

# August 23, 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 (DSLR) 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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# **Upcoming Deadlines**

• September 30 – PHEP BP1 CoA Budget Responses



# **PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates**

# PHEP TP19-1901 Closeout Report Template Now Available in Ready CAMP

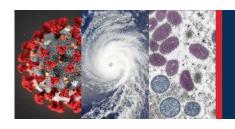
Last December, CDC released the Final Performance Progress and Evaluation Report template for the PHEP TP19-1901 period of performance to aid recipients in collecting closeout data well ahead of the submission deadline. The closeout report <u>template</u> is now available in the Ready CAMP Knowledge Center.

Recipients can use this optional template to gather offline information summarizing PHEP program activities from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2024. This closeout report, required by the CDC Notice of Grant Award, will help identify public health preparedness gains directly attributable to state, local, and territorial PHEP investments.

To streamline reporting requirements, CDC will not require recipients to submit a separate Budget Period 5 (BP5) annual progress report as normally required at the end of each budget period. Instead, recipients should incorporate BP5 accomplishments into this final report spanning the five budget periods. Recipients must also provide information regarding PHEP BP5 benchmarks and pandemic influenza plans.

CDC is finalizing development of a PORTS module that recipients will use to submit their final closeout reports. The closeout report module is expected to open in early September. Recipients who want to add new PORTS users should refer to the <u>PORTS application instructions</u> on the CDC website.

Recipients must enter closeout report data in PORTS. For those recipients who do not have no-cost extensions, the deadline is **Thursday**, **October 31**. For those who do have no-cost extensions, the reporting deadline is no later than 120 days after the no-cost extension period ends. CDC encourages recipients to submit final closeout reports as early as possible.



# **Emergency Response Activities**

# **CDC Reopens PHCR Funding Opportunity**

CDC has reopened the <u>Public Health Crisis Response (PHCR) Cooperative Agreement notice of funding opportunity (NOFO)</u> on Grants.gov to enable newly eligible jurisdictions to apply for future funding opportunities. Eligible jurisdictions are listed in Attachment A in the Other Supporting Documents file on Grants.gov. The PHCR cooperative agreement is designed to rapidly distribute funds to jurisdictions during a public health emergency. CDC reopens the NOFO, CDC-RFA-TP22-2201, periodically to enable jurisdictions that meet NOFO requirements due to population changes to apply. The application deadline is **Tuesday**, **November 19**.

In addition to newly eligible applicants, select jurisdictions on the current approved but unfunded (ABU) roster will need to reapply. Individual NOFO applications that allow recipients to maintain their ABU status expire after 24 months. Jurisdictions that submitted NOFO applications when CDC reopened the NOFO in July 2023 or February 2024 do not need to reapply at this time. CDC will notify the jurisdictions that need to reapply now via the <a href="mailto:DSLRCrisisCoAg@cdc.gov">DSLRCrisisCoAg@cdc.gov</a> mailbox.

To reapply, recipients may resubmit the same documents that they submitted during the initial PHPR NOFO application period in 2022, except for the SF-424 and the SF-424a. Recipients must update these two documents before submitting them. Complying with these administrative actions will ensure that CDC has the necessary information required to issue federal funding during a future emergency.

For more information, recipients should contact <a href="mailto:DSLRCrisisCoAg@cdc.gov">DSLRCrisisCoAg@cdc.gov</a> and their DSLR project officers.

#### Next CDC Response All-STLT Call to Be Held August 26

CDC's next Response All-STLT Update Call will be held at **2 p.m. EDT on Monday, August 26**. CDC subject matter experts will provide updates on CDC's emergency response-related activities. A portion of the time will also be allotted to answer participants' questions regarding the presented topics. A replay of the call will be held at 3 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, August 27, using the same connection details. 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

To subscribe to this listserv to receive updated invitations to the monthly CDC All-STLT Update Call and the replay, please email eocevent375@cdc.gov.

### **New Dengue Response Resources Available on CDC Website**

CDC recently released a new guide, Response to Dengue Cases in Non-Endemic Areas of the United States, to assist state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments in areas where dengue is not endemic to investigate and respond to importation and potential transmission of dengue virus (DENV). This includes algorithms to guide the investigation of suspected dengue cases, DENV transmission risk levels and recommended actions for travel associated dengue cases, and recommended actions for locally acquired dengue cases. This document provides guidance on how to use the algorithms and additional considerations when implementing recommended actions. CDC is available to support jurisdictions and health care providers with any inquiries, consultations, or assistance with investigations by contacting the Dengue Branch at dengue@cdc.gov.

CDC has also compiled <u>Public Health Considerations for Dengue</u> for responding to travel-associated or locally acquired dengue cases in areas where the disease does not occur frequently.



# What's on the Calendar

- August 26 CDC Response All-STLT Update Call (2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. EDT)
- September 3 CDC National Preparedness Month Seminar (12:30 p.m. EDT)



# **Preparedness and Response Resources**

# **CDC Observes National Preparedness Month**

National Preparedness Month is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. CDC helps communities prepare for, withstand, and recover from public health emergencies, including infectious, natural, chemical, and nuclear/radiological events.

The theme for CDC's 2024 National Preparedness Month commemoration is <u>disability inclusion and accessibility</u>. CDC is coordinating efforts, with both internal and external partners, to raise awareness about preparing the whole community by integrating disability, inclusion, and



accessibility in all phases of emergency preparedness and response. CDC provides guidance, technical assistance, and resources to help global, national, state, local, tribal, and territorial partners address inequities across a range of disproportionately affected populations.

# CDC's National Preparedness Month 2024 Objectives

- Promote CDC resources to state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments, other federal
  agencies, and emergency readiness and response partners to support and advocate for the needs of
  people with disabilities in public health emergencies.
- Provide opportunities for CDC responders to increase their capabilities to support and advocate for the needs of people with disabilities in public health emergencies.
- Highlight state and local initiatives integrating disability inclusion and accessibility in their emergency management.
- Share ideas and information addressing disability inclusion and accessibility across CDC and other federal agencies.

In observance of National Preparedness Month, CDC will host a special seminar at **12:30 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, September 3**. Presenters include CDC Director Dr. Mandy K. Cohen; L. Vance Taylor, Chief of the Office of Access and Functional Needs at the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services; CDC Office of Readiness and Response Director Dr. Henry Walke; and CDC Division of Readiness and Response Science Director Lisa Barrios. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 161 130 3022 Passcode: 75540454

Access Link; https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1611303022?pwd=Qhd68zAs30ZpwoF2MS9VbD3145kTR0.1

### SNS September Office Hours to Highlight NACCHO MCM Start-Up Guide

The next Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Office Hours will be held at **4 p.m. EDT on Wednesday**, **September 18**. This one-hour national call is for state, local, tribal, and territorial partners. It will begin with a 15-minute update on current guidance for protecting farmworkers and others in contact with cattle or infected animals from H5N1 bird flu. SNS will also provide an update on available personal protective equipment to support jurisdictional needs.

The rest of the session will focus on the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Medical Countermeasure (MCM) Start-Up Guide. During this session, NACCHO subject matter experts will:

- Explain the purpose of the MCM Start-Up Guide.
- Outline the goals of the MCM Workgroup, ongoing projects, and opportunities for collaboration.
- Identify audience priorities for the MCM workgroup's focus.

This session is ideal for new MCM staff, those overseeing staff and stakeholder orientation, and preparedness and response planning staff. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer suggestions to shape the NACCHO MCM Workgroup's activities.

To ensure maximum benefit from this session, SNS strongly encourages participants to submit questions by **Friday, September 6**, to <u>sns-sltt@hhs.gov</u> with the subject line SNS Office Hours - NACCHO MCM Start-Up Guide.

Register <u>here</u> for the September SNS Office Hours. Within 72 hours of registering, registrants will receive an email from <u>no-reply@zoomgov.com</u> with a calendar invite and information to join the call. For related questions, contact sns-sltt@hhs.gov.



# **News You Can Use**

PHIG Partners Host Webinar on Public Health Data Modernization Implementation Center Program
The Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG) Partners will host an informational webinar from 2 p.m. to 3:30
p.m. EDT on Wednesday, August 28, on the Public Health Data Modernization Implementation Center
Program (IC Program). This new program will support public health agencies with adoption of the latest health information technology (IT) standards and participation in data exchange networks.

The informational webinar will provide an overview of the IC Program structure and offerings and how interested public health agencies can express their interest to participate in the program. The webinar will also focus on the three implementation centers supporting state, local, and island public health agencies. A portion of the time will be allotted to answer participants' questions regarding the presented topics. Register in advance to attend the webinar.

An additional implementation center focused on supporting tribes will be forthcoming in fall 2024.

CDC Health Advisory Reports Increased Oropouche Virus Activity and Associated Travelers' Risk

CDC issued a health advisory to notify clinicians and public health authorities of an increase in <u>Oropouche virus disease</u> in the Americas region, originating from endemic areas in the Amazon basin and new areas in South America and the Caribbean. Between January 1 and August 1, 2024, more than 8,000 cases of Oropouche virus disease were reported, including two deaths and five cases of



vertical transmission (e.g., from gestational parent to fetus during pregnancy) associated with fetal death or congenital abnormalities. Countries reporting cases include Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, and Cuba. In the United States and Europe in 2024, travel-associated cases have been identified in travelers returning from Cuba and Brazil. As testing and surveillance for Oropouche virus disease increase in the Americas, reports of cases from additional countries are expected.

This health advisory advises on evaluating and testing travelers who have been in impacted areas with signs and symptoms consistent with Oropouche virus infection. It also raises awareness of the possible risk of vertical transmission and associated adverse effects on pregnancy and highlights prevention measures to mitigate additional spread of the virus and potential importation into unaffected areas, including the United States.

For recommendations for health departments and key facts about the virus, view the full health advisory at: Increased Oropouche Virus Activity and Associated Risk to Travelers.

# **Emergency Department Data Help Track Unusual Patterns of Flu**

CDC uses various data sources, including the National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP), to monitor and inform the response to emerging health threats like avian influenza A(H5N1). NSSP gathers real-time electronic health records from more than 6,500 U.S. health care facilities, representing nearly 80% of emergency departments nationwide. These data help track flu symptoms and other health issues, offering early warning of unusual illness levels. CDC uses this information to assess flu activity, including potential increases that may be linked to H5N1, and supports local and national health responses with timely, actionable data.

Learn more at: <u>How CDC Uses Emergency Department Data to Watch for Unusual Patterns of Flu Amid</u> Concerns Over H5N1 Bird Flu.



# **Online Resources**

### **CDC MMWR Reports**

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, August 23
- National Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents Aged 13–17 Years National Immunization Survey-Teen, United States, 2023
- <u>Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescent Girls Aged 13–17 Years U.S.-</u> Affiliated Pacific Islands, 2013–2023
- <u>Vital Signs</u>: Trends and Disparities in Childhood Vaccination Coverage by Vaccines for Children Program Eligibility — National Immunization Survey-Child, United States, 2012–2022
- <u>Notes from the Field</u>: Tularemia Associated with Harbor Seal Necropsy Kitsap County, Washington, October 2023

#### **CDC Online Resources**

- UPDATED Bird Flu News and Spotlights
- UPDATED Measles Cases and Outbreaks

- UPDATED COVID Data Tracker
- UPDATED CDC Respiratory Virus Updates
- UPDATED Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report
- UPDATED RSV VaxView

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