



CDC-RFA-OE20 -2001: Enhancing Public Health Laboratory Capabilities and Increasing Capacity
New Focus Area Project Plan Template

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1.	Name of Applicant: Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)	2.	Focus Area: Choose an item.
3.	Funding Amount: <i>(Whole Numbers Only)</i> \$1,500,000	4.	Funding Source (e.g., BA, COVID, PPHF, OPIOID): COVID
5.	Name of Project: eCR Now: Accelerating eCR Implementation for COVID-19		
6.	Name of Technical Monitor(s): Laura Conn, Grace Mandel	7.	Technical Monitor(s) Email Address: Lbk1@cdc.gov
		8.	Technical Monitor(s) Phone Number: 404-498-0971
9.	Name of Focus Area Coordinator (FAC): Jasmine Chaitram	10.	Email Address of FAC: Zoa6@cdc.gov
		11.	Phone Number of FAC: 404-498-1635

SECTION 2: PROJECT SUMMARY

2.1 – Project Description

Project Status: *Select whether your project/activity is an entirely new project or an extension of an existing project:*

- ☒ New CIO Project/Activity
☐ CIO Existing Project/Activity (Expansion/Change of Scope)

Project Description: *Provide a description of the project including a justification for the project's bona fide need in the space below:*

eCR Now is a strategic initiative that allows for rapid adoption and implementation of electronic case reports for COVID-19. The result is that it improves COVID-19 reporting immediately. This project supports the development, maintenance, updates and implementation an eCR FHIR app that enables EHR vendors to support their clients (healthcare organizations) in implementing electronic case reporting quickly for COVID-1. The project will also support increased coordination for new EHR implementations with their clients and ongoing support for trouble-shooting operations; integration resources for provider and state eCR partners; and AIMS eCR operational support to healthcare implementers and states.

Activities: *Describe activities to be carried out in this project as well as their associated deliverables:*

Acceleration of eCR implementation for COVID-19 at healthcare organizations in partnership with state/local public health agencies by focusing on the following activities:

- Developing, updating, maintaining and deploying a FHIR application that will allow for the triggering of an electronic initial case report for potential COVID-19 cases based code types in the eRSD and receive the Reportability response.
- As appropriate, test next version releases of the eCR FHIR application at HL7 Connectathons to collaborate with other partners in showing an end to end EHR to disease surveillance system workflow using the eCR Now FHIR application.
- Providing the necessary onboarding tools and technical support to allow EHR vendors and healthcare organizations to rapidly test and implement the eCR COVID-19 FHIR application.

2.2 – Project Strategy and Outcomes

Project Strategies: *Select one or more strategies that the project will contribute towards:*

- ☐ S1. Science, Management and Operations
☒ S2. Policy, Partnership and Communication
☐ S3. Training and Capacity Building
☒ S4. Laboratory Quality, Safety and Informatics for Public Health Testing Services, Surveillance and Response

For this Project: Select the outcomes that the project will contribute towards

Please check and select responses for all applicable boxes below.

POs and IOs Proposed for this Project

PO-1. Improved collaboration and communication across public health laboratories and other stakeholders.	☐
PO-2. Improved awareness and understanding of public health laboratory capabilities and needs among public health laboratories and other stakeholders.	☐
PO-4. Improved awareness of new tools and resources for public health laboratories and other stakeholders.	☐
PO-5. Increase in needs met due to improved awareness and understanding of public health laboratory training and professional development needs and opportunities among training and workforce development stakeholders.	☐
PO-6. Improved access to and participation in training and workforce development resources and opportunities among current and potential laboratory professionals.	☐
PO-7. Enhanced knowledge, skills, and abilities among current and potential public health laboratory professionals in diverse settings.	☐
PO-8. Improved awareness of public health laboratory informatics capabilities.	☐
PO-9. Improved implementation of quality and safety systems and model practices in public health laboratories.	☐
PO-10. Improved knowledge of technical assistance needs and priorities in state and local public health laboratories.	☐
PO-11. Improved and ongoing awareness and understanding among stakeholders of emerging methods and processes in public health laboratories.	☐
PO-12. Improved dissemination of evidence-based practices to public health laboratories and other stakeholders.	☐
PO-13. Improved laboratory testing capability and surge capacity for emergency response through equipment procurement, competent staff and partnerships.	☐
NEW S1.PO-14 Implement approaches to ensure efficiency for committee/subcommittee functions	☐
NEW S1.PO-15 Maintain monitoring and evaluation processes across all focus areas	☐
NEW S1.PO-16 Maintain and ensure process and system of effective knowledge management and commitment to rigorous scientific integrity, quality, and professional standards of practice in development of APHL products	☐
NEW S4.PO-1 Better informatics solutions available for public health laboratory system-wide adoption	☒

NEW S4.PO-2 Improved, timely public health laboratory access to and awareness of needed resources	☐
NEW FLS.C.PO-1 Improved dissemination of clear, compelling, targeted, and timely messages using appropriate communication channels for relevant audiences	☐
NEW FLS.C.PO-2 Increased production of communications materials, websites or other digital platforms, or any other resources with APHL-CDC logo use (i.e., co-branding and logo licensing)	☐
NEW FLS.C.PO-3 Improved dissemination of APHL-CDC co-branded materials or resources for public health laboratories and other stakeholders	☐
NEW Ph2.ID.PO-1 Improve testing capability/capacity to conduct and report low-volume or highly-specialized testing efficiently.	☐
NEW Ph2.PHPR.PO-1 Ensure compliance and access to essential, centralized resources for laboratory testing capability and surge capacity for coordinated emergency response.	☐
NEW QSS-S4.2-PO1. Increased public health laboratory and system partner participation/commitment to L-SIP assessment/reassessment process.	☐
NEW QSS-S4.2-PO3. Improved implementation of quality and safety system model practices across participating public health laboratory system (state/local level).	☐
NEW QSS-S4.2-PO2. Increased participating public health laboratory, system partner knowledge of quality needs and model practices.	☐
IO-1. Expanded Communities of Practice and other collaborative relationships among public health laboratories and other stakeholders.	☐
IO-2. Strengthened information sharing across public health laboratory networks and other stakeholders.	☒
IO-3. Improved engagement and participation of current and potential public health laboratory workforce through application of best practices.	☐
IO-4. Enhanced practices, methods, and infrastructure within the public health laboratory system.	☐
IO-5. Improved data exchange and interoperability among public health laboratories and their partners.	☒
IO-6. Improved public health laboratory detection, surveillance, and response.	☐
IO-7. Improved quality and safety in public health laboratories.	☐
NEW S1.IO-8 Ensured effective leadership and management system for committees/subcommittees	☐
NEW S1.IO-9 An effective monitoring and evaluation system across the organization	☐
NEW S2.IO-3 (Old PO-3) Improved support for public health laboratories among policy makers	☐
NEW S3.IO-1 Leadership development participants granted increased leadership roles and/or responsibilities	☐
NEW S4.IO-1 System-wide adoption of informatics and data management solutions among public health laboratories and their partners	☒
NEW S4.IO-2 Increased use of resources/outputs created and shared via technical assistance responses	☐
NEW S4.IO-3 Improved technical capability among recipients as a result of fulfilled requests	☐
NEW FLS.C.IO-1 Improved reach of clear, compelling, targeted, and timely messages among relevant audiences	☐
NEW FLS.C.IO-2 Enhanced adoption or use of APHL-CDC co-branded materials or resources among public health laboratories and other stakeholders	☐

SECTION 3: PROPOSED BUDGET

Instructions for Use of funds: *Provide any restrictions or instructions for applicant use of funds, as applicable:*

SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Reviewers’ feedback on additional considerations (if any):

Click or tap here to enter text.

3/1/2021

X Laura Conn

Technical Monitor/Submitter
Signed by: PIV