

**DSLRL**

# FRIDAY UPDATE

April 15, 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](#) or contact us at [preparedness@cdc.gov](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).

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- **April 30** – Quarterly PHEP Spend Plan Reports for BP2 (Q7) and BP3 (Q3)
- **April 30** – PHEP BP2 FFRs/Cash Transaction Reports (Q3)
- **June 15** – COVID-19 Annual FFRs (2020 Response Funding)

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- **May 9** – CDC COVID-19 STLT Update Call
- **May 10-11** – ASTHO 2022 Public Health TechXpo

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### CDC Highlights Important PORTS Updates

CDC officially opened its new PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) on April 8 and encourages PHEP recipients to note the following important updates and reminders.

#### PORTS Access

To date, CDC has approved 415 PORTS users from the 50 states, eight territories and freely associated states, and four directly funded localities. These registered users have received emails from Sams-No-Reply (CDC), [sams-no-reply@cdc.gov](mailto:sams-no-reply@cdc.gov), or DSLR IT Support, [DSLIRITSupport@cdc.gov](mailto:DSLIRITSupport@cdc.gov), confirming their PORTS access.

- Recipients will only see the PORTS home page until their user roles are assigned. Once the user roles are assigned, the blue navigation bar on the left side of the home page will appear, indicating that PORTS users now have access to the ORR module.
- **Users must [click the link to the PORTS home page](#) in the email they received to verify their access.** This will alert DSLR's IT support team to assign the requested user roles. To date, about 150 approved users have clicked the link, enabling DSLR's IT support team to activate their PORTS access.
- CDC will assign user roles on a rolling basis as users activate their PORTS access by clicking the PORTS home page link.

In addition, to ensure proper functionality of the system, CDC recommends using the **Google Chrome** browser to access PORTS.

#### Data Entry Requirements for PORTS ORR Module

Before recipients enter data in the system, they must follow a precise sequence of steps to ensure all their Budget Period (BP3) COVID-19 response information is captured accurately. Specifically, the following BP3

program requirements **must be added simultaneously** when creating the operational forms for the COVID-19 response.

- OPS2.j Annual PHEP Exercise (Vulnerable Populations) with Access and Functional Needs Partners (PAR)
- OPS2.k Joint Functional Exercise with Emergency Management and Health Care Coalitions (PAR)
- OPS2.m Pandemic COVID-19 Incident Response: Vaccination for Critical Workforce Groups and Disproportionately Impacted Populations (VAC)
- OPS2.q Pandemic COVID-19 Incident Response (RSP)

Adding these four program requirements simultaneously will generate the necessary forms to submit the required COVID-19 response data. However, adding the program requirements simultaneously does not mean the generated forms must be completed and submitted together. Jurisdictions may submit each form individually at their discretion.

CDC will provide users with a summary of these instructions, which will also be included in the PORTS user guide that will be released soon on the CDC website. Meanwhile, recipients should contact their PHEP project officers for the data entry instructions. CDC will also continually post technical updates and data entry guidance on the PORTS home page.

### **HPP-PHEP Recipient Call to Be Held April 20**

CDC and the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) will host a joint call with PHEP and Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) recipients at **2 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, April 20**. Among the agenda topics will be an overview of the findings from a 2021 mental health survey CDC conducted to better understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public health workers' mental health and an update on the 2022 survey that was conducted in March. The downloadable [meeting invite](#) for the HPP-PPHEP joint calls and the full [schedule of 2022 PHEP recipient calls](#) can be found in On-TRAC.

### Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828 7666 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 161 576 3291

Passcode: 3006235

Web Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1615763291?pwd=TmVMVWY2Tnp1SmxRTW4rU1kyUDdNZz09>



### **CDC Conducts COVID-19 Rapid Surveys to Inform Mitigation Efforts**

CDC is conducting COVID-19 rapid surveys to enhance real-time understanding of the complex behavioral, economic, and structural challenges that vulnerable populations face that limit their adoption of the recommended COVID-19 mitigation and vaccination practices. CDC survey findings will inform strategies that will help prevent future COVID-19 outbreaks and inform mitigation efforts for other health crises. In collaboration with BCT Partners and Harvard University, CDC will provide biweekly, descriptive reports to characterize local respondents' attitudes, behaviors, and beliefs to guide public health messaging and decision-making.

CDC invites state health departments to participate in this study. Interested health departments should contact Michelle Nelson at [mnelson@bctpartners.com](mailto:mnelson@bctpartners.com).

### **CDC Announces Travel Updates**

CDC has released two [COVID-19 travel-related updates](#) based on close monitoring of the COVID-19 landscape in the United States and internationally. CDC announced April 13 that the [CDC Mask Order](#) remains in effect while CDC assesses the potential impact of the increases in the seven-day moving average

of cases in the United States on severe disease, including hospitalizations and deaths, and health care system capacity. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will [extend the security directives](#) and emergency amendment for 15 days through May 3, 2022.

In addition, CDC is updating its Travel Health Notice system for international destinations to help the public understand when the highest level of concern is most urgent. This new system will reserve Level 4 travel health notices for special circumstances, such as rapidly escalating case trajectory or extremely high case counts, emergence of a new variant of concern, or health care infrastructure collapse. Levels 3, 2, and 1 will continue to be primarily determined by 28-day incidence or case counts. The new level system will be effective April 18, 2022.



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## Preparedness and Response Resources

**NASEM Conducts Community Wastewater-based Infectious Disease Surveillance Meeting on April 21**  
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) will host the first meeting of the Committee on Community Wastewater-based Infectious Disease Surveillance from **10:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST on Thursday, April 21**. The public is invited to this virtual meeting, which will host speakers from the committee, study sponsors, and experts who will discuss how [this study](#) will help assess the potential value of community-level wastewater-based infectious disease surveillance. More information on how to register for this event can be found [at this link](#).



## News You Can Use

**TFAH Hosts April 26 Congressional Briefing and National Webinar on Protecting Public Health**  
Trust for America's Health (TFAH) will conduct a virtual Congressional briefing and national webinar on its new report, [Ready or Not 2022: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters and Bioterrorism](#). This report measures states' degree of preparedness to respond to a wide spectrum of health emergencies and to provide ongoing public health services. The panelists, which include CDC Associate Director for Minority Health and Health Equity Leandris Liburd, will discuss the nation's readiness for public health emergencies, examine the findings of the report, and give key recommendations for policymakers. [Registration Information can be found at this link](#) and further questions should be sent to Tim Hughes at [thughes@tfah.org](mailto:thughes@tfah.org).



## Online Resources

### CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, April 15](#)
- [Effectiveness of COVID-19 mRNA Vaccination in Preventing COVID-19–Associated Hospitalization Among Adults with Previous SARS-CoV-2 Infection — United States, June 2021–February 2022](#)
- [Translocation of an Anteater \(\*Tamandua tetradactyla\*\) Infected with Rabies from Virginia to Tennessee Resulting in Multiple Human Exposures, 2021](#)
- [Surveillance to Track Progress Toward Polio Eradication — Worldwide, 2020–2021](#)
- [COVID-19 Mortality and Vaccine Coverage — Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China, January 6, 2022–March 21, 2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Would Botulism Outbreak Among a Group of Persons Who Inject Drugs – Dallas, Texas, 2020](#)
- [QuickStats: Age – Adjusted Death Rates\\* of Heart Disease and Cancer, by Sex – United States, 2010 – 2020](#)

### COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [FDA updates Sotrovimab emergency use authorization](#)
- **UPDATED** [Stay Up to Date with Your COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised People](#)

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### 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](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).

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