

June 11, 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 (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 15 - COVID-19 May Fiscal Reports Due



CDC PHEP Recipient Conference Call Scheduled for June 16

The next monthly PHEP recipient conference call will be held from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT on Wednesday**, **June 16**. Meeting topics will include the PHEP ORR implementation in Budget Period 3, a summary of the May 26 joint HPP-PHEP recipient meeting and discussion of next steps, and planning for fall 2021 release of the next notice of funding opportunity for CDC's Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information Dial-In: (646) 828-7666 Meeting ID: 1617816178 Passcode: 52455471 Zoom Link: https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1617816178?pwd=VGRzYnN6N0VZNDNpNUFMMTUzd05CUT09

PHEP Connects Evaluation Survey Available Online

DSLR is implementing a more systematic process to gather recipient feedback on the technical assistance, training, and other resources provided to recipients. DSLR will collect and analyze information gathered from customer experience surveys to identify strengths and weaknesses in current services and make necessary improvements. DSLR is launching this new process with an online survey evaluation of the June 9 PHEP Connects webinar, "New Jersey's Logistical Challenges in Responding to COVID-19 and Methods to Overcome Them."

DSLR encourages webinar participants to provide their feedback using the <u>online survey</u> by **11:59 p.m. EDT on Friday, June 25**. The survey can be completed in about 10 minutes. DSLR will use the information collected to enhance the PHEP Connects webinar series to better meet recipient needs. Participation is completely voluntary, and participants may withdraw from the survey at any time.



CDC and U.S. Department of Education Provide COVID-19 Resources

CDC updated its Guidance for Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) and released a new <u>COVID-19 Vaccine</u> <u>Toolkit for IHEs, Community Colleges, and Technical Schools</u>. These resources provide recommendations and practical tools to help protect students, faculty, and staff and slow the spread of COVID-19. They are intended for both IHEs that require COVID-19 vaccination or where everyone is fully vaccinated and for IHEs that will have a mixed population of people on campus who have and have not been vaccinated. To complement the updated CDC guidance, the U.S. Department of Education released its <u>COVID-19 Handbook Volume 3</u>: <u>Strategies for Safe Operation and Addressing the Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education Students, Faculty, and Staff</u>.

CDC Clarifies Fiscal Reporting Requirements for Crisis Response COVID-19 Workforce Development Funding

CDC recently activated CDC-RFA-TP18-1802, <u>Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response</u>, to provide additional funding to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. CDC has awarded \$2 billion from the American Rescue Plan to the 65 eligible jurisdictions on the approved but unfunded list for CDC-RFA-TP18-1802 to establish, expand, and sustain a public health workforce, including school nurses.

According to the CDC Office of Grants Services, recipients should disregard the grant note issued recently in GrantSolutions regarding the deadline to submit the final Federal Financial Reports (FFRs) for these funding awards. Instead, recipients should follow the guidance in the terms and conditions of their award notices, which indicate that FFRs are due 90 days following the end of the performance period, or September 28, 2023. Recipients should also note that the Payment Management System (PMS) is now the official system for submission of FFRs. In addition, recipients must submit progress and fiscal reports every six months via REDCap. Recipients should contact their project officers for additional information.

JAMA Network Releases U.S. Study on Impacts of COVID-19 Contract Tracing in 2020

CAPT Aaron Fleischauer, DSLR Career Epidemiology Field Officer in North Carolina, is the co-author of a new report released earlier this month in JAMA Network on "<u>COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in</u> the US, 2020." The report discusses a U.S. study that took place at 13 health departments and one Indian Health Service Unit. All participants in the study had confirmed cases of COVID-19 and were asked to name their contacts for tracing purposes. The study found that gaps in the process resulted in missed opportunities to prevent COVID-19. These findings are relevant to decisions regarding the allocation of public health resources among the various prevention strategies and for the prioritization of case investigations and contact tracing efforts.

Public Health Reports Seeks Manuscripts for Supplemental Issue on COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing

<u>Public Health Reports (PHR)</u>, the official, peer-reviewed journal of the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General and the U.S. Public Health Service, is planning to publish a supplemental issue on "Innovative Approaches to COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing." PHR is collaborating with CDC's COVID-19 Response State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) Support Task Force to develop the supplement, which will give voice to community mitigation strategies and interventions that fall under the authority and responsibility of public health. Specifically, it will provide STLT partners with peer-reviewed papers to inform their case investigation and contact tracing policies and decisions both for COVID-19 and for future public health threats.

PHR is accepting multiple types of manuscripts focusing on a variety of topics such as implementation of exposure notification, adaptation of digital tools for case investigation, how public health systems have

modified their current surveillance systems to adapt to testing and contact tracing requirements for SARS-CoV-2 test results, and creating innovative contact tracing strategies for special settings.

Manuscripts must be submitted by **Thursday, July 1, 2021**, through <u>PHR's electronic submission system</u>. Questions regarding this call for manuscripts should be directed to the supplement's guest editor chairperson, Maryam B. Haddad, at <u>mhaddad@cdc.gov</u>.

CDC Updates COVID-19 Vaccine Resources

The recently updated <u>Prevaccination Checklist for COVID-19 Vaccines</u> document is now available in eight languages. The updated prevaccination screening forms are available online and can be accessed at <u>Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Information</u> and <u>Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Information</u> in the Administration Overview Section on each of the web pages. Translations of the updated checklist are available in several languages:

- Arabic
- Spanish
- French
- Korean
- Simplified Chinese
- Vietnamese
- Haitian Creole
- Portuguese

Frequently asked questions have also been updated to include the latest recommendations:

- General
- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna



• June 16 – CDC Monthly PHEP Recipient Call



CDC COVID-19 STLT Interactive Funding Map Now Available

A new, <u>interactive COVID-19 funding map</u> available on CDC's website provides information on CDC funding awarded to state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) public health organizations to meet the challenges of this fast-moving public health threat. To accelerate response efforts, CDC has awarded nearly \$54 billion in supplemental funding received through five congressional acts: the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020; Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act; Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act; Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021; and American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.



NGA Provides Updates on COVID-19 Vaccine Incentives

The National Governors Association (NGA) is maintaining a list of current COVID-19 vaccine incentives being used across the country to increase vaccination rates. The listing includes information on state- and city-led incentives and can be found on the NGA website.



CDC MMWR Reports

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, June 11
- <u>Decreases in COVID-19 Cases, Emergency Department Visits, Hospital Admissions, and Deaths</u> <u>Among Older Adults Following the Introduction of COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, September 6,</u> <u>2020–May 1, 2021</u>
- Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Administration of Selected Routine Childhood and Adolescent Vaccinations — 10 U.S. Jurisdictions, March–September 2020
- <u>Genomic Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 Variants Circulating in the United States, December 2020–May</u>
 <u>2021</u>
- Emergency Department Visits for Suspected Suicide Attempts Among Persons Aged 12–25 Years Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, January 2019–May 2021

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- UPDATED <u>Cases in the U.S.</u>
- UPDATED Interim Guidance on People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness
- UPDATED Youth Experiencing Homelessness
- UPDATED Interim Guidance on Management of COVID-19 in Correctional and Detention Facilities
- UPDATED <u>Specific Patient Types</u>
- UPDATED <u>Maintaining Essential Health Services During COVID-19 in Low Resource, Non-U.S.</u> <u>Settings</u>

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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