



PPE Relief

Frequently Asked Questions

The State of California is making millions of pieces of medical-grade PPE – including N95 masks, surgical masks, shields, gowns, and gloves – available FREE to physician practices. The California Office of Emergency Services is partnering with the California Medical Association (CMA) to distribute this equipment to qualifying small and medium sized medical practices. PPE Relief kits include up to a two-month supply (exact amount may vary by practice size, specialty and location). Below are frequently asked questions about this project.

1. Who qualifies for this PPE?

CMA is distributing a two-month supply of PPE free of charge for all qualified medium, and small sized practices, while supplies last. All practices with 50 or fewer medical providers will be eligible on a first-come, first-served basis. (Two-month supply is an approximate amount based on average use. How long the PPE lasts will vary based on individual practice use.)

2. What do I have to do to get my PPE?

To determine eligibility and sign up to get your free, medical-grade PPE, go to cmadocs.org/PPE.

3. Do I have to be a CMA member?

No, PPE is available to all small and medium sized medical practices. Physicians do not have to be CMA members to qualify.

4. What if I can't find my name on the PPE registration form?

If you are unable to find your practice in the list of prequalified practices, please click on the “practice not listed” button and provide the information requested. CMA staff will verify your information and follow up with you regarding your eligibility for the PPE relief.

5. What if the addresses listed on the PPE Reservation page is old or incorrect?

Complete the form with the information we have on file, please contact the CMA Member Service Center at (800) 786-4262 or memberservice@cmadocs.org to notify us of the correct address. We will update it and send you a confirmation with pick-up or delivery information.

6. Where is the PPE coming from?

The PPE is being provided by the State of California. The California Office of Emergency Services is partnering with CMA and its component medical societies to distribute this equipment to qualified physician practices.

7. How much will it cost?

The equipment is being provided free of charge by the State of California. Financial support for distribution of the PPE is being provided by Altas, a new health care services company that helps physicians maximize the health and well-being of their patients in a way that is sustainably affordable and maintains professional satisfaction.

8. Why are CMA and the component medical societies involved?

The California Office of Emergency Services is relying on CMA and the component medical societies' deep connections with the physician community to distribute this essential protective equipment. As the state continues to work to fix the broken PPE supply chain, it is partnering with CMA and local medical societies who will organize and oversee the distribution of millions of masks, shields, gowns and gloves.

9. What is the role of the component medical societies in this effort?

Local medical societies will organize the local distribution events in their communities. They will play a pivotal role in publicizing these events to let local physicians know the PPE is available, and work with CMA and the California Office of Emergency Services to ensure the equipment gets into the hands of the physicians who need it. As of now, there are more than 30 distribution events scheduled across the state. For a full list, go to cmadocs.org/PPE.

10. What will physicians get?

For an average small practice, we expect it to amount to a two-month supply of PPE. Specifically, it will include: (320) N95 respirators, (1,000) 3-ply surgical masks, (1,000) disposable gloves, (50) face shields and (60) isolation gowns.

- Practices with 1-5 providers will receive 1 box
- Practices with 6-10 providers will receive 2 boxes
- Practices with 11-50 providers will receive 3 boxes
- Each box measures 24" x 20" x 20" and weighs 43 pounds.

11. When will the PPE be handed out?

PPE will be distributed through locally scheduled “drive-through” events between July 27 and August 12. More details will be forthcoming following confirmation of your reservation, which you can make online at cmadocs.org/ppe.

12. Can I request more PPE? What if I only need masks, for example, and not gloves or shields?

PPE will be distributed in preassembled kits that cannot be customized. As of now, one shipment of PPE will be available per practice during the drive through events.

We anticipate that we will have an abundance of 3-ply surgical masks, face shields, isolation gowns and possibly nitrile gloves following the drive through events and expect to introduce an online ordering process for practices to request additional supplies in late August.

13. Can we request specific sizes?

A mix of sizes will be provided in each box. PPE will be distributed in preassembled kits that cannot be customized.

14. How can I find out more?

For more information, go to cmadocs.org/ppe.