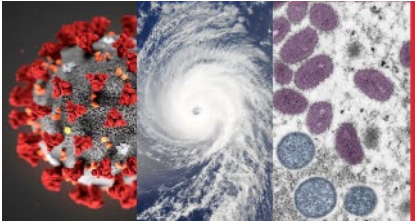
Before recipients enter data in the PORTS ORR Module, they must follow a precise sequence of steps to ensure all their BP3 COVID-19 response information is captured accurately. Specifically, recipients must simultaneously add the following operational forms for the COVID-19 response.

- OPS2.j Annual PHEP Exercise (Vulnerable Populations) with Access and Functional Needs Partners (PAR)
- OPS2.k Joint Functional Exercise with Emergency Management and Health Care Coalitions (PAR)
- OPS2.m Pandemic COVID-19 Incident Response: Vaccination for Critical Workforce Groups and Disproportionately Impacted Populations (VAC)
- OPS2.q Pandemic COVID-19 Incident Response (RSP)

Adding these four program requirements simultaneously will generate the necessary forms to submit the required COVID-19 response data. However, adding the program requirements simultaneously does not mean the generated forms must be completed and submitted together. Jurisdictions may submit each form individually at their discretion. Recipients can find more information on these instruction in the PORTS user guide as well as in a soon-to-be released PORTS frequently asked questions document.

Recipients must self-report ORR quantitative data by **June 30, 2022**. CDC encourages recipients to upload as much supporting evidence as possible by June 30, 2022, to substantiate the responses entered in the ORR forms. Once submitted, recipients will not have access to their BP3 forms until they are reviewed and returned to the recipients in PORTS by their PHEP project officers. Recipients will regain access to their forms no later than August 1 to resume adding supporting evidence. Recipients will have until **October 31, 2022**, to upload any additional supporting evidence necessary to substantiate their final responses.

Recipients should direct questions about BP3 reporting requirements or PORTS data entry to their PHEP project officers.

Emergency Response Activities

CDC Releases Health Advisory on Updated Case-finding Guidance: Monkeypox Outbreak—United States, 2022

On June 14, CDC issued a health advisory to alert clinicians to clinical presentations of monkeypox seen so far in the United States. The health advisory also provided updated and expanded case definitions intended to encourage testing for monkeypox among persons presenting for care with relevant history, signs, and symptoms. In addition, this health advisory provided an update to a May 20, 2022, HAN Health Advisory, Monkeypox Virus Infection in the United States and Other Non-endemic Countries—2022.

Since May 2022, monkeypox cases, which have historically been rare in the United States, have been identified in 18 states and territories among both persons returning from international travel and their close contacts domestically. Globally, more than 1,600 cases have been reported from more than 30 countries; the case count continues to rise daily. In the United States, evidence of person-to-person disease transmission in multiple states and reports of clinical cases with some uncharacteristic features have raised concern that some cases are not being recognized and tested.

The full HAN health advisory can be accessed at Updated Case-finding Guidance: Monkeypox Outbreak—United States, 2022.

New and Updated Monkeypox Resources Now Available

The following new and updated resources on monkeypox are available on the CDC website.

- Updated Situation Summary page provides an updated situational summary on the U.S. Monkeypox Outbreak 2022.
- CDC Monkeypox Website
- Monkeypox: Get the Facts
- Information for Healthcare Professionals
- Clinician FAQs
- CDC Monkeypox Response: Transmission
- Case Definition
- Treatment
- Vaccine Guidance
- Information for Laboratory Personnel
- Laboratory Process for Monkeypox
- Test Procedure: Monkeypox virus Generic Real-Time PCR Test

CDC Rescinds Order Requiring Negative Pre-Departure COVID-19 Test Prior to Flights to United States

On June10, CDC announced that the order requiring persons to show a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 before boarding a flight to the United States would be rescinded, effective at 12:01 a.m. EDT on June 12.

View the full press release at CDC Rescinds Order Requiring Negative Pre-Departure COVID-19 Test Prior to Flight to the US.

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Preparedness and Response Resources

Rural Health Information Hub Seeks Rural Preparedness Case Studies
CDC's rural health program is working with the Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub) on the development of a toolkit featuring case studies on rural health preparedness and response and lessons learned. The RHIhub is seeking case studies on rural preparedness to include in the toolkit, which is intended to be shared with rural service providers. Jurisdictions can send rural preparedness suggestions or case study ideas to Makenzie Atherton at makenzie@ruralhealthinfo.org.

Following are some of the rural health resources currently available.
- [Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub) toolkits](#)
- [Rural Health Research Gateway](#)
- [National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services](#)
- [CDC's *MMWR* Rural Health Series](#)
- [CDC's Policy Analysis and Research Information System (POLARIS)](#): CDC's portal for navigating policy-relevant tools, trainings, and resources, including rural-specific information

News You Can Use

CDC Publishes Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems NOFO
CDC has released the [Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems](#) notice of funding opportunity (NOFO). This new, flexible funding opportunity will provide nearly $4 billion over five years to improve critical public health infrastructure in state, local, and territorial health departments across the country. The application period closes August 16, 2022, and funding awards are expected to be issued in November 2022.

The NOFO [website](#) provides the most up-to-date information including:
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#), which will be updated on a regular basis, and
- [Additional Resources](#), which lists helpful links related to the funding opportunity for potential recipients.

Additionally, there is dedicated support inbox for all inquiries related to this funding opportunity. Please send any questions to PHInfrastructure@cdc.gov.

Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, June 17](#)
- [Extreme Heat Exposure: Access and Barriers to Cooling Centers — Maricopa and Yuma Counties, Arizona, 2010–2020](#)
- [Genetic Characterization of Novel Oral Polio Vaccine Type 2 Viruses During Initial Use Phase Under Emergency Use Listing — Worldwide, March–October 2021](#)
- [COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Among Medicare Beneficiaries With and Without Disabilities — United States, January 1, 2020–November 20, 2021](#)
- [Trends in Acute Hepatitis of Unspecified Etiology and Adenovirus Stool Testing Results in Children — United States, 2017–2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field*: COVID-19–Associated Mortality Risk Among Long-Term Care Facility Residents and Community-Dwelling Adults Aged ≥65 Years — Illinois, December 2020 and January 2022](#)
- [*Notes from the Field:* Diagnosis and Investigation of Pneumonic Plague During a Respiratory Disease Pandemic — Wyoming, 2021](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage Distribution of Heat-Related Deaths, by Age Group — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2018–2020](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [CDC Rescinds Order Requiring Negative Pre-Departure COVID-19 Test Prior to Flight to the US](#)
- **UPDATED** [Updated Case-finding Guidance: Monkeypox Outbreak—United States, 2022](#)
- **UPDATED** 2022 Monkeypox Outbreak in the U.S. [Situation Summary](#) page
- **UPDATED** [CDC Monkeypox Response: Transmission](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC Monkeypox Website](#)
- **UPDATED** [Information for Healthcare Professionals](#)
- **UPDATED** [Case Definition](#)
- **UPDATED** [Treatment](#)
- **UPDATED** [Vaccine Guidance](#)
- **UPDATED** [Information for Laboratory Personnel](#)
- **UPDATED** [Laboratory Process for Monkeypox](#)
- **UPDATED** [Test Procedure: Monkeypox virus Generic Real-Time PCR Test](#)
- **UPDATED** [Monkeypox: Get the Facts](#)

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