

# UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

## How to Request PPE from the State of Massachusetts

Dear Members,

As we continue to receive updates from EOEA, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), we are pleased to share information with you in order to maximize your effectiveness in managing the threat posed by the COVID-19 outbreak. *Please note that these guidance documents were issued for Health Care Facilities and Health Care Personnel, but provide helpful information and supply chain access that can likewise be used by assisted living residences (ALRs).*

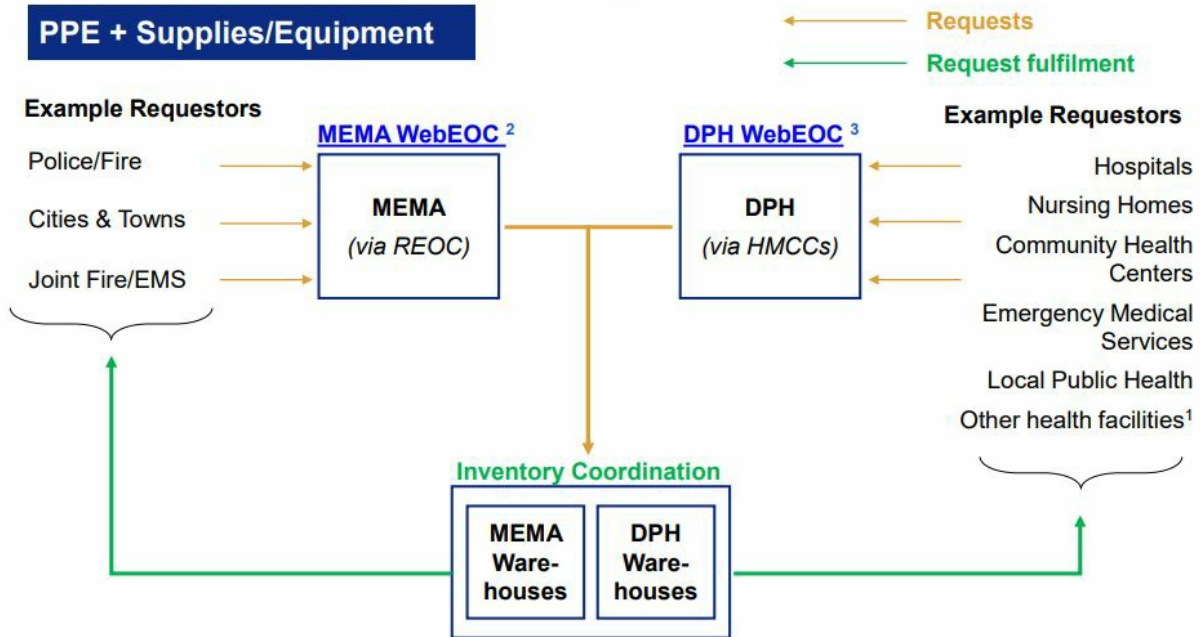
The demand for PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) continues to grow and the assisted living industry is experiencing shortages of some supplies.

Through our communications with EOEA, ALRs have been advised to contact the Department of Public Health (DPH) in order to request PPE. Below is the link to the DPH communication regarding the process for requesting PPE.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has released "[Guidance on Prioritization of PPE in MA](#)". In the near term, given current supplies, PPE will be prioritized for medical facilities on the front lines. We understand that some ALRs have received PPE through this process. Please submit all requests for PPE via the channels shown on the [illustrative diagram below](#).

# Coordinating resource request systems

## PPE + Supplies/Equipment



Requestors should continue to order through their normal channels, Commonwealth is coordinating requests

1. Any facility providing direct clinical care not included above, including addiction service providers
2. <https://mema.webeocasp.com/mema/>
3. <https://mdph.webeocasp.com/mdph/>

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The Commonwealth will coordinate your requests. For hospitals, nursing homes, community health centers, emergency medical services, local public health, and other health facilities, this means to request or report PPE shortages to your regional Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC), which are listed below.

Region	Website	24/7 Regional Duty Officer Phone	Duty Officer Email NOT monitored 24/7
Region 1	<a href="https://region1hmcc.org/">https://region1hmcc.org/</a>	413-773-1502	<a href="mailto:hmcc@frcog.org">hmcc@frcog.org</a>
Region 2	<a href="https://archecoalition.org/">https://archecoalition.org/</a>	508-408-5173	N/A
Region 3	<a href="https://hmccreg3.org/">https://hmccreg3.org/</a>	978-946-8130	<a href="mailto:dutyofficer@hmccreg3.org">dutyofficer@hmccreg3.org</a>
Region 4AB	<a href="https://mrpcoalition.org/">https://mrpcoalition.org/</a>	857-239-0662	<a href="mailto:mrpcdutyofficer@challiance.org">mrpcdutyofficer@challiance.org</a>
Region 4C	<a href="https://bphc.org/Pages/default.aspx">https://bphc.org/Pages/default.aspx</a>	617-343-6920	<a href="mailto:mic@bphc.org">mic@bphc.org</a>
Region 5	<a href="https://www.region5hmcc.com/">https://www.region5hmcc.com/</a>	855-266-7243 ID# 32432	<a href="mailto:dutyofficer@region5hmcc.com">dutyofficer@region5hmcc.com</a>

Please use this link to determine your region.

[https://matracking.ehs.state.ma.us/hmcc\\_regions/hmcc\\_regions.html](https://matracking.ehs.state.ma.us/hmcc_regions/hmcc_regions.html)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released updated guidance that provides strategies for optimizing the supply of N95 respirators. Please review the guidance, which is available online at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirator-supply-strategies.html>. Given the increased demand for PPE supplies due to the 2019-nCoV outbreak combined with seasonal flu activity, DPH asks health care facilities to continue to prepare to care for patients with suspected or confirmed 2019-nCoV by implementing the

following measures:

Assess availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other infection prevention and control supplies (e.g., hand hygiene supplies) that would be used for both healthcare personnel (HCP) protection and source control for infected patients (e.g., facemask on the patient).

- Establish contingency plans if the demand for PPE or other supplies exceeds supply.
- Review plans for implementation of surge capacity procedures and crisis standards of care.
- Prioritize the use of N95 respirators for those healthcare personnel (HCP) at the highest risk of acquiring infection or experiencing complications of infection.
- Exclude health care personnel not directly involved in patient care for patients on isolation precautions (Contact, Droplet, or Airborne) from contact with these patients.

DPH strongly encourages all health care facilities and providers in Massachusetts to monitor the Centers for Medicare & Medical Services (CMS) website and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website for up-to-date information and resources.

- MS website: <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>
- CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/index.html>

Additionally, please visit DPH's website that provides up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Massachusetts: <https://www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus>.

*Mass-ALA will continue to keep you informed on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Stay tuned for more updates*

*\*The information provided in this COVID 19 update is solely for general informational purposes to assist in understanding the evolving guidance regarding the current COVID 19 public health threat. It is not intended to be a primary public health or medical resource, but is provided as a clearinghouse for or compilation of various guidance issued by official and related sources.*