

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH
Commissioner

Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

March 27, 2020

Dear colleagues:

In these trying times we appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through the many processes and challenges associated with providing you the best support we can. So, first a quick update. In the past few days we have upsized our logistics section within DPH to better manage the deluge of requests for PPE and other materials or supplies. Our section now includes the Emergency Command Center (ECC) Unit comprised of nine individuals led by David Kallander, in addition to Israel Estrada and myself. The ECC Unit will focus on managing the flow of requests, while Israel and I work on sourcing the materials and equipment you need. Know that we are working as hard as we can in concert with our partners across the state including DEMHS to get you what you need. We are expecting a shipment of approximately 1,000,000 masks sometime towards the end of next week. Once we receive them in our warehouse, we will be ready to sort and ship as soon as they arrive. These will be distributed along with other supplies.

Our levels of priority for distribution of PPE are as follows:

Level 1: Highest level, reserved for the following organizations

- Hospitals
- Long term care facilities
- Assisted living facilities
- Urgent care facilities that are providing direct patient emergency care
- Primary care physicians that are providing direct patient emergency care
- Residential home care providers
- Emergency medical services providers

Level 2: Other first responders, which include fire or police personnel that would not be categorized as Level 1.

Level 3: Other public service providers, including transit, public works, etc.



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The actual distribution of PPE and supplies will be done in one of two ways either through the use of points of distribution (PODs) or directly to the requester if they are using WebEOC. Hospitals should continue to use WebEOC to submit requests, and those requests will be filled by distributing directly to the location indicated in the request. For those that do not have access to WebEOC, supplies will need to be picked up at a point of distribution (POD). There will be one POD per region. A map outlining the boundaries of the regions is linked below. Early next week you will receive detailed instructions on how organizations will be able to request and pick up their supplies at a scheduled time. The instructions will include a specific day and time for pick up, location, procedures to ensure good social distancing is being followed, and any other important information that may be needed.

Please continue to implement the strategies to optimize the use of PPE and other equipment and supplies. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>

Link to Regions Map. <https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Emergency-Management/Resources-For-Officials/Regional-Offices>

Again, we thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bushnell
Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator
Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response
Connecticut Department of Public Health

cc: Francesca Provenzano, Chief, DPH Preparedness and Local Health Section