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State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

August 12, 2022

TO: All Local Health Officers and Public Health Directors

RE: Update to Monkeypox Funding Resources

Dear Local Health Officer and Public Health Director:

As always, thank you for all you have done thus far to support the increased response to Monkeypox within your jurisdiction. As this response continues, additional requests for resources as well as flexibilities in funding continue to grow.

The purpose of this letter is to share updates to the funding flexibilities that are available for the Monkeypox response. Included below are funding sources for which allocations have been issued to local health jurisdictions, as well as their flexibilities that CDPH is aware of. Additions to the flexibilities included in the July 15th letter, are emphasized below as "**NEW!**".

❖ **Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)**

While PHEP funds are primarily authorized for preparedness planning, PHEP funds may, on a limited, case-by-case basis, be reallocated to support response activities to the extent they are used for their primary purposes: to strengthen public health preparedness and enhance the capabilities of state, local, and territorial governments to respond to public health threats.

Activities that may be supported by this funding include:

- Emergency operations coordination
- Risk communications
- Epidemiology and surveillance activities
- Laboratory testing surge activity
- Overtime for response staff (with prior approval)

LHJs who want to use their PHEP funding to support monkeypox response activities must receive prior approval from CDC for new activities not previously approved as part of their annual PHEP funding applications. A change in scope requires CDC prior approval. Therefore, LHJs will need to submit a request to redirect their funding to their assigned Emergency Preparedness Office Contract Manager.

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❖ **Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC)**

The ELC has provided supplemental funding under two awards that may be used to support monkeypox testing, testing supplies and reagents:

1. ELC Strengthening Public Health Laboratories (PHL) Preparedness; and
2. Strengthening PHL Preparedness Through Laboratory Response Network (LRN).

NEW! The ELC has authorized the use of Enhancing Detection and Enhancing Detection Expansion funding to support monkeypox response Efforts. Existing staff who are funded with either of these funding sources are authorized to designate up to 25% of their time on monkeypox response efforts. New staff hires specific to monkeypox response is not allowed with ELC Enhancing Detection and Enhancing Detection Expansion funding.

❖ **PS19-1901: Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Workforce Development Supplemental Funding**

DIS Workforce supplemental funding may potentially be used to hire and support DIS activities related to Monkeypox.

Activities that may be supported by this funding include:

- Expanding and enhancing frontline public health staff
- Conducting DIS workforce training and skills building
- Building organizational capacity for outbreak response
- Evaluating and improving recruitment, training, and outbreak response efforts

❖ **Immunization and Vaccines for Children**

COVID-19 funding is specifically required to address COVID-19 vaccination activities. The funding can be leveraged to also address/incorporate other non-COVID-19 vaccination activities concurrent to COVID-19 vaccination activities. For example a COVID-19 vaccine helpline or locator that may also provide information on Monkeypox.

As the core cooperative agreement generally addresses any vaccine preventable disease, core funding can be used to address Monkeypox as well – without the requirement of combining with COVID-19.

❖ **Future of Public Health (FoPH)**

LHJs can use FoPH funding for positions in order to increase their capacity for surveillance and epidemiology with the Monkeypox virus.

❖ **NEW! Public Health Workforce Development (WFD)**

Activities within scope of existing positions are allowable for grant management and processing orders for monkeypox supplies. New staff hires specific to monkeypox response is not allowed with WFD funding.

Redirection Process

All requests to redirect existing federal funding, must be submitted to your respective Contract Manager at CDPH for each federal grant. Your request must include a budget revision as well as a justification for the redirection of funding.

Please be advised that this information is fluid and CDPH will release additional information around funding flexibilities for Monkeypox response as it becomes available.

Sincerely,



Susan Fanelli
Chief Deputy Director of Policy and Programs