

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

August 20, 2020

Barrington Bogle, Director of Health
Wilton Health Department
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

Re: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement: Funding Application for the Enhanced Detection, Response, Surveillance and Prevention of COVID-19

Dear Mr. Bogle:

The State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health (DPH) is pleased to inform you that as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Cooperative Agreement, funding in the amount of \$20 million has been set aside to support local public health efforts. This funding is intended to enhance detection, response, surveillance and prevention of COVID-19 in Connecticut. Funding for local public health will be allocated to all 65 local health departments/districts on an equal basis. The allocation of funds is based on per-capita and poverty levels for each jurisdiction. This funding is intended to enhance local efforts supporting COVID-19 testing activities, surveillance, and prevention of further COVID-19 transmission. Local public health is an essential partner in the State of Connecticut's response to COVID-19 and this funding strengthens statewide capacity to respond to the pandemic.

Attached please find the ELC Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement Funding Application for the 30-month project period May 19, 2020 through November 17, 2022 and the Department's ELC Enhancing Detection Allocation Plan.

Your ELC Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement LHD Total Allocation (30 months):
\$66,388

Year One, May 19, 2020 – May 17, 2021	Annual Allocation: <u>\$26,555</u>
Year Two, May 18, 2021 – May 17, 2022	Annual Allocation: <u>\$26,555</u>
Year Three (six months), May 18, 2022 – November 17, 2022	Annual Allocation: <u>\$13,278</u>

This funding is provided to support necessary expenses associated with the following five ELC Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement categories:



Phone: (860) 509-7660 • Fax: (860) 509-7160
Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308, MS#13LOC
Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
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Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



- (1) Enhance Laboratory Detection, Surveillance (contact tracing), Response, Informatics and Other Workforce Capacity.
- (2) Strengthen Laboratory Testing Volume and Capacity.
- (3) Coordinate and Engage with Partners as needed to respond to and prevent COVID-19.
- (4) Prevent and Minimize Disease Transmission of COVID-19.
- (5) Conduct Health Promotion Activities associated with each category (1-4) above.

We ask that you complete the Work Plan Activity Form including your proposed activities and outputs/outcomes as well as a detailed budget and justification for each budget line item. The proposed budget must relate to the work plan activities that will be supported with ELC funds. Budget justifications must include a breakdown of costs as appropriate. The application checklist for required submittals is located on Page 10 of the application. Please complete the ELC Enhancing Detection funding application and return all required submittals by September 30, 2020 (earlier submittals welcome) electronically to: LHD-ELCinbox@ct.gov.

Applications must be reviewed and approved by DPH prior to payment being issued. When approved, the Year One Allocation will be paid in full by DPH. Any funds unexpended in Year One of the project period will be carried over to Year Two. Any funds unexpended in Year Two will be carried over to Year Three (six-month period). Any funds remaining unspent at the end of Year Three shall be returned to DPH by December 17, 2022.

If you have any questions about this funding application, please submit them to: LHD-ELCinbox@ct.gov.

Sincerely,



Ellen Blaschinski, RS, MBA
Public Health Branch Chief
Local Health/Preparedness/HIV/STD/TB/Viral Hepatitis Branch

CC: Lynne Vanderslice, First Selectman

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EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LABORATORY CAPACITY (ELC) ENHANCING DETECTION COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FUNDING APPLICATION FOR THE ENHANCED DETECTION, RESPONSE, SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION OF COVID-19

Barrington Bogle, Director of Health
Wilton Health Department
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

ELC Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement Project Period: May 19, 2020 through November 17, 2022

ELC Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement LHD Total Allocation (30 months): \$66,388

Year One, May 19, 2020 – May 17, 2021	Annual Allocation: <u>\$26,555</u>
Year Two, May 18, 2021 – May 17, 2022	Annual Allocation: <u>\$26,555</u>
Year Three (six months), May 18, 2022 – November 17, 2022	Annual Allocation: <u>\$13,278</u>

This application certifies that the LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT/DISTRICT is in compliance with the following conditions of receipt of ELC Enhancing Detection funding.

Resources provided via this mechanism should support necessary expenses to:

- (1) Enhance Laboratory Detection, Surveillance (contact tracing), Response, Informatics and Other Workforce Capacity.
- (2) Strengthen Laboratory Testing Volume and Capacity.
- (3) Coordinate and Engage with Partners as needed to respond to and prevent COVID-19.
- (4) Prevent and Minimize Transmission of COVID-19.
- (5) Conduct Health Promotion Activities associated with each category (1-4) as detailed below.

(1) Enhance Laboratory Detection, Surveillance (contact tracing), Response, Informatics and Other Workforce Capacity

- a. Build expertise for healthcare and community outbreak response within the local health department/health district (LHDs).
- b. Build infection prevention and control and healthcare outbreak response expertise in LHDs.
- c. Train and hire staff to improve the capacities of the epidemiology and informatics workforce.
- d. Conduct surveillance and response of COVID-19 (including contact tracing) and other conditions of public health significance; engage with community resources coordinators to support self-quarantine of impacted residents
 - i. Hire temporary contact tracing staff
 - ii. Hire local epidemiologist
 - iii. Hire public health nurse
 - iv. Hire infection prevention staff

- e. Build expertise to support management of the COVID-19 related activities within the jurisdiction and integrate into the broader portfolio of activities, (e.g., COVID program and project manager, budget staff).
 - i. Utilize existing PHEP-funded staff (public health preparedness coordinator) to support management of the COVID-19 related activities within the jurisdiction
 - ii. Hire temporary accounting/fiscal staff to manage funding sources and maintain fiscal and programmatic tracking records for reporting to DPH, including crisis response and FEMA reimbursements
- f. Build expertise and conduct mass vaccination campaign
 - i. Utilize epidemiologist or public health nurse hired under funding to plan for critical workforce and mass vaccination campaigns for influenza and COVID-19
 - ii. Update or refine infectious disease plans
- g. Increase capacity for timely data management, analysis, and reporting for COVID-19 and other conditions of public health significance.
 - i. Ensure epidemiologist, contact tracers, and staff utilize ContaCT system for contact tracing activities
 - ii. Train staff on CTEDSS, ContaCT and other new technology modules and data elements due to COVID-19

(2) Strengthen Laboratory Testing Volume and Capacity

- a. Support testing partners with local coordination for testing of COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2 including contacts of COVID-19 positive cases, within high-risk settings or in vulnerable populations that reside in their communities.
 - i. Work with community-based groups to coordinate and promote testing at non-traditional sites (e.g., retail sites, community centers, faith-based organizations)
 - ii. Support testing partners with information and coordination in the community to identify and test at-risk populations including contacts of COVID-19 positive cases, elderly, disabled, racial and ethnic minorities, and other groups at risk due to high frequency of occupational or non-occupational contacts
 - iii. Purchase supplies or engage in vendor contracts to enable testing of populations where needed

(3) Coordinate and Engage with Partners

- a. Build essential partnerships with federally qualified health centers, faith-based organizations, community-based partners, universities, and other congregate healthcare settings within the jurisdiction to ensure testing of community members and minimize the spread of COVID-19.
- b. In collaboration with state partners, coordinate and engage in agreements with academic, hospital, and private/commercial laboratories to successfully meet testing demands and minimize the spread of COVID-19.
- c. Participate in ESF8 regional meetings and share resources as needed within the region and statewide to support COVID-19 response efforts throughout Connecticut.
- d. Communicate and engage with regional community resource coordinators to support individual's with self-quarantine needs.

(4) Prevent and Minimize Transmission of COVID-19

- a. Provide guidance and training to industry.
- b. Provide input and guidance to schools and camps.
- c. Consult with businesses, schools and congregate housing on response to any increase in cases and efforts to mitigate transmission.
- d. Ensure adequate staffing and expertise to promote and enforce Reopen Connecticut Governor Orders, DPH Commissioner Orders, and other COVID-19 control and prevention measures as needed under local authority.

(5) Conduct Health Promotion Activities associated with (1) – (4) above

- a. Develop and implement a health promotion program to Enhance Laboratory Detection, Surveillance (contact tracing), Response, Informatics and other Workforce Capacity; Strengthen Laboratory Testing Volume and Capacity; Coordinate and Engage with Partners; and Prevent Disease Transmission through educating and enforcing Reopening Connecticut Efforts.

Allowable expenses:

- Hire local epidemiologist
- Hire temporary contact tracing staff
- Hire public health nurse
- Hire infection prevention staff
- Hire temporary accounting/fiscal staff
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for workers collecting samples (stockpiling not allowable),
- Testing campaign supplies
- Health promotion and Reopen Connecticut education
- Mass vaccination campaign supplies
- Costs associated with testing and monitoring isolated individuals to prevent spread of infection, including homeless, shelter operations, and essential municipal staff

Requirements as condition of funding:

1. Utilize funding to support COVID-19 response efforts and ELC enhancing detection activities outlined in 1-5 above and any additional guidance provided by CDC.
2. Must utilize the DPH ContaCT system and CTEDSS to identify and isolate new cases of COVID-19 among symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals.
3. Follow-up and report on new COVID-19 positive test results within 24 hours of receipt of confirmed case as long as data is available and received timely.
4. Use of the telephony system (or provide acceptable equivalent).
5. Identify a point of contact at the LHD for contact tracing.
6. Arrange for and promote COVID-19 testing in non-traditional sites for individuals, including vulnerable populations in accordance with CDC and DPH testing guidelines
7. Provide guidance and training to industry according to Reopen Connecticut sector guidelines, including but not limited to:
 - i. Restaurants/food service establishments
 - ii. Personal service establishments (nail salons, tattoo parlors)
 - iii. Hair salons and barbershops
 - iv. Sports and fitness facilities
 - v. Outdoor recreational activities and outdoor event venues
 - vi. Pools
 - vii. Hotels and lodging
 - viii. Private clubs
8. Provide input and guidance to schools and youth camps for their opening plans. Support schools, camps, childcare, assisted living centers, and colleges to respond to resurgence of cases/outbreaks.
9. Completion of a budget, budget justification, and work plan proposal utilizing the forms contained herein.
10. Submit quarterly financial, programmatic and metric reports as determined by the DPH that correspond with activities outlined in the DPH-approved work plan and budget. These reports shall be due to the DPH as follows:

Quarterly Report Period	Quarterly Programmatic and Fiscal Report Due Dates
Year One	
May 19, 2020 – August 17, 2020	September 17, 2020

August 18, 2020 – November 17, 2020	December 17, 2020
November 18, 2020 – February 17, 2021	March 17, 2021
February 18, 2021 – May 17, 2021	June 17, 2021
Year Two	
May 18, 2021 – August 17, 2021	September 17, 2021
August 18, 2021 – November 17, 2021	December 17, 2021
November 18, 2021 – February 17, 2022	March 17, 2022
February 18, 2022 – May 17, 2022	June 17, 2022
Year Three (6 months)	
May 18, 2022 – August 17, 2022	September 17, 2022
August 18, 2022 – November 17, 2022	December 17, 2022

11. Submit an annual ELC Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement Funding Application for review and approval by the DPH. The annual funding application shall include a budget, budget justification and work plan proposal utilizing the forms provided by the DPH. Each annual allocation will be paid in full by the DPH at the beginning of its respective funding period based upon receipt and approval of the annual funding application. Any funds unexpended in Year One of the project period will be carried over to Year Two. Any funds unexpended in Year Two will be carried over to Year Three (six-month period). Any funds remaining unspent at the end of Year Three shall be returned to the Department of Public Health by December 17, 2022.

If this application is approved, monies granted will not be used to substitute for funds budgeted for the Local Health Department/District under the normal budgetary process.

The information provided on behalf of the Local Health Department/District in this application and attachments is true and correct.

**Name of Individual
Submitting Application:**

(Please print or type)

Signature: _____

Director of Health:

(Please print or type)

Signature: _____

**Board Chair or
Chief Elected Official:**

(Please print or type)

Signature: _____