

DSLRL

FRIDAY UPDATE

November 15, 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 (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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- **November 18** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Training](#) (7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. EST)
- **November 19** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Training](#) (1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST)

- **November 20** – [CDC PHEP Recipient Call](#) (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST)
- **November 21** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours](#) (10 a.m. to 11 a.m. EST)
- **November 21** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours](#) (7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST)
- **November 22** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours](#) (10 a.m. to 11 a.m. EST)
- **November 22** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours](#) (7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST)
- **November 25** – [CDC Response All-STLT Update Call](#) (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST)
- **November 26** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours](#) (1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EST)
- **November 26** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours](#) (7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST)
- **December 4** – [Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours](#) (Noon to 1 p.m. EST)
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Upcoming Deadlines

- **November 22** – PHEP DA Personnel Requests



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

PHEP Recipient Call to Be Held November 20

The next monthly PHEP recipient call will be held from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 20**. Agenda topics include updates on the 2024-2028 PHEP Interim Guidance for Data Collection Elements and Performance Measures, the Budget Period 1 Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool and office hours, and CDC response activities.

Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

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

Meeting ID: 161 603 9680

Passcode: 46274190

Access Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1616039680?pwd=L37xCosuil3OnvwLmcz8nTSMtRz7wK.1>

CDC Schedules Training and Office Hours for BP1 Work Plan Reporting Tool

CDC has finalized the PHEP Budget Period 1 (BP1) Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool and will begin disseminating the reporting tool to recipients on Monday, November 18. All recipients will receive an email from the DSLR IT Support mailbox containing a unique link to access their jurisdictional PHEP recipient SharePoint workspace, which includes the reporting tool, completion instructions, and training resources. Recipients must submit their completed reporting tools to CDC by close of business on **Friday, January 31**.

CDC will conduct three training sessions and six office hour sessions in November to familiarize PHEP recipients with the reporting tool. Additionally, there will be two office hour sessions in December. Participants will learn how to navigate the tool and enter data accurately. The tool is aligned with Ready CAMP data requirements and enables users to update BP1 work plans and planned exercises, submit progress updates, request technical assistance, and report any challenges related to BP1 activities. Recipients will also use the tool to submit risk assessment data elements, spend plan data, and success stories.

Following are the dates and times for the training sessions. Recipients can attend any or all three sessions; each session will cover the same content. CDC will record the sessions for posting in the Ready CAMP Knowledge Center.

Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Training Sessions

- 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. EST on Monday, November 18
- 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. EST on Monday, November 18
- 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST on Tuesday, November 19

Recipient Work Plan Reporting Tool Office Hours

- 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. EST on Thursday, November 21
- 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 21
- 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. EST on Friday, November 22
- 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST on Friday, November 22
- 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EST on Tuesday, November 26
- 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST on Tuesday, November 26
- Noon to 1 p.m. EST on Wednesday, December 4
- 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST on Wednesday, December 4



CDC Expands H5N1 Bird Flu Guidance to Better Protect Farm Workers

On November 8, CDC updated its guidance for [Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A\(H5N1\) Virus: Interim Recommendations for Prevention, Monitoring, and Public Health Investigations](#) following a recent study [published in the November 7 MMWR](#) that reveals important findings about H5N1 virus exposure among farm workers in Michigan and Colorado. This study builds on earlier findings reported in July and underscores the need for enhanced protective measures for farm workers to prevent H5N1 transmission from infected animals.

While the overall risk to the general public remains low, CDC emphasizes the importance of strengthening prevention activities for exposed workers. Infection has primarily occurred through contact with infected poultry during culling or caring for sick dairy cows.

CDC's updated recommendations to reduce exposure risks include:

1. Improved Biosecurity: Implementing One Health strategies to limit H5N1 infections in animals.
2. Enhanced PPE Guidance: Providing clear guidelines on appropriate personal protective equipment

- (PPE) based on varying exposure risk levels in farming and poultry operations.
3. Testing and Treatment: Offering testing and post-exposure prophylaxis with antiviral medications for asymptomatic workers with high-risk exposures.
 4. Outreach and Education: Increasing communication with farm workers, employers, and advocacy groups to ensure understanding of updated safety measures.

Additionally, CDC is collaborating with various partners to inform farm workers about H5N1 prevention and the importance of seasonal flu vaccinations. While the seasonal influenza vaccine does not protect against H5N1, it can reduce the risk of severe illness from seasonal flu.



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Preparedness and Response Resources

Epi-X Forum Transfers to One CDC Data Platform

CDC's Epidemic Information Exchange (Epi-X) is transitioning the Epi-X Forum, a secure, web-based discussion board for public health professionals, into the One CDC Data Platform (1CDP) to enhance collaborative capabilities and user experience. The transition to 1CDP is scheduled to occur **Monday, November 18**, and is intended to modernize Epi-X Forum's functionality and enhance public health professionals' ability to respond to urgent health issues.

Epi-X Forum has long served as a critical tool for connecting health officials, enabling rapid reporting, and the exchange of essential data. It has supported timely communication and response to public health threats through topic-focused discussions – such as multijurisdictional outbreaks and specialized program areas. The new, cloud-based environment will allow users to maintain their collaborative efforts in a more streamlined, accessible setting without losing any core features they rely on.

CDC is planning a live training session to give users hands-on experience in exploring 1CDP's key functionalities and navigating the new environment. CDC will share more details when the training has been finalized.

Throughout the transition, Epi-X will reinforce its user support, answering questions and addressing concerns as they arise. Once the transition has concluded, users will have the opportunity to provide feedback, helping 1CDP refine the platform for continuous improvement. Epi-X remains committed to providing its users with a secure, enhanced platform for faster, more effective coordination, and response to public health emergencies.

Those who would like to learn more about Epi-X and its forum application should contact epixhelp@cdc.gov.



ORR Board of Scientific Counselors to Meet November 20-21

The Office of Readiness and Response (ORR) Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) will meet from **9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 20**, and from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 21**. Agenda topics for the meeting, which is open to the public, include updates from ORR Director Henry Walke, CDC response updates, and ORR division updates, including a DSLR update from DSLR Acting Director Jose Montero. BSC members will also hear updates on CDC's response readiness priorities, polio containment activities, ORR science agenda, and health equity activities. [Participants can register here.](#)



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, November 15](#)
- [Nirsevimab Effectiveness Against Medically Attended Respiratory Syncytial Virus Illness and Hospitalization Among Alaska Native Children — Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region, Alaska, October 2023–June 2024](#)
- [Underutilization of Influenza Antiviral Treatment Among Children and Adolescents at Higher Risk for Influenza-Associated Complications — United States, 2023–2024](#)
- [Pediatric Rash Illness Outbreak with Initial Positive Measles Immunoglobulin M Antibody Test Results — American Samoa, March–July 2023](#)
- [Progress Toward Measles Elimination — Worldwide, 2000–2023](#)

CDC Online Resources

- **UPDATED** [Measles Cases and Outbreaks](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID Data Tracker](#)
- **UPDATED** [Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report](#)
- **UPDATED** [RSV VaxView](#)
- **UPDATED** [H5 Bird Flu: Current Situation](#)

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