

# 2019-2024 Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Notice of Funding Opportunity - Supplemental Guidance and Resources

## Domain 6: Considerations for Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)

March 2019



# Domain 6: Considerations for Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)

## Overview

Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) is a rapid needs assessment methodology designed to quickly gather household-based information from a community. Although originally designed for disaster response, CASPER is now used by health departments for other purposes, such as assessments of chronic respiratory conditions, perceived health impact of proposed coal gasification plants, knowledge of mosquito prevention, or projected vaccination behaviors. CASPER information can be found in [Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities: National Standards for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Public Health](#), Capability 2: Community Recovery and Capability 7: Mass Care.

## Purpose

Timely and accurate information concerning community needs is critical when responding to public health threats and emergencies. CDC seeks to increase the use of CASPER resources and training across the nation to improve emergency response.

## Programmatic Requirements

There are no requirements for CASPER implementation. However, CDC recommends participation in disaster epidemiology trainings. Following are recommended activities and tools.

- [Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response](#) (CASPER);
- Disaster Death Certification and Death Scene Investigation Resources, including:
  - [CDC's Reference Guide for Certification of Deaths in the Event of a Natural, Human-induced, or Chemical/Radiological Disasters](#); and
  - [CDC's Death Scene Investigation Toolkit and training](#).
- [Rapid Response Registry](#) (RRR);
- [Emergency Responder Health Monitoring and Surveillance System](#) (ERHMS); and
- Incorporate information from the [Assessment of Chemical Exposures](#) (ACE) into training initiatives

Online CASPER trainings are currently available through [CDC Train](#) with CEU credits; in-person train-the-trainer classes are available at CDC in Atlanta. PHEP recipients interested in hosting trainings must support meeting space, logistics, planning, and local travel. CDC will prioritize requests from recipients who have not previously received CASPER trainings.

### Recipients Who Have Not Completed CASPER Training

- Subject to the availability of CDC funding, CDC may support the travel of one or two CASPER trainers from the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) Health Studies Branch (HSB). Recipients may request in-person training by contacting their project officer.

### Recipients Who Have Completed CASPER Training

- PHEP recipients who have previously received CASPER trainings within the last three years should similarly communicate to NCEH/HSB the intent, if desired, to conduct a CASPER to assess health status and needs in their jurisdictions, gauge community preparedness levels, identify immediate needs following a public health emergency, or evaluate the effectiveness of public health interventions.

CDC will provide technical assistance to states conducting CASPERs; however, requests for assistance may be



## Domain 6: Considerations for Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)

greater than the resources available to support trainings or technical assistance. In-field technical assistance and trainings will be supported based upon available funding, need, requested timing, and other factors to determine priority.

### CASPER Resources

Title	Description	Location
CASPER website	Homepage for CASPER resources	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/default.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/default.htm</a>
Interactive map of CASPERs	Detailed list of known CASPERs	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/casper_map.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/casper_map.htm</a>
CASPER map request form	CASPERs reported to CDC for inclusion on the CDC CASPER website interactive map	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/docs/casper_map_request_form_508.pdf">http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/docs/casper_map_request_form_508.pdf</a>
CASPER trainings	State-based and online training opportunities	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/training.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/hsb/disaster/casper/training.htm</a>

### Disclaimer

Web addresses of nonfederal organizations are provided solely as a service to readers. Provision of an address does not constitute an endorsement of this organization by CDC or the federal government, and none should be inferred. CDC is not responsible for the content of other organizations' web pages.