

Division of State and Local Readiness Friday Update

December 4, 2020



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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DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE 

In This Issue

Upcoming Deadlines

PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

- PHEP Connects Webinar Scheduled for December 9

COVID-19 Response Activities

- ACIP Approves Interim Recommendations for Initial Phase of COVID-19 Vaccination Program
- Vaccine Safety Resources Now Available
- CDC Updates Vaccine Administration Data Use Agreement to Include FAQ Appendix

What's on the Calendar

Tools and Resources

- CDC Releases CRC SimPLER: A Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources

News You Can Use

- PHAP Accepting Host Site Applications Starting December 15
- CDC Hosts Twitter Chat on Managing Stress after Disaster
- CDC Releases CRC SimPLER: A Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources

Online Resources



- **December 30** – Submission of updated ORR critical contact sheets
- **December 30** – Quarterly recipient MCM technical assistance action plan conference calls (Q2)
- **December 30** – Quarterly PHEP technical assistance conference calls (Q2)



PHEP Connects Webinar Scheduled for December 9

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar is scheduled for **1 p.m.**

EST on Wednesday, December 9. This webinar will introduce a new CDC online tool, “Crosswalk of the Public Health Accreditation Board’s (PHAB) Standards and

Measures and CDC’s Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities.” Participants will learn about the capabilities and accreditation standards and how they can use the new Accreditation and Preparedness Crosswalk to quickly identify direct and indirect connections between the two sets of standards.



Webinar presenters include David Dickerson from CDC’s Center for Preparedness and Response (CPR) and Liza Corso from CDC’s Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS). Developed collaboratively by CPR and CSTLTS, the Accreditation and Preparedness Crosswalk is intended to help public health preparedness and accreditation staff quickly recognize areas where preparedness activities, procedures, and documentation might support PHAB accreditation efforts. There are also many areas in which PHAB accreditation and quality improvement efforts may contribute to strengthening the capacity of public health departments to prepare for and respond to public health threats and emergencies.

Participants can log onto <https://adobeconnect.cdc.gov/r60oog3mlz5/> to view the webinar. To listen to the audio portion via phone line, dial 1-888-455-5125 and enter participant passcode 4495815. Registration is not required to join this webinar via Adobe Connect. This webinar will be recorded and accessible on On-TRAC for later viewing. Continuing credit will not be offered for this presentation. For more information on the PHEP Connects webinar series, contact preparedness@cdc.gov.



ACIP Approves Interim Recommendations for Initial Phase of COVID-19 Vaccination Program

On December 1, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to support the proposed allocation of initial doses in the early phase of the national COVID-19 vaccination program—when vaccine supply may be limited. The ACIP recommendations for the initial phase of the COVID-19 vaccination program indicate that vaccination should be offered to both 1) healthcare personnel (HCP) and 2) residents of long-term

care facilities (LTCFs). The December 1 ACIP vote was another collective step toward COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration. Jurisdictions must place their initial COVID-19 vaccine orders into the vaccine tracking system (VTrckS) no later than **8 p.m. EST today, Friday, December 4**. The vaccines will ship within 24 hours of the Food and Drug Administration authorization per Operation Warp Speed. CDC has published a [summary of the December 1 meeting as an MMWR](#).

Vaccine Safety Information Resources Now Available

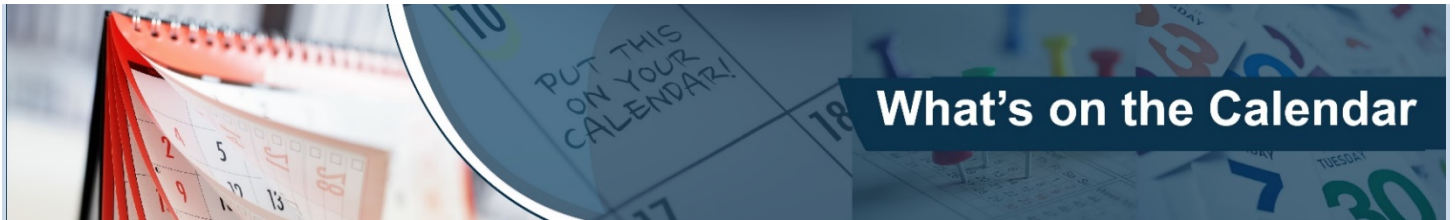
Vaccine safety has been and will continue to be one of CDC's top priorities. Once COVID-19 vaccines are made available in the United States, CDC will rely on existing systems, such as the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), and new systems, such as V-SAFE to monitor vaccine safety.

[V-SAFE](#) is a new smartphone-based, after-vaccination health checker for people who receive COVID-19 vaccines. V-SAFE will use text messaging and web surveys from CDC to check in with vaccine recipients for health problems following COVID-19 vaccination. The system also will provide telephone follow up to anyone who reports medically significant (important) adverse events.

V-SAFE safe information sheets and posters are now available for healthcare providers and are posted on CDC's Immunization Services Division (ISD) awardee SharePoint site. CDC requests that jurisdictions distribute the V-SAFE information sheets and posters to healthcare providers who have enrolled to administer the vaccine. Healthcare providers should give patients a V-SAFE information sheet at the time of their COVID-19 vaccination and encourage them to enroll and complete the web-based surveys sent to their smartphones via text when prompted. The information sheet explains V-SAFE and provides step-by-step instructions on how to sign up to participate. Vaccine recipients can use the QR code or URL on the information sheet to sign up at their convenience.

CDC Updates Vaccine Administration Data Use Agreement to Include FAQ Appendix

Last week, CDC distributed a frequently asked questions (FAQs) document that emerged following recent discussions regarding the CDC data use agreement (DUA). At the request of jurisdictions, CDC has updated the DUA to include an appendix with the FAQs. This is the only change to the DUA. The updated DUA is available on the CDC ISD awardee SharePoint site in the [CDC Vax Administration DUA](#) folder. Jurisdictions that have submitted signed DUAs do **not** have to resubmit updated DUAs.



- **December 9** – PHEP Connects Webinar



CDC Releases CRC SimPLER: A Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources

CDC has released [CRC SimPLER](#), a free, publicly available, online tool to help state and local emergency and public health planners prepare to set up community reception centers (CRCs) to monitor people following a large-scale radiation emergency. CRC SimPLER enables planners to estimate their throughput based on currently available resources. Planners can also determine where additional resources would be most beneficial to optimize their response goals. CRC SimPLER was developed by the Radiation Studies program in

collaboration with the Environmental Public Health Tracking Program within CDC's National Center for Environmental Health.

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) will sponsor a Zoom webinar at **1 p.m. EST on Thursday, December 10** on "Introducing CRC SimPLER: A Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources." Registration is required and is now available [online](#).



PHAP Accepting Host Site Applications Starting December 15

CDC's Public Health Associate Program (PHAP) is accepting host site applications from interested organizations **starting December 15**. PHAP, managed by CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support, is a two-year, on-the-job training program for early-career public health professionals. State, tribal, local, and territorial public health departments, nongovernmental organizations, public health institutes and associations, academic institutions, and CDC quarantine stations can all apply to be PHAP host sites. Prospective host sites must be able to host an associate from October 2021 to October 2023.

PHAP can extend the reach of CDC programs while providing vital workforce support to public health agencies. The [PHAP website](#) contains helpful program and host site application information, including recorded [webinars](#), information about eligibility, answers to frequently asked questions, and testimonials from previous host sites. For additional information about PHAP or the application process, interested programs can email phap@cdc.gov or call 404-498-0030.

CDC Hosts Twitter Chat on Managing Stress after Disaster

CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) will host a #LifeAfterDisaster Twitter Chat with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Education's Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center at **2 p.m. EST on Tuesday, December 8**. The conversation will focus on how parents, teachers, counselors, and organizations can help teens manage stress and difficult feelings after natural disasters. Jurisdictions can find more information on NCEH's Natural Disasters and Severe Weather [Twitter chat page](#) and are encouraged to share with colleagues or partners who may also be interested in joining.



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#), December 4
- [Early Release: Increase in Hospital-Acquired Carbapenem-Resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* Infection and Colonization in an Acute Care Hospital During a Surge in COVID-19 Admissions — New Jersey, February–July 2020](#), December 1

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [Percentage of Outpatient and Emergency Department Visits for ILI and CLI](#)
- **NEW** [U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network \(ILINet\): Percentage of Visit for ILI by Age Group](#)

- **NEW** [NCHS Mortality Surveillance Data](#)
- **NEW** [Number of Specimens Tested and Percent Positive for SARS-CoV-2](#)
- **NEW** [Protect your Home from COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)
- **UPDATED** [Staffing Resources](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVIDView](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 By the Numbers](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Destination](#)
- **UPDATED** [Commercial Laboratory Seroprevalence Surveys](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC Guidance for Expanded Screening Testing to Reduce Silent Spread of SARS-CoV-2](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths](#)
- **UPDATED** [Transcript for CDC Telebriefing on the COVID-19 Outbreak](#)
- **UPDATED** [Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing](#)
- **UPDATED** [Testing and International Air Travel](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Published Science and Research](#)
- **UPDATED** [Travel during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- **UPDATED** [When to Quarantine](#)
- **UPDATED** [General Business Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- **UPDATED** [After You Travel](#)
- **UPDATED** [Collection and Submission of Postmortem Specimens from Deceased Persons with Known or Suspected COVID-19](#)

Christine Kosmos, RN, BSN, MS

Director, Division of State and Local Readiness
 Center for Preparedness and Response
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Rd Atlanta, GA 30329 1-800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: 888-232-6348

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