

April 19, 2024

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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PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

CDC Provides Final Reminders for PHEP Application Submission

As PHEP recipients work to complete and submit their fiscal year 2024 PHEP funding applications by **11:59 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, April 24,** CDC offers the following steps to expedite the submission process.

Once recipients complete their Budget Period 1 (BP1) work plans and budgets in Ready CAMP, they should notify CDC by sending an email to DSLRITSupport@cdc.gov and copying their project officers and Ruth Anderson at vha0@cdc.gov. Please see the Steps for Completing Applications to ensure all required information is included.

CDC will generate and send BP1 work plan and budget reports and Budget Period 2-5 report proxies to recipients for Grants.gov submission. Recipients must submit work plan and budget documents for all five budget periods in Grants.gov to meet application requirements for the five-year work plan. The BP2-5 work plan and budget report proxies will contain the same information as recipients' BP1 work plan and budget reports. Recipients can update their BP2-5 data following the start of BP1.

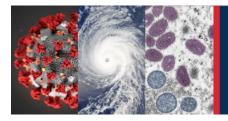
While DSLR has expedited the process to generate application reports for BP1-BP5 from Ready CAMP, recipients must request these reports by noon EDT on Sunday, April 21. Otherwise DSLR cannot guarantee report generation in time for Grants.gov submission.

Recipients may generate their own reports from Ready CAMP for Grants.gov submission or may submit work plans and budgets for all five budget periods using their own templates if those documents contain all the required information. However, CDC strongly recommends recipients contact DSLR IT Support to request the required reports for Grants.gov submission. Recipients should contact their project officers with any questions.

Steps for Completing Applications

To ensure CDC can process application information, recipients should review the following steps prior to submitting their requests to DSLR IT Support.

- Strategies and Activities
 - All strategies in the Strategies & Activities section should display green check marks.
 - o Any activity status showing a blue eye icon must be changed to "Complete" and saved.
- Program/Project Available Funds must balance with Total Annual Requested amounts. If any Program/Project is not balanced to the dollar with the available funds due to a rounding error, use one of these two options:
 - Add a Supplies Cost Category budget line item with the name/description line item of "Rounding error" and the correcting entry, e.g., -0.03 or -2.37 or
 - Request that CDC makes the correction when submitting email requests to DSLR IT Support and specify the correction needed.



Emergency Response Activities

CDC Response All-STLT Call Scheduled for April 22

CDC's next Response All-STLT Update Call will be held at **2 p.m. EDT on Monday, April 22**. CDC subject matter experts will provide updates on CDC's emergency response activities. A replay of the call will be held at **3 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, April 23**, using the same connection details. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

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

Meeting ID: 161 016 7208 Passcode: 46217352

Access Link: https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1610167208?pwd=Y1h2QWp5SFJDZlhnU2NoeDZrT21JUT09

CDC Releases Interim Considerations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (H5N1) Virus On April 18, CDC released interim considerations to advance preparedness and response for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5N1) virus. The document outlines nine tips and actions that state, local, tribal, and territorial (STLT) jurisdictions can take to improve their readiness to respond to human cases of HPAI A(H5N1) virus. While the overall risk of HPAI A(H5N1) virus to the U.S. public remains low at this time, people with job-related or recreational exposures to infected birds, cattle, or other potentially impacted domestic or wild animals are at higher risk and should take precautions.

Because influenza viruses constantly change, continuous surveillance and preparedness efforts are critical, and CDC is taking a proactive stance to advance readiness in case the public health risk assessment changes. STLT health officials can take actions to improve their readiness and develop One Health strategies with multisectoral partners. Jurisdictions can request a copy of the HPAI A(H5N1) virus interim considerations by contacting their DSLR health department liaison officers at eocevent375@cdc.gov. Jurisdictions may also request technical assistance from CDC by contacting eocevent375@cdc.gov or the CDC response at eocevent289@cdc.gov.

Updates to CDC Interim Considerations for Clade I Monkeypox Virus Now Available

CDC has updated its interim considerations for state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) health officials for improving readiness for managing cases or mitigating an outbreak of clade I monkeypox virus within their jurisdictions. The updated document outlines 10 critical response actions necessary for enhancing jurisdictional readiness for responding to clade I mpox. Following are the key updates to the document, which was first released in February.

- Includes map of countries known to be endemic for mpox by clade.
- Updates U.S. guidance for diagnostic samples and clinical waste advises that waste contaminated with clade I or clade IIb mpox is designated as Category B infectious substances except when they contain or are contaminated with laboratory cultures of clade I mpox virus (i.e., materials containing or contaminated with intentionally laboratory propagated virus).
- Notes that as of April 1, JYNNEOS mpox vaccine is commercially available.

Jurisdictions can request a copy of the updated clade I mpox interim considerations by contacting their DSLR health department liaison officers at eocevent375@cdc.gov.

CDC to Host Dengue Response Webinar on April 23

On April 8, CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Disease activated a program-led emergency response to support Puerto Rico in its efforts to combat a marked increase in dengue cases. At **2 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, April 23**, CDC will host a webinar to provide state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions with situational updates on CDC's 2024 dengue response activities.

Participant Information

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

Meeting ID: 160 780 7554 Passcode: 73601471

Access Link: https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1607807554?pwd=NjFGUzZNUGhoU3MxU0E5SHV0OHUwZz09



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Preparedness and Response Resources

NACCHO Begins New Local Health Official Monthly Meeting Series

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recently launched a monthly meeting series for local health officials to build connections across this community, ensure timely updates, and allow for dialogue and discussion with federal partners on a regular basis. These calls are a direct result of feedback regarding the need to better connect with each other and federal partners. The meetings will occur at **3 p.m. ET on the fourth Thursday** of every month.

"The Future State for Advancing Data for Public Health Action" will be the topic of the webinar scheduled for **3 p.m. EDT on Thursday, April 25**. CDC's new Office of Public Health Data, Surveillance, and Technology (OPHDST) is building on NACCHO's shared data modernization history and setting a future vision for advancing data for public health action. During this meeting, OPHDST will outline that vision for addressing longstanding pain points and how public health can more fully leverage the substantial investment made in health information technology. OPHDST will also share information on continued support to state, tribal, local, and territorial jurisdictions and how they can help design, test, and build public health solutions holistically. Register here to attend the OPHDST webinar.

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) will host a webinar, "Defining Disability for Syndromic Surveillance," from **4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, April 29**. This webinar will offer a unique perspective on defining disability within syndromic surveillance. The discussion will highlight how this definition of disability can be used to promote health for people with disabilities during public health emergencies. Presenters will explain how viewing disability as a demographic can help to better understand the disparate impact of public health emergencies on people with disabilities.

ASTHO encourages health care providers, medical coders, syndromic surveillance experts, and public health agency staff to attend to acquire the tools to leverage data-driven approaches to enhance health care outcomes for people with disabilities. Register here to attend the ASTHO webinar.



News You Can Use

DSLR Director Chris Kosmos to Leave CDC

DSLR Director Christine Kosmos announced this week that she is retiring from CDC effective June 30. She has served as the division director for DSLR since January 2009. Prior to joining CDC, Chris served as the deputy commissioner in Chicago where she managed both public health and health care system preparedness and response for Chicago.

"It's been the honor of a lifetime for me to be part of this program since its inception," said Chris, who is credited with helping to build a new emergency preparedness discipline within public health over the past two decades. She played an integral role in establishing the PHEP program after the events of 9/11 and has worked tirelessly since then to advance public health emergency preparedness.

"I have been working in preparedness and response for the better part of 24 years, and there is no better or more important mission than the mission of DSLR," she said.

Since joining DSLR, Chris has directed numerous nationwide initiatives designed to improve state and local readiness to respond to public health emergencies. They include the establishment of CDC's <u>Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities: National Standards for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Public Health and the new <u>Public Health Response Readiness Framework</u>. Also under her leadership, CDC developed the Public Health Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement, which has enhanced the nation's ability to rapidly respond to public health emergencies. She also directs the PHEP program, CDC's largest domestic grant program that provides funding and technical assistance to build public health preparedness and response capabilities nationwide. In addition, she has served in leadership positions in many national responses. They include the Ebola and Zika responses, as well as the COVID-19 and H1N1 pandemic responses.</u>

CDC's Office of Readiness and Response plans to name an acting DSLR director until a permanent director is hired.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, April 19

- Heat-related emergency department visits
- Monovalent COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness, pediatric hospitalization
- COVID-19 rates and vaccination coverage, nursing home residents
- Pentavalent meningococcal vaccine recommendation, ages ≥ 10 years
- Mammogram use, women

CDC Online Resources

- **UPDATED** Measles Cases and Outbreaks
- UPDATED COVID Data Tracker
- UPDATED CDC Respiratory Virus Updates
- UPDATED Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report
- UPDATED RSV VaxView

Christine Kosmos, RN, BSN, MS

Director, Division of State and Local Readiness Office of Readiness and Response (ORR) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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