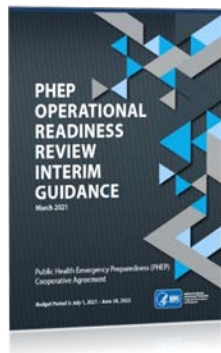


# PHEP Operational Readiness Review Interim Guidance and Budget Period 3 Implementation



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Operational Readiness Review (ORR) is a rigorous, evidence-based assessment used to evaluate Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program planning and operational functions. The overall evaluation strategy is guided by the [Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities: National Standards for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Public Health](#), which CDC released in 2018 and updated in 2019.

In 2021, CDC is expanding the ORR to assess all-hazards readiness across all 15 public health emergency preparedness and response capabilities and has developed interim guidance that outlines the associated reporting requirements and evaluation criteria. The PHEP ORR guidance is organized into three sections: descriptive and demographic, planning, and operations.

- Section 1 provides guidance about reporting and evaluating jurisdictional descriptive information.
- Section 2 provides guidance about reporting and evaluating jurisdictional plans by capability.
- Section 3 provides guidance about reporting and evaluating drills, exercises, incidents, and events.

Each section provides information about specific section elements, details on how to enter data, and how reviewers will evaluate information submitted.

CDC is releasing the comprehensive PHEP ORR guidance to help recipients prepare for the expanded PHEP ORR evaluation process in advance of implementation. However, CDC has modified its PHEP ORR implementation approach and reporting requirements for PHEP Budget Period 3 (BP3) to focus on capturing COVID-19 pandemic response data. The interim guidance will be finalized before the start of BP3. This two-pager serves as a high-level introduction to the ORR guidance and a summary of BP3 implementation.

## ORR Implementation

CDC has adapted its PHEP ORR implementation for BP3, streamlining requirements for recipients due to COVID-19 response activities. Data collection will be significantly reduced to include previously reported descriptive data such as critical contact sheets; PHEP benchmark data, primarily related to laboratory testing; and select new operational elements. **In addition, recipients will be able to use COVID-19 response activities to demonstrate operational elements and meet requirements, where fitting.**

CDC also plans to temporarily suspend state evaluation of Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) local planning jurisdictions. This includes waiving the new requirement for CRI jurisdictions to complete the annual PHEP exercise incorporating access and functional needs partners in BP3. CRI jurisdictions instead can use time in BP3 to plan for implementing and reporting this exercise in Budget Period 4.

## Orientation Sessions

CDC will conduct a series of sessions to orient PHEP recipients to the new guidance and online data collection information system, as well as the BP3 data submission requirements. Sessions will target PHEP recipients, but local planning jurisdictions may also attend. PHEP project officers also will provide continuous individual technical assistance throughout BP3. Orientation sessions are scheduled to begin in April, starting with the **PHEP Connects Webinar from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, April 21**. Registration is not required. The webinar will be recorded. Additional details on orientations sessions, including dates, will be forthcoming.

**Webinar Link:** <https://adobeconnect.cdc.gov/r6o0og3mlz5/>

Dial-in Information: 1-888-455-5125 and enter participant passcode 4495815.



## Required Elements and Data Collection Status for BP3

| Form        | Element  | Status  |
|-------------|--|---|
| Descriptive | Jurisdictional Structure Sheet (JSS)   | New   |
|             | Critical Contact Sheet (CCS)   | Previously reported                             |
|             | Partner Planning Sheet (PPS)   | Modified  |
|             | Workforce Development and Training (WDT)                                       | Modified  |
| Planning    | Planning Elements for 15 Capabilities  | Not collected                                   |
| Operations  | Emergency Operations Center Activation   | Previously reported                             |
|             | Annual PHEP Exercise   | Previously reported                             |
|             | Pandemic Influenza: Critical Workforce Group Functional Exercise               | Previously reported                             |
|             | Pandemic Influenza Full-Scale Exercise   | Newly designed to accommodate COVID-19 response |
|             | Joint Functional Exercise with Emergency Management and Health Care Coalitions | Previously reported                             |
|             | LRN-B Biological Sample Testing  | Benchmark previously reported in PERFORMS       |
|             | LRN-C Chemical Sample Testing Using Core and Additional Methods                | Benchmark previously reported in PERFORMS       |
|             | LRN-C Lab Specimen Packaging and Shipping Exercise                             | Benchmark previously reported in PERFORMS       |

## Budget Period 2 Requirements

Please refer to the [PHEP Budget Period 2 Benchmarks and Reporting Requirements Overview](#) for a summary of deliverables, including deadlines, which recipients are required to submit in Budget Period 2 (BP2). It describes PHEP benchmark requirements and provides a chronological list of all BP2 programmatic reporting requirements.

Updates specific to the PHEP BP2 Requirements, including ORR requirements, may be found in the [At-a-glance: Updates to CDC PHEP Requirements for Budget Period 2](#) and [Public Health Emergency Preparedness \(PHEP\) Budget Period 2: COVID-19 Response Effects on PHEP Requirements](#).

CDC thanks recipients for their steadfast commitment to preparedness and response. Be on the lookout for PHEP ORR updates, and contact your PHEP project officers or [preparedness@cdc.gov](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov) for more information.