

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

February 4, 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 (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.

In This Issue

Upcoming Deadlines

- **February 14** – Crisis Response NOFO Applications
- **February 18** – Public Health Associate Program Host Site Applications
- **February 28** – PHEP 20th Anniversary Award Nominations

PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

- February 9 PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights Point of Dispensing Simulation Program

COVID-19 Response Activities

- 2022 Crisis Response NOFO Applicants Should Continue to Use DUNS to Complete SF-424
- White House to Distribute 400 Million Free N95 Masks
- CDC Updates COVID-19 and Self-testing Webpages

What's on the Calendar

- **February 9** – Special PHEP Connects Webinar
- **February 23** – PHEP ORR Guidance and Content Orientation Session

Preparedness and Response Resources

- Developing the Government Health Workforce Pipeline with Health Career Connection

News You Can Use

- Public Health Associate Program Accepting Host Site Applications

Online Resources

- CDC MMWR Reports
- COVID-19 Guidance and Resources



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February 9 PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights Point of Dispensing Simulation Program

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

EST on Wednesday, February 9. The webinar is entitled, "POD SimPLER: Point of Dispensing Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources - A Planning Tool for Public Health Emergencies." The webinar will provide an overview of POD SimPLER, a tool developed with user-tested feedback from state, tribal, local and territorial health departments around the country. Health departments can use this tool to quickly estimate pill dispensing or vaccine administration capacity. Using the scenario outputs comparison feature, these estimates can be presented to decision makers if evidence shows additional resources will be needed. Speakers include Lauren Finklea and Mike Kelly from the National Center for Environmental Health and Robert Garcia from DSLR. The webinar will be extended an additional 15 minutes beyond the traditional hour to review features of POD SimPLER.



Participant Information

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

Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

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



2022 Crisis Response NOFO Applicants Should Continue to Use DUNS to Complete SF-424

2022 Public Health Crisis Response NOFO applicants using the SF-424 guide to submit their application should disregard the instructions that request all applicants obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). The NOFO application form in Grants.gov is prepopulated with the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number

and can't be altered. Please continue to use the form as is. For more information, please contact preparedness@cdc.gov.

White House to Distribute 400 Million Free N95 Masks

Beginning early this month, U.S. officials will be distributing 400 million free [N95 masks for adults](#). The N95 masks will come from the government's Strategic National Stockpile and will be given out at pharmacies and federal community health centers. There will be three masks available per adult. Last week, [CDC updated guidance](#) on masking, emphasizing that N95 products, approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, offer the highest level of protection in reducing the spread of the virus, compared with cloth coverings and other masks.

CDC Updates COVID-19 and Self-testing Webpages

Along with vaccination, masking, and physical distancing, U.S. residents are encouraged to take self-tests, also referred to as at-home tests or over-the-counter tests, as one of many risk-reduction measures to avoid COVID-19 infection. CDC has updated the [COVID-19 testing](#) and [self-testing webpage](#) to include updated isolation and quarantine recommendations as well as added information on when to test, how to order tests, emergency warning signs, and treatment after testing.



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Preparedness and Response Resources

Developing the Government Health Workforce Pipeline with Health Career Connection

The National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) will host a webinar on how to build a sustainable, diverse, and prepared public health workforce. [This webinar](#) will be held at **3:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday, February 15** and will focus on how to use the Health Career Connection (HCC) as part of the health workforce pipeline solution to assist health agencies in their efforts to recruit and retain talent.



News You Can Use

Public Health Associate Program Accepting Host Site Applications

CDC's [Public Health Associate Program \(PHAP\)](#) is now accepting host site applications **through February 18**. PHAP, managed by CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support, is a two-year, competitive, paid, on-the-job training program for early-career public health professionals. Since 2007, the PHAP program has hired more than 1,650 associates, and according to a 2019 survey, 95% of host sites recommended

participation.

CDC encourages state, tribal, local, and territorial public health departments, nongovernmental organizations, public health institutes and associations, academic institutions, and community-based organizations to apply to be host sites for associates from October 2022 to October 2024. Questions and feedback should be directed to phap@cdc.gov.



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Early Release February 4](#)
- [SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Hospitalization Among Adults Aged ≥18 Years, by Vaccination Status, Before and During SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 \(Omicron\) Variant Predominance — Los Angeles County, California, November 7, 2021–January 8, 2022](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage and Vaccine Confidence by Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity — United States, August 29–October 30, 2021](#)
- [Notes from the Field: COVID-19 Vaccination Among Persons Living with Diagnosed HIV Infection — New York, October 2021](#)
- [Effectiveness of Face Mask or Respirator Use in Indoor Public Settings for Prevention of SARS-CoV-2 Infection — California, February–December 2021](#)
- [Clinical Characteristics and Outcomes Among Adults Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Infection During Periods of B.1.617.2 \(Delta\) and B.1.1.529 \(Omicron\) Variant Predominance — One Hospital, California, July 15–September 23, 2021, and December 21, 2021–January 27, 2022](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [MMWR Weekly COVID-19 Briefing](#)
- **NEW** [CDC Media Telebriefing: COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance](#)
- **NEW** [Allergic Reactions after COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- **NEW** [Identifying, Disposing, and Reporting COVID-19 Vaccine Wastage](#)
- **UPDATED** [V-safe COVID-19 Vaccine Pregnancy Registry](#)
- **UPDATED** [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes](#)
- **UPDATED** [Risk for COVID-19 Infection, Hospitalization, and Death By Race/Ethnicity](#)

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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