

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Preservation Strategies and Resource Request Process Guide

Action Plan for Current or Anticipated COVID-19 PPE Shortages

For healthcare facilities (HCFs) and first-responder organizations (FROs), PPE is critical to prevent COVID-19 spread while providers perform life-saving activities. This is a concise guide for organizations to plan and to implement PPE preservation strategies, including information on ways to obtain new PPE supplies, either from commercial vendors or through state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) jurisdictions or through federal channels. Facilities should work through each step until a step leads to a resolution.

Step 1: Determine and Preserve Current Supply

- Determine PPE requirements.
 - [CDC PPE Burn Rate Calculator](#)
 - [EMS PPE Supply Estimator](#)
 - [Healthcare Resilience Working Group \(HRWG\) PPE Preservation Planning Toolkit](#)
- Receive PPE supplies from commercial vendors as scheduled, when commercial vendors are not reporting any current or anticipated delays.
- Plan for potential PPE shortages, with awareness of
 - national/regional-level delays;
 - *Contingency Capacity Strategies*;
 - and with implementation of PPE- preserving *Conventional Capacity Strategies*.
 - [CDC Strategies for Optimizing Supply of PPE during Shortages](#) (refer to conventional and contingency capacity strategies)
 - [COVID-19: PPE Preservation Best Practices](#)
 - [HRWG PPE Preservation Planning Toolkit](#)
 - [Elastomeric Half-Mask Respirators and Powered Air-Purifying Respirators](#)
 - [Authorized Use and Avoiding Fraudulent Products](#)

Step 2a: Implement Contingency Capacity Strategies

- Implement contingency strategies when PPE shortages are expected while a **greater than three-day supply is on-hand** and PPE **delivery delays are anticipated**. [HRWG Contingency and Crisis Strategies to Alleviate PPE Shortages](#)

Step 2b: Request Additional Supplies from External Organizations

- When experiencing PPE critical shortages,
 - actively get new commercial suppliers;
 - seek donations from volunteer organizations or from the community;
 - solicit help externally from surrounding communities;
 - implement mutual aid agreements with surrounding HCFs and FROs.
- [Get Us PPE*](#)

Step 3: Request Additional Supplies from SLTT Health Departments and Emergency Management Agencies

- Submit resource requests at the local health department and local emergency management agency.
- If local jurisdiction cannot fill PPE requirement, submit resource requests to state, tribal, or territorial health department.

Step 4: State, Local, Tribal, or Territorial Resource Requests to Federal Government

- FEMA Regional Office in coordination with HHS/ASPR Regional Office reviews the SLTT Resource Request to clarify the requirement and to approve the request.
- FEMA, in coordination with HHS, processes Approved Resource Requests.
- FEMA/ HHS delivers PPE to SLTT jurisdictions for delivery to HCFs or FROs in need.

Step 5: Implement Crisis Capacity Strategies (only after completing Steps 1- 4)

- Implement crisis strategies when PPE shortages become critical (**3 days or less supply on-hand**) and **PPE delivery delays are anticipated**.
 - [CDC Strategies for Optimizing Supply of PPE during Shortages](#) (refer to crisis capacity strategies)
 - [HRWG Contingency and Crisis Strategies to Alleviate PPE Shortages](#)
 - [FDA EUA Devices for N95 Decon & Reuse](#)

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