

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

October 20, 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 31** – PHEP BP4 Annual Progress Reports



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

CDC Schedules PHEP Grants Management Call 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](#)

November 8 PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights Schools and Community Preparedness

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar, "Public Health and Educational Agencies Working Together to Improve Community Preparedness," is scheduled for **1 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 8**. CDC speaker Susan Hocesvar Adkins, MD, the

Office of Readiness and Response's Division of Readiness and Response Science, will discuss the benefits of establishing and maintaining public health and educational agencies partnerships. The speaker will also highlight emergency preparedness planning with schools, the intersection between public health and schools,



and the logistics of working with schools to improve community preparedness. Following is the participant information.

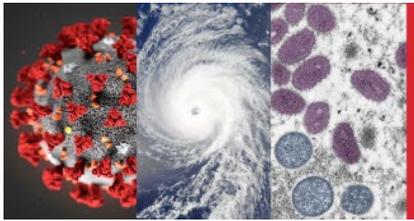
Participant Information

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

Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

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



Emergency Response Activities

CDC Provides Updates on Accessing Vaccinations for Fall/Winter Virus Season

CDC has published updated information on influenza, COVID-19, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccinations for the fall/winter virus season. Information is provided on vaccines that are free based on health insurance coverage. Following are additional resources available on the CDC website.

- [How to Pay for Vaccines](#)
- [CDC Bridge Access Program](#)
- [CDC Vaccines for Children \(VFC\) Program](#)

Learn more at [How to Get Your Flu, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccines This Year](#).



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Preparedness and Response Resources

Communicating Public Health and Crisis Situations Webinar Scheduled for October 26

The [Public Health Communications Collaborative](#) will host a webinar, “Public Health and Crisis Situations: Communicating and Connecting with Confidence” from **noon to 1:30 p.m. EDT on Thursday, October 26**. This webinar will feature expert panelists who will share practical strategies, tools, and considerations to develop organizational approaches to crisis communications. Strengthening crisis communications plans is critical to reducing harm and distress during public health emergencies, from disease outbreak to environmental disasters. Register [here](#) to attend the webinar.

New RFA Available to Enhance Local Forecasting and Analytics Capabilities

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), with support from CDC's [Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics](#), announced a new request for applications (RFA), [Technical Assistance to Enhance Forecasting and Analytics Capabilities for Local Health Departments](#). The RFA is seeking a consultant or consulting firm to assist NACCHO with providing technical assistance to selected local health departments to strengthen capacity to integrate forecasting and analytical tools into infectious disease outbreak planning and response. The project will involve implementing tools and methodologies to enable local health departments to proactively predict and analyze disease outbreaks, thereby improving public health response and mitigating the impact of infectious diseases.

Completed applications must be submitted to phinformatics@naccho.org by **11:59 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, October 31**. NACCHO will notify recipients on November 15, with an anticipated contract start date of December 1. The contract will conclude June 30, 2024.

For additional information, contact NACCHO at phinformatics@naccho.org.

FEMA, American Red Cross Release New Emergency Preparedness Game for Children

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Ready Campaign, in partnership with the American Red Cross, released a new game to help children learn how to be prepared when disaster strikes. FEMA and the American Red Cross created [Prepare with Pedro: An Adventure in Emergency Preparedness Game](#), [Super-Prepared Penguin Expansion Pack](#) and [Penguin Points Score Sheet](#). These resources are available for free digital download and [mail order](#). This new game is a companion to the [Prepare with Pedro: Disaster Preparedness Activity Book](#) created by FEMA and the American Red Cross to teach young children about emergency preparedness.



Federal Select Agent Program Implements New Congressional Notification Process

CDC's Division of Regulatory Science and Compliance (DRSC), formerly the Division of Select Agents and Toxins (DSAT), is implementing a new Congressional notification process regarding any events or incidents at federal laboratory facilities involving the theft, loss, or release of select agents or toxins. This requirement was codified in the [Prepare for and Respond to Existing Viruses, Emerging New Threats, and Pandemics Act \(42 USC 262a\(k\)\(1\); Public Law 117-328](#), effective December 29, 2022.

Such notifications must occur within 72 hours of the incidents. This law also requires CDC to notify the committees of any measures taken to mitigate the risk to public health and any review of the circumstances to ensure corrective action is taken to prevent further events. Congress established the new requirements to enhance transparency, oversight, and accountability in managing select agents and toxins and to ensure swift and appropriate measures are taken to safeguard public health and safety.

CDC will soon begin submitting the required reports to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives. As part of the new notification process, CDC also plans to notify PHEP directors in the jurisdictions in which the incidents occur. The first report will include all prior reports of thefts, losses, or releases from federal entities since December 29, 2022, the effective date of the new requirement.

For more information, recipients can contact DRSC at 404-718-2000 or LRSAT@CDC.gov.

ASPR Updates Strategic National Stockpile Office Name

To ensure consistency across programs, the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) will continue using the historical designation of "SLTT" when referencing state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions. Effective October 6, the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) will ensure all internal and external correspondence referring to jurisdictional partners uses the SLTT abbreviation. As part of this effort,

SNS is updating the name of its recently established office to the Office of State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) Preparedness.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, October 20](#)
- [Preventable Deaths During Widespread Community Hepatitis A Outbreaks — United States, 2016–2022](#)
- [Progress Toward Measles and Rubella Elimination — Indonesia, 2013–2022](#)
- [Use of Updated COVID-19 Vaccines 2023–2024 Formula for Persons Aged ≥6 Months: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, September 2023](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Severe *Bartonella quintana* Infections Among Persons Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness — New York City, January 2020–December 2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Firearm Homicide Rates, by Race and Ethnicity — United States, 2019–2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: *Mycobacterium abscessus* Outbreak Related to Contaminated Water Among Ventilator-Dependent Residents of a Pediatric Facility — Pennsylvania, 2022](#)
- [Quickstats: Rate of Emergency Department Visits, by Homeless Status — National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, United States, 2010–2021](#)

CDC Online Resources

- **UPDATED** [CDC Respiratory Virus Updates](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Treatments and Medications](#)

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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