

Division of State and Local Readiness Friday Update

March 12, 2021



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 

The PERFORMS system will be unavailable from approximately 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. EST on Saturday, March 13, for maintenance.

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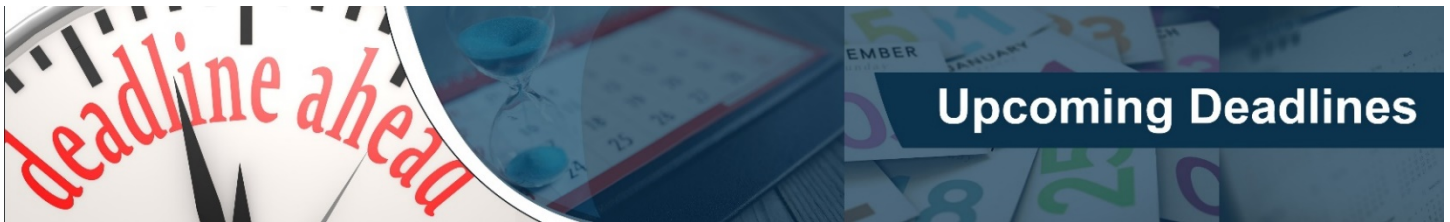
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- **March 16** – PHEP BP3 Application Deadline
- **March 17** – PFA Host Site Letters of Intent Due – **New Deadline**



CDC PHEP Recipient Conference Call Scheduled for March 17

The next monthly PHEP recipient conference call will be held from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT** on **Wednesday, March 17**. Meeting topics will include updates on the PHEP ORR implementation in Budget Period 3 (BP3) and the BP3 funding application process. The call will start one hour earlier to accommodate the COVID-19 vaccination planning call that begins at 3:30 p.m. EDT.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 1617816178

Passcode: 52455471

Zoom Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1617816178?pwd=VGRzYnN6N0VZNDNpNUFMMTUzd05CUT09>

PFA Host Site Letters of Intent Deadline Extended to March 17

CDC has extended the host site application deadline to **Wednesday, March 17**, for PHEP recipients interested in hosting DSLR preparedness field assignees (PFAs) to continue their public health emergency preparedness developmental experience. **CDC will fund the salaries** of entry-level public health PFAs for a three-year training program to develop skills and additional field experience in state and local emergency preparedness and response. The program provides PFAs with hands-on field training, thus increasing the overall program competency of DSLR staff. Additional information on the PFA placement opportunity and the process for requesting a field assignee is available [online](#). Interested jurisdictions should submit letters of intent (LOIs) to dslrpfa@cdc.gov by the March 17 deadline. For questions regarding the LOI submission, contact Scott Tulloch at sdt2@cdc.gov.



CDC Provides New COVID-19 Vaccination Resources

CDC has released [new guidance](#) regarding COVID-19 vaccine eligibility following a March 2 directive issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that all states immediately make teachers, school staff, and childcare workers eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination across all vaccination providers. In addition, CDC has posted on the CDC COVID-19 website new information for people who have been [fully vaccinated](#). Based on what is now known about COVID-19 vaccines, people who have been fully vaccinated can start to participate in some activities that they had stopped doing due to the pandemic.

V-safe Communication Tool Now Available in Multiple Languages

CDC relies on several systems to monitor vaccine safety, including V-safe, a new smartphone-based tool. V-safe uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after someone receives a COVID-19 vaccination. V-safe allows participants to report any side effects after COVID-19 vaccination to CDC in almost real-time and gives users a convenient reminder to get their second COVID-19 vaccine dose if needed.

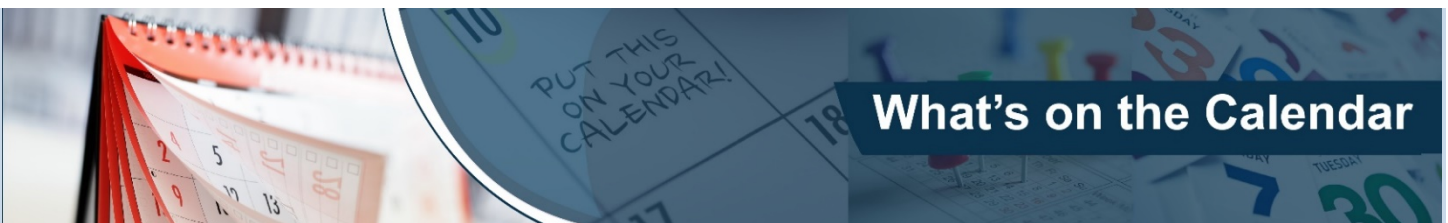
V-safe is now available in the following languages. V-safe participants will receive text messages and web surveys in the language of choice selected when they signed up.

- English
- Korean
- Simplified Chinese
- Spanish
- Vietnamese

V-safe webpages are also available in these languages. To access these pages, go to vsafe.cdc.gov, scroll to the bottom of the screen and select the language of choice. The V-safe [information sheet](#) and V-safe [poster](#) are also accessible in these languages.

CDC encourages jurisdictions to:

- Talk to community leaders, health care providers, and other community partners about the availability of v-safe in five languages and encourage the promotion and use of the tool.
- Distribute the v-safe information sheet and other materials in needed languages to partners and stakeholders.



- **March 15** – [RealOpt® Training](#)
- **March 17** – PHEP Recipient Call
- **April 1-2** – POD Essentials Train-the-Trainer Course



Tools and Resources

ASPR Hosts Healthcare System Cybersecurity Response Webinar on March 18

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (ASPR TRACIE) will host a cybersecurity response webinar **from 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. EDT on Thursday, March 18**. Presenters will discuss their experiences and tangible lessons learned in responding to cybersecurity incidents. This webinar builds upon the recently released [Healthcare System Cybersecurity: Readiness and Response Considerations](#) document and accompanying [overview presentation](#) that describes how to use the resource. Click [here](#) for additional information and to register for the webinar.

COPEWELL Project Seeks Participants for Feasibility Study

CDC's Center for Preparedness and Response (CPR) is supporting research regarding the feasibility of COPEWELL, an evidence-based model and collection of tools designed to help communities better understand community resilience related to disasters. COPEWELL, which stands for Composite of Post-Event Well-Being, uses data-driven tools to assess community functioning and predict resilience and provides resources that improve community functioning before, during, and after disasters.

The COPEWELL team is looking for pilot jurisdictions, comprised of state and local stakeholders interested in improving their communities' resilience against natural and manmade disasters. Participating jurisdictions will (1) review the COPEWELL production environment, (2) pilot test the COPEWELL tools, and (3) provide feedback. Start dates and time commitment are flexible and dependent upon how jurisdictions decide to use the tool. Jurisdictions interested in participating in the feasibility study should contact Tara Kirk Sell at tksell@jhu.edu. More information is available at www.copewellmodel.org.



CDC Offers Virtual POD Essentials Train-the-Trainer Course

Registration is now available for CDC's two-day, virtual, instructor-led Point of Dispensing (POD) Essentials Train-the-Trainer course. POD Essentials is an introductory-level course designed by CDC for staff and volunteers new to working in a POD site during a public health emergency. The POD Essentials Train-the-Trainer virtual course prepares state, local, tribal, and territorial public health instructors to deliver the POD Essentials course to local audiences. These virtual sessions explain the process of preparing and presenting the customizable POD Essentials course to incorporate jurisdiction-specific plans, policies, and procedures. Although the training is primarily focused on antibiotic dispensing, these sessions will discuss incorporating local vaccine administration training into the course. Click [here](#) to register for the POD Essentials Train-the-Trainer virtual course. The training sessions will be held from **10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT on Thursday, April 1, and Friday, April 2**.

SNS Stakeholder Webinar Recording Available Online

The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness (HHS/ASPR) plays a key role in preparing for and responding to the nation's medical countermeasure supply and medical device needs during public health emergencies and other disasters. SNS has served as a critical resource for the federal government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic over the past year and continues to do so today. A recording of the February 18 [Strategic National Stockpile Stakeholder webinar](#) highlights the SNS COVID-19 response operations, including the stockpile's

role in the federal mass vaccination campaign. To gain access to the webinar, users should add SNS Training to the “Manage Groups” tab in their CDC Train user profiles.

2021 National Tribal Public Health Summit Now Accepting Abstracts Submissions

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will hosts its annual summit from April 27-29, which brings together public health practitioners, researchers, and policy experts. [Abstract submissions](#) are due Friday, March 26. Click [here](#) to register for the national tribal public health summit.

Mass Violence and Domestic Terrorism Technical Assistance Training Now Available

The Improving Community Preparedness to Assist Victims of Mass Violence or Domestic Terrorism: Training and Technical Assistance (ICP TTA) program provides virtual and in-person training and technical assistance on developing plans that include victim services response tasks into community exercises. The program is available to assist with planning for mass violence or domestic terrorism incidents and will leverage experience and subject matter expertise to help communities prepare for mass violence and domestic terrorism.

The ICP TTA program application can be accessed [here](#). For more information, contact the ICP TTA program at Tara.Hughes@icf.com or (617) 218-3584.



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, March 12](#)
- [Body Mass Index and Risk for COVID-19–Related Hospitalization, Intensive Care Unit Admission, Invasive Mechanical Ventilation, and Death — United States, March–December 2020](#)
- [Association of State-Issued Mask Mandates and Allowing On-Premises Restaurant Dining with County-Level COVID-19 Case and Death Growth Rates — United States, March 1–December 31, 2020](#)
- [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in COVID-19 Incidence by Age, Sex, and Period Among Persons Aged <25 Years — 16 U.S. Jurisdictions, January 1–December 31, 2020](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [CDC Issues First Set of Guidelines on How Fully Vaccinated People Can Visit Safely with Others](#)
- **UPDATED** [When You’ve Been Fully Vaccinated](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Vaccines for Teachers, School Staff, and Childcare Workers](#)
- **UPDATED** [US COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkits](#)
- **UPDATED** [Percent of Delivered First Vaccine Doses Administered by U.S. States and Territories](#)
- **UPDATED** [Selected Adverse Events Reported after COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- **UPDATED** [How CDC is Responding to SARS-CoV-2 Variants Globally](#)
- **UPDATED** [V-safe COVID-19 Vaccine Pregnancy Registry](#)
- **UPDATED** [Why CDC Measures Vaccine Effectiveness](#)
- **UPDATED** [Staffing Resources](#)

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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