

Division of State and Local Readiness Friday Update

September 10, 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](https://www.cdc.gov/stateandlocalreadiness/) or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE 

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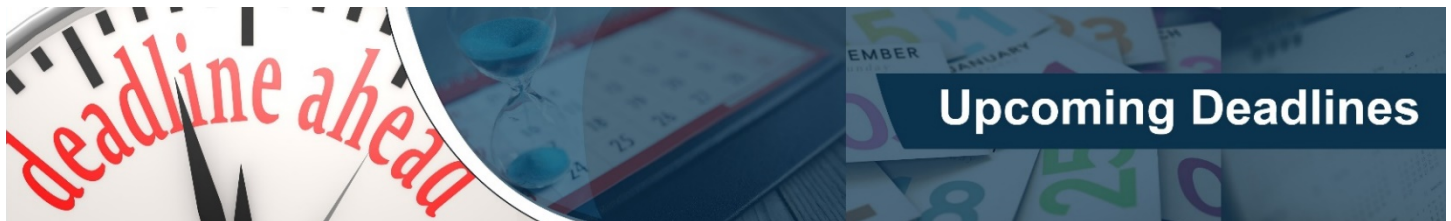
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- **September 15** - COVID-19 Fiscal Reports (2020 Response Funding No-cost Extension Recipients)



PHEP Recipient Conference Call Scheduled for September 15

The next monthly PHEP recipient conference call will be held from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 15**. The call will start one hour earlier than normally scheduled to accommodate the COVID-19 vaccination planning call that begins at 3:30 p.m. EDT. CDC will provide updates on CDC COVID-19 response activities and the Next Generation of PHEP initiative. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 160 752 4717

Passcode: 07271150

Zoom Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1607524717?pwd=czhra1pScTQrS3ptR3pjMVVSRzEwZz09>

CDC PHEP Grants Management Call to Be Held September 23

DSLIR and CDC's Office of Grants Services will conduct the next bimonthly PHEP grants management conference call from **3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT on Thursday, September 23**. During the call, CDC will discuss grants management issues related to the PHEP and Public Health Crisis Response cooperative agreements. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 1612424804

Passcode: 42186276

Zoom Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1612424804?pwd=eG9OZ2hWUFRObIFPRTIHRFRJWWdUdz09>



CDC Launches New COVID-19 Vaccine Online Tool

CDC has launched the [SmartFind COVID-19 Vaccine ChatBot](#) tool to help provide clear, consistent, and credible information about COVID-19 vaccines, including answers to common COVID-19 vaccination questions. This new tool, tailored to both health care providers and the general public, can quickly connect visitors with up-to-date information and resources about COVID-19 vaccines, enabling them to make informed choices about COVID-19 vaccination.

The automated chatbot features include:

- Answers to common questions about COVID-19 vaccines that are authorized and recommended or those undergoing large-scale (Phase 3) clinical trials in the United States;
- 24/7 access to COVID-19 vaccine information on web-based devices, including mobile phones and tablets; and
- Links to additional resources, such as where to find COVID-19 vaccination locations.

CDC Provides Resources on COVID-19 and Hurricanes, Flooding, and Severe Storms

CDC has a variety of resources, including guidance, tools, and comprehensive messaging tailored to specific audiences, related to COVID-19 and hurricanes, flooding, and severe storms. Following are links to the resources, many of which are available in several languages.

Public Information

- [Preparedness and Safety Messaging for Hurricanes, Flooding, and Similar Disasters](#)
- [Hurricane Key Messages: COVID-19 Annex](#)
- [Hurricanes and Other Tropical Storms](#)
- [Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention fact sheets](#)
- [Disaster Resources \(including PSAs, educational materials, social media\)](#)

Worker Safety information

- [Hurricane Key Messages for Employers, Workers and Volunteers](#)
- [Storm, Flood, and Hurricane Response](#)

Safe Sheltering

- [Shelter Operator Guidance for COVID-19](#)
- [Going to a Public Disaster Shelter During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Natural Disasters, Severe Weather, and COVID-19](#)

Flooding

- Floodwater website ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
- Be Ready! Floods Infographic ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

Heat-Related Illness

- Extreme Heat website ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
- Stay Cool two-color flyer ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
- Warning Signs and Symptoms of Heat-Related Illness poster ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

Carbon Monoxide (CO)

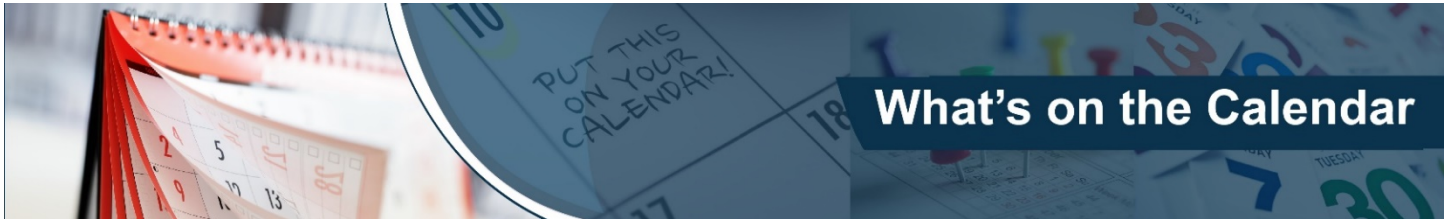
- Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning after an Emergency website ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning full-color flyer ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([Haitian Creole](#))
- Generator Safety full-color fact sheet ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([Haitian Creole](#))
- Carbon Monoxide Hazard: Using a Generator two-color door hanger: ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

Mold

- Mold after a Disaster website ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
- 8 Tips to Clean up Mold full-color flyer ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([Vietnamese](#))
- Homeowner's and Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([Vietnamese](#))
- What to Wear before entering a Home or Building with Mold Damage full-color poster ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

Food and Water Safety

- Keep Food and Water Safe after a Disaster or Emergency website ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([Vietnamese](#))
- Eat Safe Food full color flyer (suitable for black and white printing) ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([Vietnamese](#))
- Drink Safe Water flyer (suitable for black and white printing) ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
- Make Water Safe full color flyer ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))



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CDC to Host September 14 Webinar on Equity and Policy Preparedness

CDC, in conjunction with the National Governors Association (NGA) and the American Bar Association (ABA), will conduct a webinar on “What’s New: Equity and Policy Preparedness during Public Health Emergencies” from **1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, September 14**. This webinar is an update to the [2020 series of public health equity webinars](#) hosted by CDC, ABA, and NGA to help ensure the equitable execution of future public health emergency response and recovery efforts.

Aimed at preparedness and response professionals, the September 14 webinar will focus on how states and territories can better serve disproportionately affected groups at higher risk of adverse outcomes through the end of the COVID-19 response and future public health emergencies. Specifically, presenters from CDC, ABA, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, and the state of Maryland will discuss how to leverage lessons learned from efforts to meet the needs of disproportionately affected groups in 2020, to identify persistent barriers, and to identify promising practices for jurisdictions seeking to address longstanding public health equity issues.

Register [here](#) to attend the webinar.

CDC’s National Preparedness Month Webinar on Eliminating Barriers Scheduled for September 15

CDC will host an [Emergency Partners Information Connection](#) webinar on **Wednesday, September 15**, which will feature presentations by the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities and Georgia Tech’s Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation. CDC also plans to publish a series of stories authored by

graduate students at Northwestern University in its [Public Health Matters blog](#) in support of its National Preparedness Month theme. The stories relate real examples of preparedness and response obstacles experienced by disproportionately affected communities, including people experiencing homelessness and people who are unable to leave their homes.

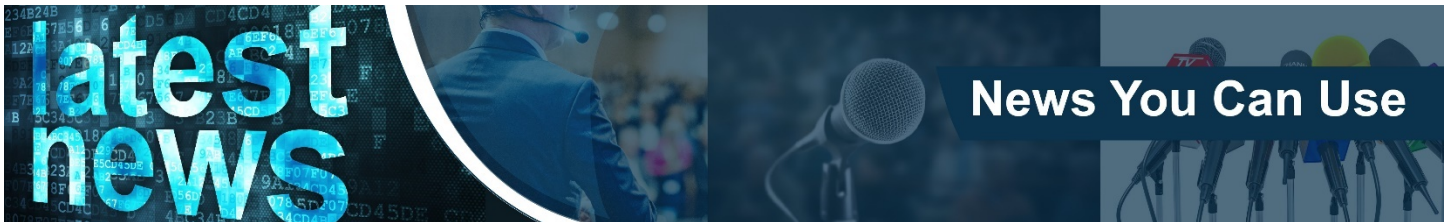
Learn more about personal health preparedness at CDC's [Prepare Your Health](#) website.

Upcoming EPA Webinar to Discuss Water-related Laboratory Response Issues

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has scheduled a tabletop exercise (TTX) webinar from **1 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT on Thursday, September 16**, to address responses to water contamination incidents. The scenario-based TTX is designed to help utility companies, state and local governments, emergency responders and laboratory personnel learn about key elements of EPA's water laboratory alliance response plan, which provides a national approach to coordinated laboratory response incidents requiring more analytical support than a typical utility or state laboratory can provide. The TTX will cover best practices for emergency response; roles that laboratories and others would play during a response to a water contamination incident; and EPA water security tools and resources. Click [here](#) to register for the webinar.

Below is a list of related online resources.

- [CDC's Healthy Water Website](#)
- [CDC's Wash, Sanitation, and Hygiene \(WASH\) related Emergencies and Outbreaks Website](#)
- [Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Healthcare Facilities](#)
- [CDC's Drinking Water Advisory Communication Toolbox](#)
- [EPA Tabletop Exercise on Water Emergencies](#)
- [NACCHO WASH Emergency Preparedness Toolbox](#)



CDC and AmeriCorps Launch New Partnership to Develop Public Health Leaders

CDC and AmeriCorps, the federal agency for volunteering and national service, has launched [Public Health AmeriCorps](#), a new partnership to support recruitment, training, and development of a new generation of public health leaders who will be ready to respond to the nation's public health needs. The program is anticipated to fund up to 5,000 AmeriCorps positions over the next five years and comes as part of a larger [\\$7 billion investment](#) in the public health workforce funded by the American Rescue Plan.

CDC and AmeriCorps also released a [notice of federal funding opportunity](#) open to nonprofit, faith-based, and community-based organizations; higher-education institutions; state, local, and territorial government entities, such as cities or counties; and tribal entities. Potential applicant organizations are encouraged to fully review the information posted on the [State and National Public Health AmeriCorps page](#). The application deadline is **Monday, November 8**.

AmeriCorps will host a variety of technical assistance calls, webinars, and workshops to answer questions about this funding opportunity. Times and dates for these calls, along with additional technical assistance information, will be posted on the AmeriCorps [funding opportunity page](#). Questions from organizations about the grant competition can be directed to AmeriCorpsGrants@cns.gov.

FEMA Announces Funding Opportunity for COVID-19 Testing

On August 28, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced a funding opportunity available to local, state, tribal, and territorial governments and eligible nonprofit organizations carrying out COVID-19 testing activities. FEMA will fund testing to detect COVID-19 infections both in a medical setting and testing needed to safely open and operate public facilities, including schools. Funding may be used to support

both diagnostic and screening protocols. In general, FEMA will fund [diagnostic and screening testing](#) to determine if an active coronavirus infection is present and if an individual should take steps to quarantine or isolate from others.

This funding can include costs for:

- Laboratory testing materials and test kits including antigen self-tests;
- Contracting for testing support by a third party;
- Staffing to administer tests;
- Training for individuals to administer tests;
- Signage and other communication materials;
- Personal protective equipment and other administrative supplies to conduct testing; and,
- Technology to register and track testing results.

Additional information regarding this funding opportunity is available at www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/fema-funding-covid-19-testing. Funding guidelines are available at the following links.

- Funding guidelines for medical settings: [FEMA Policy 104-010-04, Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Medical Care Costs Eligible for Public Assistance](#).
- Guidelines for other facility settings: [FEMA Policy 104-21-0003, Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Safe Opening and Operation Work Eligible for Public Assistance \(Interim\)](#).



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, September 10](#)
- [Long-Term Symptoms Among Adults Tested for SARS-CoV-2 — United States, January 2020–April 2021](#)
- [Using Wastewater Surveillance Data to Support the COVID-19 Response — United States, 2020–2021](#)
- [SARS-CoV-2 Transmission to Masked and Unmasked Close Contacts of University Students with COVID-19 — St. Louis, Missouri, January–May 2021](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Tuberculosis Outbreak Linked to a Contaminated Bone Graft Product Used in Spinal Surgery — Delaware, March–June 2021](#)
- [Surveillance Summaries: World Trade Center Health Program — United States, 2012–2020](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥20 Years Who Consumed Fruit on a Given Day, by Race and Hispanic Origin — United States, 2015–2018](#)
- [Trends in COVID-19 Cases, Emergency Department Visits, and Hospital Admissions Among Children and Adolescents Aged 0–17 Years — United States, August 2020–August 2021](#)
- [Hospitalizations Associated with COVID-19 Among Children and Adolescents — COVID-NET, 14 States, March 1, 2020–August 14, 2021](#)
- [Monitoring Incidence of COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths, by Vaccination Status — 13 U.S. Jurisdictions, April 4–July 17, 2021](#)
- [Interim Estimates of COVID-19 Vaccine Effectiveness Against COVID-19–Associated Emergency Department or Urgent Care Clinic Encounters and Hospitalizations Among Adults During SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 \(Delta\) Variant Predominance — Nine States, June–August 2021](#)
- [Effectiveness of COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines Against COVID-19–Associated Hospitalization — Five Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, United States, February 1–August 6, 2021](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **UPDATED** [When You've Been Fully Vaccinated](#)

- **UPDATED** [Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shot](#)
- **UPDATED** [Caring for Post-COVID Conditions](#)
- **UPDATED** [Testing Communication Toolkit](#)
- **UPDATED** [Safer Travel Tips for Families with Unvaccinated Children](#)
- **UPDATED** [Parents and Caregivers – What Is Your School Doing to Protect Your Child from COVID-19](#)

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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