



**Department of Disabilities, Aging and
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Commissioner's Office**
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*Agency of
Human Services*

July 6, 2020

RE: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Availability

DAIL Partners:

We have received questions about the ongoing availability of PPE from the State stockpile.

As I know you are well aware, the Vermont Department of Health has provided guidelines for personal protective equipment usage among the entities listed below. When supply chains are interrupted, distribution of materials will be prioritized among the following categories:

Primary Treatment/Expected Contact with Confirmed COVID-19 Patients:

- Hospitals
- Emergency Medical First Responders (including Emergency Medical Services [EMS] and Fire Departments providing EMS services)
- Community Based Healthcare Services (e.g. visiting nurses)
- Nursing Homes
- Primary Care and Community Health Centers

Congregate Care and Living Facilities with High Potential for Outbreak

- Correctional and Detention Facilities
- Assisted Living Residences and Residential Care Homes
- Independent Living Facilities and Senior Living Communities (in situations of outbreak prevention or response)
- Inpatient Psychiatric Care Facilities
- Therapeutic Community Residences and Recovery Facilities
- Shelters for Marginally Housed Persons

Patient Facing Essential Public Health and State Services

- Non-EMS providing First Responders (including Fire Departments and Police)
- Adult Day Services
- Community-Based Essential Services (e.g. DCF)
- Dental Facilities (to support emergent procedures)
- Dialysis Facilities
- Home Delivered Meals

In summary, you can request PPE from the stockpile after private sourcing has been exhausted. The State stockpile should not be the first option for ordering PPE.

The stockpile of PPE is intended to augment, but not replace private sourcing of materials. Vermont Emergency Management maintains a webpage with a list of suppliers with known availability for items such as hand sanitizer and PPE; consult this frequently for updates:

<https://vem.vermont.gov/ppe>

You may also purchase PPE through other channels known to you.

If you are unable to source PPE through other supply channels, you may submit a request through the State stockpile [PPE Request Form link](#).

Distribution of materials from the State stockpile is prioritized based on the status of the supply chain, current strategic stockpile inventory, and current COVID-19 response objectives. Prioritization is reevaluated regularly and is subject to change as inventories are updated and state operational needs and capabilities are adjusted.

Additional important information regarding PPE:

- [PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT \(PPE\) STRATEGIES FOR SCARCE RESOURCE SITUATIONS \(VDH 3/13/2020\)](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Conservation Measures \(VDH 3/13/2020\)](#)
- [Guidelines on Requesting and Using Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) \(VDH 4/8/2020\)](#)

If you have questions pertaining to COVID-19 that are not answered on the [DAIL](#) or [VDH](#) COVID-19 webpages, please email AHS.DAILCOVIDInquiries@vermont.gov and the DAIL team will help you. Thank you for work on behalf of Vermonters.

Sincerely,

Monica Caserta Hutt
Commissioner