

January 28, 2022



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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- **February 18** Public Health Associate Program Host Site Applications
- February 28 PHEP 20th Anniversary Submissions



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

PHEP Budget Period 4 Instructions and Guidance Now Available

PHEP Budget Period 4 (BP4) continuation guidance, application instructions, and supplemental documents are now available on the PHEP Cooperative Agreement webpage of the State and Local Readiness website. Recipients will also find the presentations from the January 26 and January 27 PERFORMS BP4 Application Module training sessions in this section. Recipients should direct any questions about these documents to their project officers or to preparedness@cdc.gov.

CDC to Host a Special PHEP Connects Webinar on ORR Requirements on February 2





This special webinar is the first in a series of training sessions designed to orient Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) recipients to CDC's PHEP Budget Period 3 (BP3) Operational Readiness Review (ORR) program requirements. During this session, CDC presenter Christopher Reinold, Measurement and Evaluation Team Lead, will provide an overview of requirements for the modified ORR and PHEP BP3 data submission. PHEP recipients and local planning jurisdictions involved in the ORR process are encouraged to attend this series of ORR-focused webinars. Since CDC has temporarily suspended evaluation of local Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) jurisdictions for BP3, local planning jurisdictions are welcomed to attend for awareness but are not required. The additional webinars in this training series will be held from **1:00 – 2:15 p.m. EST on**

Wednesday, February 23 and **Wednesday, March 16**. The next regularly scheduled PHEP Connects webinar will be held **1 p.m. EST on Wednesday, February 9**. This session will include information on the Point of Dispensing Simulation Program. Participant information for both webinars is provided below.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (669) 254-5252 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

Web Link: https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612411865

PHEP ORR Friday Feature: User Roles for PORTS Applications

In anticipation of the launch of the PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) in March, this week's PHEP ORR



Friday Feature will focus on the different user roles in the system. Understanding the distinction between these user roles will assist recipients when submitting their PORTS application forms.

On Wednesday, January 26, CDC emailed the <u>PORTS application form</u> to all recipients to be completed by prospective PORTS users. On the PORTS application form and within the ORR module, recipients will find five distinct user roles available. However, when completing the form, users will need to identify the role(s) for which they would like to be added. The five roles are:

- 1. <u>Data Entry</u>: This user will add new forms and input data into the ORR module. This role submits completed forms to the submit for reviewer user for internal review.
- Submit for Review: This user will assure data accuracy prior to submission and is intended for PHEP directors or their approved proxies.
- 3. <u>State Reviewer</u>: This user is responsible for reviewing, adjudicating, and acknowledging forms submitted by users at the jurisdictional level. This role can return a form to the data entry user if necessary.
- Role (Select all that apply):
- Data Entry
- Submit for Review
- State Reviewer
- Read Only
- User Manager
- 4. <u>Read Only</u>: This user can view and print forms that have been acknowledged by the reviewer but cannot perform other actions in the ORR tool.
- 5. <u>User Manager</u>: This user is responsible for assigning and/or modifying the user roles for all individuals in their state. This role is intended for the PHEP Director, who can add proxies and defer this role other staff. This function will be labelled as "Manage Users" in PORTS.

Once a role has been selected and the PORTS application form is completed, PHEP project officers will collect, validate, and submit PORTS applications from their jurisdictions to DSLR information technology. There is no limit on the number of users per jurisdiction and no deadline for submitting applications. However, CDC encourages PHEP recipients to submit their user application forms as soon as possible, so they can access PORTS when it opens in March.

For more information on user roles, or accessing the DSLR PORTS application form, recipients should contact their PHEP project officers or preparedness@cdc.gov.



COVID-19 Response Activities

FY2022 Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement NOFO Work Plan Template Now Available CDC has developed an optional work plan template for the fiscal year 2022 Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) that outlines required work plan components. The template

will be uploaded to <u>Grants.gov</u> and will be available on the <u>Public Health Crisis Response Webpage</u> soon. Applicants are required to submit a work plan that explains planned activities and expected outcomes related to public health emergency response functions as described in CDC-RFA-TP22-2201. The optional template includes guidance information, instructions, and a sample work plan for reference.

Also, applicants should note an error in the guidance for completing the SF424. The NOFO states that applicants should use their UEI number as an identifier. However, the version currently in Grants.gov asks for the DUNS number and can't be modified. The guidance will be amended to match the version of the form included in the application packet.

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EST on Monday, February 14, at www.grants.gov.

Crisis Response Workforce Development Funding Reports Deadline Passed January 21

The first COVID-19 Public Health Workforce Supplemental Funding fiscal and progress reports were due Friday, January 21. Recipients who have not yet reported must do so by submitting status updates in REDCap on fiscal commitments made during the previous six months, as well as status updates on meeting hiring goals and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) metrics. Recipients should report on activities conducted from July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. For the progress report, be sure to use the section labeled Hiring & Diversity Activities (7/1/2021-12/31/2021). For more information, recipients should contact their project officers or preparedness@cdc.gov.



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Preparedness and Response Resources

HPH Risk Identification and Site Criticality (RISC) Toolkit 1.0

The <u>Healthcare and Public Health (HPH) Risk Identification and Site Criticality (RISC) Toolkit</u> is an objective, data-driven all-hazards risk assessment that can be used by public and private organizations to inform emergency preparedness planning, risk management activities, and resource investments. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) offers the RISC Toolkit to provide owners/operators in the HPH Sector with nationally recognized standards-based evaluation criteria in an easy-to-follow, guided format. If you have any issues, questions or problems using this toolkit, please contact HPHRISC@hhs.gov.



News You Can Use

FEMA Seeks Teen Leaders for National Youth Preparedness Council

FEMA is currently accepting applications for the <u>National Youth Preparedness Council</u>. This program brings students in grades 8-11 together from across the country who are interested and engaged in community preparedness. Youth interested in applying to the council must <u>submit a completed application</u> form and provide two letters of recommendation and parent or guardian consent. All applications and supporting materials must be submitted no later than **11:59 p.m., March 6**. New council members will be announced in June.

NACCHO Sponsors Special Briefing for LHDs on Impact of Climate Change on Mental Wellbeing
The American Psychological Association and ecoAmerica will sponsor a webinar for local health departments
(LHDs) on the impacts of climate change on American's mental health and psychological well-being. Sponsored
by NACCHO, the briefing titled "Mental Health and Our Changing Climate Report," will include the latest
research on disproportionately impacted populations, climate anxiety, and solutions. The webinar will be held at
4:00 p.m. EST on Wednesday, February 2. Interested participants can find additional information about the
event and register online.

ASTHO Infographic Available on Disability Inclusion in Health Agencies

People living with disabilities make up more than one-fourth of the United States population and therefore are impacted by all public health issues. The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) has created an <u>infographic</u> to serve as a tool to foster conversations in health agencies around planning programs, policies, and activities to better serve individuals with disabilities.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, January 28
- Trends in Disease Severity and Health Care Utilization During the Early Omicron Variant Period
 Compared with Previous SARS-CoV-2 High Transmission Periods United States, December 2020—

 January 2022
- Effectiveness of a Third Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines in Preventing COVID-19
 Hospitalization Among Immunocompetent and Immunocompromised Adults United States, August—December 2021
- COVID-19 Incidence and Death Rates Among Unvaccinated and Fully Vaccinated Adults with and Without Booster Doses During Periods of Delta and Omicron Variant Emergence — 25 U.S. Jurisdictions, April 4—December 25, 2021
- <u>COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations by COVID-19 Vaccination Status and Previous COVID-19</u>
 Diagnosis California and New York, May–November 2021

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- NEW MMWR Weekly COVID-19 Briefing
- UPDATED Requirement for Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination for Air Passengers
- **UPDATED** Free N95 Respirator Manufacturers
- **UPDATED** Quarantine and Isolation

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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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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