

PHEP Budget Period 4 (BP4) ORR Implementation Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Answers

October 2022

Q1: When will the 50 elements encompassing all capabilities be released in PORTS? What is the deadline for submitting data?

Answer: Currently, CDC plans to release the forms with the 50 elements for data input in November 2022. The deadline for data submission regarding the 50 elements is June 30, 2023.

Q2: Will Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) jurisdictions and other local health departments be required to submit data in PORTS in BP4?

Answer: CRI jurisdictions and local health departments are not required to submit data to CDC in BP4.

Q3: Since CRI local planning jurisdictions will not be required to submit ORR data, what should they be preparing for with respect to ORRs? Should they be preparing to report on COVID-19 activities in Budget Period 5 (BP5) as PHEP recipients did in Budget Period 3 (BP3). Or will CRI jurisdictions submit data regarding the 50 elements next?

Answer: CDC highly recommends CRI planning jurisdictions and local health departments continue normal preparedness planning, coordination, and training to maintain or improve overall readiness posture.

Q4: Is guidance forthcoming regarding CRI exercise requirements for BP4?

Answer: No guidance will be needed since CRI jurisdictions and local health departments are not required to collect and submit exercise, drill, or other ORR data to CDC in BP4. However, CDC highly encourages CRI planning jurisdictions to continue normal preparedness planning and coordination to maintain or improve their overall readiness posture.

Q5: What are some suggested activities for CRI jurisdictions and local health departments since they are not required to submit ORR data in BP4?

Answer: While there is no requirement for CRI and other local jurisdictions to submit ORR data to CDC in BP4, **states** may require them to collect and provide related data to help meet state reporting requirements.

Q6: Will PHEP recipients and CRI jurisdictions be required to complete and submit quarterly action plans in BP4? If so, will recipients complete these forms in PORTS, or will they need to send the old forms to project officers?

Answer: In BP4, CDC plans to replace the previous standalone PHEP technical assistance and MCM action plan forms with the Integrated Action Plan Module in PORTS. However, the new module is still under development in PORTS and may not be released this budget period. In BP4, recipients are not required to submit action plans or attend quarterly meetings to discuss action plans. As a reminder, CRI jurisdictions are **not** required to submit any data in BP4, including action plan updates.

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Q7: Will CDC allow recipients to use their COVID-19 and monkeypox response activities to meet the annual PHEP exercise with access and functional needs (AFN) partners requirement in BP4?

Answer: Yes. In BP4, CDC will again allow recipients to leverage response activities to meet annual PHEP exercise requirements. However, CDC will encourage recipients to use response activities other than COVID-19, if possible, to meet BP4 annual exercise requirements. CDC will not accept the same response activities submitted in BP3 to meet BP4 requirements.

Q8: When will the JSS module open?

Answer: CDC has waived this requirement for BP4.

Q9: In BP4, will recipients be required to complete operational drills, such as the facility setup drill, site activation drill, or the staff notification and assembly drill?

Answer: CDC has waived these drill requirements for PHEP recipients and CRI jurisdictions in BP4. PHEP recipients are still required to complete the PHEP annual exercise with access and functional needs partners and submit data using the new ORR form. CRI planning jurisdictions and local health departments should continue normal preparedness planning, coordination, and training to maintain or improve their readiness posture.