

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

October 13, 2023

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.

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DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE



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Upcoming Deadlines

- **October 16** – SAS Requests/Renewals
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PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

ASPR, CDC Cancel October 18 HPP-PHEP Recipient Call

CDC and the HHS Office of the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) have canceled the quarterly joint HPP-PHEP recipient call scheduled for October 18. Instead, CDC and ASPR will provide recipient updates during the October 24-27 annual meeting of the Directors of Public Health Preparedness (DPDH) in Arlington, Va., sponsored by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). As a reminder, attendance at the DPHP annual meeting is a required PHEP activity, and use of PHEP funds to cover travel expenses is an allowable expense for PHEP recipients.

CDC Updates PHEP BP5 Funding Table

An updated [PHEP Budget Period 5 \(BP5\) funding table](#) is now available online. The update reflects \$600,000 in additional funding that CDC awarded in September to Wisconsin to support high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) equipment upgrades in the state's Laboratory Response Network chemical testing laboratory. The additional funding brings total fiscal year 2023 PHEP funding to \$661,938,609.

Action Plan Module Scheduled to Open October 16

CDC is scheduled to open the new Action Plan (AP) Module in the PHEP ORR Reporting and Tracking System (PORTS) on **Monday, October 16**. That same day, CDC plans to conduct two training sessions on the new AP Module for PHEP recipient staff responsible for completing action plans for their jurisdictions. This instructor-led training will provide participants with an orientation to the AP Module, which will enable PHEP recipients to identify areas for improvement in their public health preparedness and response programs and document improvement activities. Recipients can also use the module to request technical assistance to address identified gaps or to improve upon existing successes. PHEP recipients must create initial action plans with action items by **November 30**. However, recipients will be able to modify their action plans throughout the remainder of the budget period.

PHEP recipient staff responsible for developing and maintaining action plans in their jurisdiction should attend this training to become familiar with using the AP Module to create, update, and track action plan items and activities throughout the budget period. Both training sessions will cover the same information, with recipients welcome to participate in one or both sessions.

Participant Information

- 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT on Monday, October 16: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1619813874>
- 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. EDT on Monday, October 16: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1607648578>

For additional information about this training, recipients can contact dslrtraining@cdc.gov.

Reminder: 2024 SAS Requests Due October 16

Monday, October 16, is the deadline for recipients to submit Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) license request forms to their PHEP project officers. Recipients should have received SAS license renewal instructions and request forms from their project officers during the past week. The current SAS licenses will expire December 31, with a grace period through March 2024. CDC will begin to distribute fiscal year 2024 licenses in January 2024. Recipients should contact their PHEP project officers for additional information.

CDC PHEP Grants Management Call Scheduled for October 26

CDC's Office of Grants Services (OGS) and DSLR will conduct the next PHEP grants management conference call from **3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT on Thursday, October 26**. During the call, CDC will discuss the following grants management issues related to the PHEP and the Public Health Crisis Response (PHCR) cooperative agreements.

- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Numbers
- Federal Financial Report (FFR) Requirements
- Liquidation Extensions
- Budget Preparation Guidelines

Recipients can submit additional discussion topics to preparedness@cdc.gov. CDC encourages PHEP directors and business officials to participate and share this information with other PHEP personnel in their jurisdictions as needed. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (888) 994-4478 (Audio only)

Phone Conference ID: 201772549

Meeting ID: 243 982 253 233

Access Link: [Click here to access the webinar](#)



Emergency Response Activities

CDC Hosts October 16 Webinar on COVID-19 Bridge Access Program

CDC will host a webinar on the [COVID-19 Bridge Access Program](#) from **2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. EDT on Monday, October 16**. This program provides free COVID-19 vaccines for uninsured adults and adults whose insurance does not cover all COVID-19 vaccine costs. In this briefing, CDC will share an update on the program, including communication and partner resources, and answer frequently asked questions. This briefing is intended for federal agencies, state and local health departments, medical professionals, private sector and nonprofit organizations, and members of the media. [Register here](#) to attend the webinar.



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Preparedness and Response Resources

ASTHO Releases Preparedness Resource for Life Support Users during Power Outages

ASTHO released a new report, [Advancing Preparedness for Life Support Users During Power Outages](#), which provides preparedness planners with information on addressing power outage threats for life support users. Power outages pose serious challenges, particularly for those relying on life support equipment at home. The frequency and the duration of outages, often caused by natural disasters, are increasing. In the absence of backup power, medical device users often turn to hospitals or shelters during outages. Similar situations occurred during events like Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and the Texas power grid failure in 2021.

To address these issues, the ASTHO report suggests various solutions for supporting durable medical equipment (DME) users during outages, from small measures to more resource-intensive programs like Louisiana's [Power Outage Partners](#) pilot. This report outlines a roadmap for jurisdictions to enhance assistance for DME users and reduce the burden on hospitals and emergency services during power outages, ultimately improving support for individuals relying on life support and DME devices.



News You Can Use

CDC Seeks Nominations for ORR Board of Scientific Counselors

CDC's Office of Readiness and Response (ORR) is seeking nominations for membership on its Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC). The BSC consists of 11 experts in fields associated with business, crisis leadership, emergency response and management, informatics, laboratory science, medicine, mental and behavioral health, public health law, public health practice, risk communication, and social science. Nominations for membership must be received by **Tuesday, October 31**. Packages received after this time will not be considered for the current membership cycle. All nominations should be emailed to BSC-ORR@cdc.gov.

NACCHO Releases 2022 Preparedness Profile

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recently released its 2022 Preparedness Profile report, which illustrates the need for systematic reinvestment in local public health preparedness. The 2022 Preparedness Profile provides a comprehensive picture of local public health preparedness capacity that can inform priorities at the local, state, and national levels. View the full report at www.naccho.org/PrepProfile.

New Framework Helps Public Health Leaders Navigate Suicide, Mental Health

ASTHO, CDC, the [Center for Law and Social Policy](#) (CLASP), and [Mental Health America](#) (MHA) recently released a [framework](#) for public health leaders with effective strategies to improve mental health and prevent suicide for all people, in every community in the settings where they live, learn, work, and play. Addressing mental health concerns and suicide prevention through a public health approach can prevent other negative outcomes, including chronic diseases, substance use, violence, and adverse childhood experiences. This framework is a step toward a more collective vision in which cross-sector partners are working together to build communities where all people can thrive.



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, October 13](#)
- [Prevalence of Diagnosed Arthritis — United States, 2019–2021](#)
- [High Influenza Incidence and Disease Severity Among Children and Adolescents Aged <18 Years — United States, 2022–23 Season](#)
- [Use of the Pfizer Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccine During Pregnancy for the Prevention of Respiratory Syncytial Virus-Associated Lower Respiratory Disease in Infants: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2023](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Locally Acquired Mosquito-Transmitted \(Autochthonous\) *Plasmodium falciparum* Malaria — National Capital Region, Maryland, August 2023](#)
- [QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Drug Overdose Death Rates Involving Cocaine, by Region — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2021](#)

Christine Kosmos, RN, BSN, MS

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

