

DSLR

FRIDAY UPDATE

January 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 (DSL)R 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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DSLR FRIDAY UPDATE



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PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

PHEP NOFO Remains on Track for February Publication

CDC's 2024 PHEP notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) was forecasted on www.grants.gov on January 18. Unfortunately, the forecasted opportunity initially included incorrect dates regarding the NOFO publication date and application deadline. CDC has worked to correct the forecast, which was [updated](#) today, January 19. The NOFO is in the final stages of formal clearance, and CDC expects to publish the NOFO in February. Recipients will have 60 days from when the NOFO is published to submit their funding applications.

CDC Clarifies BP5 Reporting Requirements

During the January 17 PHEP recipient call, CDC clarified Budget Period 5 (BP5) requirements and submission deadlines in response to questions regarding the [PHEP BP5 Operational Timeline](#) that was posted on the CDC website in December.

To meet PHEP Benchmark 1, demonstrate preparedness and response operational readiness, all recipients must submit the following forms in PORTS by June 30.

- Annual PHEP exercise data
- Emergency operations center activation (EOC) data
- Critical Contact Sheet (CCS) information

In addition, CDC still requires recipients to submit quarterly spend plan reports. Updated reports must include obligation rates and be submitted within **30 days following the end of each fiscal quarter**. Following are the remaining deadlines for BP5.

- **January 30:** for Quarterly Spend Plan Reports for BP4 (Q6) and BP5 (Q2)
- **April 29:** Quarterly Spend Plan Reports for BP4 (Q7) and BP5 (Q3)
- **July 30:** Quarterly Spend Plan Reports for BP4 (Q8) and BP5 (Q4)

Recipients should submit the reports to DSLRRGrants@cdc.gov and copy their PHEP project officers.

To keep program requirements to a minimum in BP5, CDC waived the requirement to submit the Inventory Management Tracking System (IMATS) and data exchange annual tests.

BP5 No-cost Extension Requests Due March 1

PHEP recipients have until **Friday, March 1**, to submit no-cost extension requests for Budget Period 5 (BP5) funds. Recipients must submit requests if they need additional time to complete approved activities in Budget Period 1 of the new PHEP period of performance.

During the course of a performance period, recipients have expanded authority to access unobligated funds in a following budget period without agency prior approval for any approved cost that falls within the scope and objectives of the project. However, when the following budget period falls within a new performance period, expanded authority does not apply and recipients must submit no-cost extension requests.

To submit no-cost extension requests, recipients must provide a cover letter signed by the authorized organization representative (AOR). The cover letter should include the additional time requested, up to 12 months; a justification for completing the activities during the proposed time period; and a timeline for completion of the proposed activities. No new activities can be requested, and justifications must describe a bona fide need.

No-cost extension requests should be submitted as an amendment in GrantSolutions. For additional information, recipients can review the [CDC Prior Approvals for Non-research Awards](#) and contact their PHEP project officers.



CDC All-STLT Call to Be Held January 22

CDC will convene its next all-state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) update call from **2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. EST on Monday, January 22**. CDC subject matter experts will provide updates on CDC's emergency response-related activities. The webinar will include a question-and-answer session. A replay of the webinar will be offered at **3 p.m. EST on Tuesday, January 30**. The connection details for this call and the replay are the same. 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>



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Preparedness and Response Resources

Applications Open for 2024 Infection Control Certification for Local Health Departments

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), in partnership with CDC, is offering a scholarship opportunity for local health department staff who want to obtain infection prevention and control certification. Those selected for this scholarship will be reimbursed up to \$2,500 for exam fees and study materials. The deadline for submitting applications for scholarships is **Friday, January 26**. More information is available at the [announcement page](#). Questions should be submitted to infectiousdiseases@naccho.org with the subject line "CIC Scholarship."

Presentation Submission Period Now Open for 2024 National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference

Presentation submissions are now open for the [2024 National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference \(NHCCP\)](#). Presentations should align with the conference theme, "Visions of Progress: Sustainable Strategies for Emergency Preparedness and Resilience." The committee is seeking presentations from healthcare coalition leaders who can share successes in their community with tangible takeaways that will equip colleagues to integrate new techniques, develop best practices, and increase overall effectiveness. Sessions which highlight effective solutions in rural and frontier communities are in high demand by conference attendees. Presentations must be submitted [online](#) by **Friday, February 9**.



News You Can Use

HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra Meets with Long-Term Care Facility Leaders

On January 3, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra met with long-term care facility leaders to address low COVID-19 vaccination rates among nursing home residents. Secretary Becerra emphasized the importance of offering and educating about vaccines, highlighting the risk to unvaccinated older adults, and the need for facilities to share best practices and reasons why residents or their guardians may be declining COVID-19 vaccinations this season.

View the full [Readout of HHS Secretary Becerra's Meeting with Long-Term Care Facility Leaders](#).

HHS Home Test to Treat Program Expands Nationwide

The federal government has expanded the [Home Test to Treat](#) program, a virtual community health program that offers free COVID-19 health services. Services available to eligible participants nationwide include at-home rapid tests, telehealth sessions, and at-home treatments. With its expansion, the Home Test to Treat program will now offer free testing, telehealth sessions, and treatment for both COVID-19 and for influenza (flu) A and B. It is the first public health program that includes home testing technology at such a scale for both COVID-19 and flu. Home Test to Treat, a collaboration among the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), and CDC, was launched as a pilot in select locations in 2023.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, January 19](#)
- [Cannabis Use Among Students in Grades 8, 10, and 12, by Sex — King County, Washington, 2008–2021](#)
- [Pseudomonas Infection Outbreak Associated with a Hotel Swimming Pool — Maine, March 2023](#)
- [Detecting Mpox Cases Through Wastewater Surveillance — United States, August 2022–May 2023](#)
- [Mpox Outbreak — Los Angeles County, California, May 4–August 17, 2023](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years with Diagnosed Diabetes, by Urbanization Level and Age Group — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2022](#)

CDC Online Resources

- **UPDATED** [CDC Respiratory Virus Updates](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC Tracks Hospital Capacity as Respiratory Diseases Continue to Spread](#)
- **UPDATED** [Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report](#)
- **UPDATED** [RSV VaxView](#)
- **UPDATED** [What You Should Know About Flu Antiviral Drugs](#)
- **UPDATED** [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States](#)

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