

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): May 11, 2021

Response Date: May 11, 2021

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

ASPR TRACIE received a request for federal resources to assist with COVID-19 vaccine equity.

Response:

ASPR TRACIE reviewed several documents, including those on our [COVID-19 Resource Page](#). Section I of this document includes links to relevant federal resources.

When limited supply of vaccine first became available, the federal government directed its use in high priority groups identified by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. As supply has increased, the federal government established several initiatives to direct resources to underserved and disproportionately affected groups. These efforts include the [Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care](#) (which ended in April 2021), the [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program](#), the [Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program](#), and support for [Community Vaccination Centers and mobile vaccination sites](#).

I. Federal Vaccine Equity Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2021). [A Guide for Community Partners: Increasing COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake Among Members of Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

This guide provides information for community-based organizations interesting in conducting outreach to support vaccine confidence in racial and ethnic minority communities.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [Communication Resources for COVID-19 Vaccines](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page includes a variety of resources to educate the public and increase vaccine confidence. Materials include a social media toolkit, print resources, stickers, graphics, and videos. Many resources are available in multiple languages.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [Communication Toolkit for Migrants, Refugees, and Other Limited-English-Proficient Populations](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This toolkit supports providing information – including information on vaccines – to populations in their native languages.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdictions Operations Annex - Considerations for Increasing COVID-19 Vaccination: Reaching and Increasing Uptake in Priority Populations](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This annex to the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations provides: guidance on when and how to transition from vaccinating initial to additional priority populations; a framework for balancing equitable access, service delivery, and demand; tools for engaging priority populations and increasing vaccine confidence; and strategies to leverage private-public partnerships.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [COVID-19 ACIP Vaccine Recommendations](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page links to current recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices on the use of COVID-19 vaccines in different populations. It includes recommendations on allocation of initial, limited supply to high-risk populations.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [Expanding COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution to Primary Care Providers to Address Disparities in Immunization: Guide for Jurisdictions](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This guide provides information to jurisdictions about how to increase allocation of vaccine to primary care providers serving socially vulnerable populations.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [Health Equity](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page includes various resources related to vaccine health equity and features information in multiple languages on CDC's COVID-19 Health Equity Strategy. Subpages focus on health equity considerations for racial and ethnic minority groups, what can be done to promote health equity, examples of equity in action, information on racial and ethnic health disparities, and links to health equity news and resources.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [Resources for Disproportionately Affected Communities](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page provides information for populations disproportionately affected by the pandemic, including persons experiencing homelessness, those in corrections and detention centers, older adults, and persons with disabilities.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (2021). [Civil Rights Considerations During COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Efforts](#). U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

This checklist helps jurisdictions consider civil rights issues when planning COVID-19 vaccine distribution efforts.

Federal Emergency Management Agency. (2021). [Community Vaccination Centers Playbook](#). U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

This playbook provides guidance on provision of federal support to community vaccination centers. The first critical planning consideration centers on equitable access to vaccine.

Federal Emergency Management Agency. (2021). [FEMA Takes Action to Ensure Equity in Vaccine Distribution](#). U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

This blog post describes the role of FEMA's Civil Rights Advisory Group in ensuring equity is incorporated in federal vaccination efforts.

Food and Drug Administration. (2021). [#VaccineReady Social Media Toolkit](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page includes various social media resources to encourage members of diverse communities to be vaccinated. Resources include graphics and messages for Twitter and Facebook and links to videos.

Health Resources and Services Administration. (2021). [Ensuring Equity in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page provides details on the Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program, which allocates vaccine to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-funded health centers and look-alikes serving medically underserved communities and populations disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Office for Civil Rights. (2020). [Civil Rights Protections Prohibiting Race, Color and National Origin Discrimination During COVID-19](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This bulletin provides guidance on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protections applicable during the pandemic.

Office of Minority Health. (2021). [About COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page provides information and resources related to the federal COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. (2021). [Promising Practices for Reaching At-Risk Individuals for COVID-19 Vaccination and Information](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This webpage offers promising practices for community-based organizations engaged in supporting COVID-19 vaccination.

The White House. (2021). [Executive Order on Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery](#).

This executive order recognizes the disproportionate effects of the pandemic on communities of color and other underserved populations and orders actions for a more equitable response, including equitable allocation of vaccines and conducting an outreach program to improve vaccine confidence among underserved populations.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2021). [Dear Colleague Letter](#).

This letter by the Secretaries of HHS and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) directs federal agencies to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 testing, care, vaccination and other prevention and treatment services to disproportionately affected populations.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security. (2021). [DHS Statement on Equal Access to COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccine Distribution Sites](#).

This statement – available in multiple languages – outlines the commitment of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to encourage everyone to be vaccinated, regardless of immigration status.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2021). [Pandemic Recovery – COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence and Community Engagement Successes Webinar Series](#).

The slides and recordings are available from two webinars focused on improving vaccine confidence and access for those living in HUD-assisted households and communities.

U.S. Department of Justice. (2021). [Leading a Coordinated Civil Rights Response to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

This statement by the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights outlines principles to assist federal, state, and local governments in meeting nondiscrimination obligations during response to and recovery from the pandemic.