



On behalf of the Unified Command for Wyoming COVID-19 Response and the Policy Group, we are providing the following new guidance for PPE distribution effective March 31, 2020.

Federal, State, and Local public health PPE resources are to be used strictly for COVID-19 related response actions. To date, the state health officer has recommended hospitals and clinics discontinue performing elective procedures or surgeries. Effective March 31, 2020, entities which have not discontinued elective surgeries or procedures **shall not be eligible** to receive PPE distribution. Therefore, the state will now require local emergency management to verify the requesting entity is not conducting or performing elective surgeries or procedures prior to approval of a PPE resource request. The verification will be documented via the Form 213RR or memorandum of agreement that the entity has ceased such elective procedures and will not use the PPE for actions not associated with COVID 19 response. If a local hospital or clinic continues conducting elective surgeries, they will not receive PPE from the SNS, county or state PPE inventory.

### **Distribution of PPE from Strategic National Stockpile Assets**

Between March 31 and April 2, counties will receive the second shipment from the Strategic National Stockpile assets and an additional portion of the state inventory of PPE. This shipment may be distributed immediately. However, when distributing this shipment of PPE, **local public health officials must consider and document evidence of the following:**

1. The entity requesting PPE from this shipment must provide evidence that the entity has exhausted all other alternatives to obtaining PPE from other sources.
2. Within the discretion of the local county health officer, distribution of PPE must be done in a manner that prioritizes entities that demonstrate the greatest need and proximity to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Wyoming.
3. **Whether the requesting entity has ceased elective surgeries and procedures.**

### **Distribution of PPE from existing local entities**

The guidance for local stockpiles has not changed. IF your county or tribal nation has a confirmed COVID-19 case, local and tribal public health may release up to 50% of their local stockpile. This stockpile is separate from the shipment counties received on March 23 or 24. Guidance on distribution of local stockpiles remains as follows:

The Wyoming Department of Health is recommending counties, in which a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 has been identified to, on a limited basis, release portions of its local public health stockpile of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) if all other avenues of PPE have been exhausted by the requesting entity. Before utilizing the local county health stockpile of PPE, counties should utilize all other resources of obtaining PPE to fulfill resource requests. Local jurisdictions that have exhausted all other alternatives shall only release up to fifty (50%) of the local public health stockpile to entities that submitted a request to the local jurisdiction.

Distribution of the local public health stockpiles must be done in a judicious manner. Current supplies are extremely limited. Local public health officials must consider and document evidence of the following when fulfilling requests for PPE to local entities from local public entities continuing to place orders with suppliers, and cross-leveling with other entities.

1. The entity requesting PPE from the local public health stockpile must provide evidence that the entity has exhausted all other alternatives to obtaining PPE from other sources such as the regional Healthcare Coalition.
2. Within the discretion of the county health officers, distribution of PPE must be done in a manner that prioritizes entities that demonstrate the greatest need and proximity to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Wyoming.

Jurisdictions distributing PPE will be expected to keep track of inventory levels and report them daily to the Unified Command Operations Section at [uc.logs@wyo.gov](mailto:uc.logs@wyo.gov). The CDC has asked all state, local and tribal jurisdictions to evaluate and advertise PPE conservation methods to help extend inventories. When considering requests for PPE from local entities, jurisdictions should determine if an alternate form of PPE may be sufficient for that request. For example, consideration should be given to multiple use of reusable powered air purifying respirators (PAPR) versus disposable N95/surgical masks depending on healthcare or first responder role and level of contact associated with a response activity.

In conjunction with jurisdictions releasing PPE from the local public health stockpile release, the state will process requests for PPE from local emergency managers via a form 213RR. Please note, due to the limited supply of PPE, it is likely that orders will not be fulfilled at full capacity. Emergency managers submitting requests for PPE from the state stockpile must provide:

1. Evidence of present or imminent response activities within the local jurisdiction;
2. Inventory levels of the local public health stockpile;
3. Confirmation of use of CDC recommended PPE conservation strategies; and
4. Evidence of exhausting other opportunities to obtain PPE from other sources.

As the state supply of PPE is limited, we have placed orders for more PPE, but these resources are in high demand and in short supply across the nation. It is imperative that we all be diligent and make prudent resource decisions while stockpiles are limited. Keeping an accurate inventory of your PPE stockpile is equally important. We are asking each jurisdiction to maintain detailed and up to date inventory tracking of these

resources. Please contact Sheryl Roub 307-631-8715 or [uc.plans@wyo.gov](mailto:uc.plans@wyo.gov) if you require additional information.  
Thank you all for your hard work to protect the residents of Wyoming.

Wyoming COVID-19 Information at [wohs.us](http://wohs.us).

---

Sheryl Roub, CPM, CPIM, MCSE, CCNA, MCP  
**Plans Section Chief, Wyoming COVID-19 Unified Command**  
Manager | Public Health Preparedness and Response  
Health Readiness and Response Section  
Email: [sheryl.roub@wyo.gov](mailto:sheryl.roub@wyo.gov) Phone: 307.777.7146 | Cell: 307.631.8715

Office Hours - 8 AM - Noon, 1 PM to 5 PM Mon-Fri

