

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

November 5, 2021



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](https://www.cdc.gov/stateandlocalreadiness/) or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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Upcoming Deadlines

- **November 17** – PHEP BP2 Annual Progress Reports
- **November 22** – PHEP Direct Assistance (DA) Requests



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

PHEP BP2 Annual Progress Reports Due November 17

PHEP Budget Period 2 (BP2) annual progress reports (APRs) are due **Wednesday, November 17**. Recipients will use the APR module in PERFORMS to provide status reports on their BP2 preparedness activities. This year’s APR also includes supplemental questions designed to capture interim information on recipients’ COVID-19 response. The nine questions in this rapid evaluation focus on how PHEP investments have helped build a foundation for responding to COVID-19. The supplemental questions are grouped into several focus areas, including preparedness domains and capabilities and working with tribes and local health departments. Recipients will also have an opportunity to provide recommendations for how the PHEP program can support large, catastrophic health emergencies in the future. In each of these areas, recipients will be asked to provide specific examples from their COVID-19 response activities.

Friday Feature: PHEP ORR Guidance Updates

In March, CDC released PHEP Operational Readiness Review (ORR) interim guidance to help recipients prepare for the PHEP ORR implementation in Budget Period 3 (BP3). The PHEP ORR Friday Feature biweekly series is intended to help orient recipients to the PHEP ORR interim guidance as well as CDC’s implementation of the new evaluation process in BP3. This week’s focus is on updates to the PHEP ORR guidance and changes in the review process.

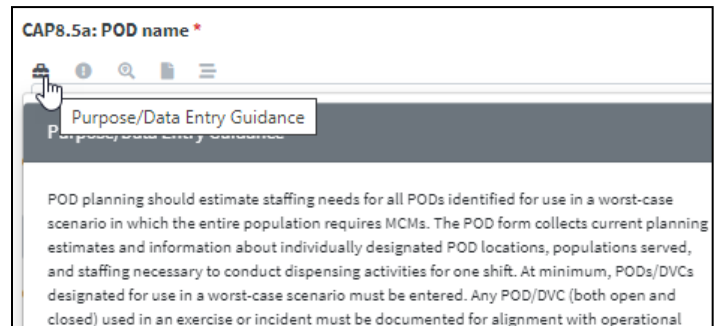


In BP3, the expanded PHEP ORR evaluation process will look different from previous cycles. PHEP recipients will have the flexibility to enter information into the new data collection system at any time throughout the budget period. Using this continuous submission process, CDC will conduct periodic reviews online versus in-person site visits. This change is intended to reduce some of the burden associated with intensive, multiday reviews conducted in person in PHEP jurisdictions.

CDC is also updating the PHEP ORR interim guidance based on internal user testing of the new data collection system. Among the changes will be new elements designed to capture recipients' COVID-19 pandemic response data. In addition, the updated guidance will be supplemented with several appendices to offer further clarity. The anticipated appendices are:

- 24/7 Emergency Contact (Bidirectional) Drill
- Answer choices
- Key Terms
- Noteworthy Examples
- ORR Elements Compared with Standards from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) and Project Public Health Ready (PPHR)
- References

When the new online system becomes available, PHEP recipients will be able to access sections of the PHEP ORR guidance and key tooltips within the system as data are entered. The system will include icons that offer further information on each corresponding guidance section (element, purpose, data entry guidance, reviewer guidance, documentation guidance, and submission frequency). Tooltips also appear as an icon for new terms or concepts.



Other features will include a document library of supporting evidence submitted into DCIPHER, the previous ORR reporting system. These documents will be accessible for download and review in the document library. However, recipients will not be able to revise these documents in the system. Instead, the documents can be downloaded and revised outside of the system and uploaded as part of the requirements for BP3. Recipients will find that most responses will either require a selection from an answer choice drop-down menu, or a free text entry with a section for uploading supplemental materials or supporting evidence to substantiate the response. As a reminder, CDC will primarily be asking novel questions related to COVID-19 in the BP3 PHEP ORR.

CDC will complete another round of review and accessibility testing in December, with the anticipated release of the final BP3 PHEP ORR guidance and data collection system in early 2022. For more information about the updated ORR guidance and changes in the review process, please contact preparedness@cdc.gov.



CDC Recommends Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5 to 11 Years

On November 2, CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., endorsed CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) [recommendation that children 5 to 11 years old be vaccinated](#) against COVID-19 with the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric vaccine. This expands CDC vaccine recommendations to about 28 million children in the United States in this age group and allows providers to begin vaccinating them as soon as possible.

Distribution of pediatric vaccines across the country began the first week of November, with plans to scale up to full capacity starting the week of November 8. Vaccines will be available at thousands of pediatric healthcare provider offices, pharmacies, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and other locations.

More information can be found at the [COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens](#) webpage and in the [ACIP meeting presentation slides](#).

ACIP Provides Information on COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendation for Immunocompromised People
CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) released background information on the recommendation of an additional dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna) following a primary series in immunocompromised people.

Learn more at [ACIP Evidence to Recommendations for Use of an Additional COVID-19 Vaccine Dose in Immunocompromised People](#).

Updated Guidance Available for Institutions of Higher Learning

CDC recently released updated [Guidance for Institutions of Higher Education \(IHEs\)](#). The updated guidance reflects current recommendations for fully vaccinated persons; updated language about shared housing in IHE settings to clarify that these environments should be considered congregate housing; and updated information on sports to incorporate prevention recommendations. The document also includes information on SARS-CoV-2 testing and screening previously noted in a separate guidance document.

New and Updated COVID-19 Resources

CDC released a new resource on COVID-19 electronic case reporting and an updated CDC Science Brief. The new science brief provides an overview of the current scientific evidence regarding infection-induced and vaccine-induced immunity, including both peer-reviewed and preprint publications, as well as unpublished CDC data.

- The new CDC [Healthcare Facilities in Production for COVID-19 Electronic Case Reporting](#) shows the automated, real-time exchange of case report information between electronic health records and public health agencies.
- The updated [Science Brief: SARS-CoV-2 Infection-induced and Vaccine-induced Immunity](#) provides an overview of the current scientific evidence regarding infection-induced and vaccine-induced immunity.



What's on the Calendar

- **November 10** – PHEP Connects Webinar
- **November 17** – PHEP Recipient Call



Preparedness and Response Resources

November 10 PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights Pennsylvania's Cost-Saving Strategies for Preparedness Tools

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar is scheduled for **1 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 10**. This webinar will provide an overview of Pennsylvania's evaluation methods used to identify and implement cost-saving measures for its health alert network and disease surveillance system. Andrew Pickett and Nathan Huyett from the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Bureau of Emergency Preparedness and Response will share a brief history of preparedness funding in Pennsylvania and methods used to identify and implement cost savings for these systems.



Participant Information

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

Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

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

ASPR Hosts November 10 Webinar on Regional Health Care Emergency Preparedness and Response Guidelines

PHEP recipients are invited to attend a webinar from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10**, on the development of guidelines for regional health care emergency preparedness and response systems. The webinar is hosted by the National Healthcare Preparedness Programs (NHPP) Branch in the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR).

The NHPP Branch is leading the development of guidelines for regional health care emergency preparedness and response systems. The guidelines will include current practices and protocols to treat patients and increase medical surge capacity in advance of, during, and immediately following a public health emergency. The document is intended to be used by regional systems of hospitals, health care entities, and other public and private sector entities as guiding principles for multistate and multilevel regionalization.

[Registration](#) is required. Upon registering, participants will receive an email with the meeting link, as well as a calendar placeholder. Participation is limited to the following cooperative agreement recipients.

- Hospital association recipients,
- Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) recipients,
- Health care coalition (HCC) subrecipients,
- PHEP recipients,
- Regional Disaster Health Response System (RDHRS) sites,
- National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education (NETEC) institutions,
- Regional Ebola and Other Special Pathogen Treatment Center (RESPTC) recipients, and
- Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence (COE).

November 12 Webinar Scheduled to Discuss Monoclonal Therapies

The HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) will host a webinar from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. EST on **Friday, November 12**, on “Monoclonals (mAb) and More: Issues and Opportunities with Early COVID-19 Treatment Options.” Presenters will review some of the most current recommendations for use of monoclonal antibodies (mAbs), upcoming therapies, and the challenges and opportunities that they may pose in conjunction with mAb and other treatments. Speakers will also highlight operational principles for a scaled strategy for use of these therapeutics in a scarce resource situation.

[Registration](#) is required.



New Educational Campaigns Focus on Preventing Drug Overdose Deaths

CDC recently launched four complementary educational campaigns on drug overdose prevention, intended to reach young adults ages 18 to 34 years. The campaigns provide information about the prevalence and dangers of [fentanyl](#), the [risks and consequences of mixing drugs](#), the [life-saving power of naloxone](#), and the importance of reducing stigma around drug use to [support treatment and recovery](#). Each campaign includes new resources on all four topics to help individuals make informed decisions, get the help they need, and ultimately reduce the rise in drug overdoses and overdose deaths.

To learn more about CDC’s drug overdose prevention efforts, visit www.cdc.gov/stopoverdose.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, November 5](#)
- [Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 Among Adults Hospitalized with COVID-19-Like Illness with Infection-Induced or mRNA Vaccine-Induced SARS-CoV-2 Immunity — Nine States, January–September 2021](#)
- [The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendations for Additional Primary and Booster Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines — United States, 2021](#)
- [Effectiveness of 2-Dose Vaccination with mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Against COVID-19–Associated Hospitalizations Among Immunocompromised Adults — Nine States, January–September 2021](#)
- [Surveillance Summaries: Demographic, Behavioral, and Clinical Characteristics of Persons Seeking Care at Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinics — 14 Sites, STD Surveillance Network, United States, 2010–2018](#)
- [Progress Toward Global Eradication of Dracunculiasis, January 2020–June 2021](#)
- [National Surveillance for Acute Flaccid Myelitis — United States, 2018–2020](#)
- [Infant Mortality Rates for Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties, by Single Race and Hispanic Origin — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2019](#)

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [CDC Recommends Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5 to 11 Years](#)
- **NEW** [Healthcare Facilities in Production for COVID-19 Electronic Case Reporting](#)
- **NEW** [ACIP Evidence to Recommendations for Use of an Additional COVID-19 Vaccine Dose in Immunocompromised People](#)
- **UPDATED** [Guidance for Institutions of Higher Education \(IHEs\)](#)
- **UPDATED** [Science Brief: SARS-CoV-2 Infection-induced and Vaccine-induced Immunity](#)

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.

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Center for Preparedness and Response
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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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