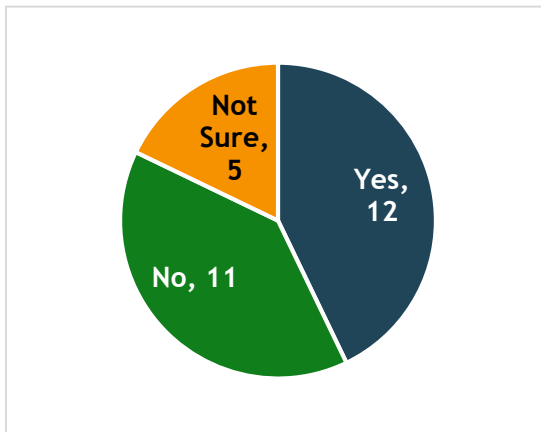


NASCSP Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Weatherization Survey

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, a peer-to-peer survey was conducted in June 2020 regarding the availability of personal protective equipment and policy modifications Grantees made in response to COVID-19. Twenty-eight grantees responded to the survey in June and a summary of responses is included on pages 1-2 below. Pages 3-4 includes information on estimated PPE costs obtained in a follow-up survey conducted during July 2020.

Are you experiencing shortages of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in your state/territory?



Shortages – Types of PPE

- ▶ N95 masks (9)
- ▶ Tyvek suits (4)
- ▶ Nitrile gloves (3)
- ▶ Disinfecting wipes (3)
- ▶ KN95 masks
- ▶ P100 filters

“It goes back and forth as to what is available currently”

“We experienced shortages back in May...we now have enough PPE...to meet our anticipated needs...”

	<i>Are you experiencing increased PPE costs?</i>	<i>Have you or your subgrantees adopted policies to extend the useful life of N95 respirators or use other face coverings?</i>
YES	13	12
NO	4	11
NOT SURE	11	5

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Has your state/territory modified your invoicing and/or allowable H&S cost policies in response to COVID-19? If yes please briefly describe.

- Allowing H&S purchases for LIHEAP CARES Crisis work to cover the extra PPE needed for those jobs (2 states)
- State Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response H&S category will allow funding for additional costs such as PPE, cleaners, safety materials like plastic sheeting, etc. The allowable cost is similar in scope to lead safe weatherization.
- We conducted a survey among all of the subcontractors and asked what PPE was used for each job. We averaged the costs out to be a reasonable compensation for each job, placed a line on the state Price List, and allowed a flat fee to be charged per job.
- We allowed contractors to bill for additional quantities of PPE. Normally those costs are built into a task.
- We increased the allowable grant percentage for H&S costs.
- We have not yet updated our H&S plan to allow for additional PPE expenses, but we intend to do so (2 states)

Please provide any additional comments.

- We have encouraged our subgrantees to work with each other to share information on PPE availability and procurement as well as go in together on large PPE purchases (2 states)
- Prior to the WAP operations resuming in Delaware, we (the Grantee) purchased latex gloves, KN-95 masks, sanitizing wipes, and hand sanitizer. These PPE supplies were provided to each installing crew and auditors to ensure that they were properly stocked. After this first purchase, the Subgrantee was informed that they need to pursue the purchasing of the PPE going forward. If they have difficulty finding PPE they are to reach out to us for assistance.
- We have had T&TA calls that have included open discussion where agencies have shared vendor resources.
- The great increase in the amount of PPE required, plus the increased costs, are a good reason for DOE to increase the health and safety allowable percentage.
- Oklahoma Department of Commerce has a PPE Source Directory on the website. That has helped immensely. We also have several local suppliers that have worked with our network previously and are doing all they can to help subgrantees. We have not currently made any modifications to the purchasing process.
- We have added links to our PA DCED website for additional PPE availability websites and companies. Fortunately, since we have a separate H and S budget category, most of the increased costs will not affect our ACPU.
- Allowed greater flexibility to purchase PPE where they can get it due to vendors not honoring contract prices. Some vendors can't get product on a timely basis. Allowing them to use multiple vendors to obtain what they need.

NASCSP Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Weatherization Survey

	JUNE SURVEY		JULY FOLLOW-UP		
State	Are you experiencing PPE shortages?	Are you experiencing increased PPE costs?	How do you reimburse contractors for PPE?	What do you feel is a reasonable amount to charge to each WAP job to cover the cost of the additional Health and Safety labor, materials and PPE required to comply with new COVID-19 H&S protocols?	What vendors are your Subgrantees purchasing PPE from?
Washington DC	No	Yes	We had contractors reach out to HHS to obtain PPE at no cost. One of our Subgrantees ordered a bulk amount of PPE at a cheaper costs and all subcontractors that continued to work on the program were given the PPE.	Between \$300 - \$500 per job based on how many subcontractors are working on the project	I will have to look this information up I don't recall. Our agency has been ordering PPE for our staff through AI's Office Products.
Delaware	No	No	We reimburse our contractors a set amount on each job and we placed that amount for PPE on our Delaware Price List. We polled our contractors to see how much PPE they were burning through per job (N95 masks, surgical masks, Tyvek suits/booties, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, Lysol spray, gloves and labor hours to disinfect.)	The labor hours to disinfect and to prep work areas varied the most with the 3 contractors polled. We concluded that \$200.00 per job was reasonable to cover the cost of PPE and the labor hours to disinfect.	We use a local janitorial company which are on our State contract (State Janitorial) for most of our PPE, the Tyvek suits/booties we order from Northern Safety Company
Missouri	Yes (N95 masks, Tyvek suits)	Not Sure	The contractor can recoup their cost in one of two ways. If you have a contract with a contractor and the contractor is wanting to charge additional for installing a measure due to needing to wear PPE, then the agency needs to have an amendment to the contract agreement for the amount he will charge, per worker/per house/per day. For example, if a weatherization contractor takes two days, two men, to install interior measures inside the home, that is four man days. If his price is \$9.00 for PPE per man day (Tyvek suit, gloves, mask, etc.), then he could charge an additional \$36 (4 man days X \$9.00) for PPE for this job. This additional \$36 will be charged as Health and safety. If you bid jobs by house, such as an HVAC contractor, you will have the contractor include the cost of the PPE into his	It really depends on what additional safety measures the subgrantee is requiring the contractor to perform. (For example, building plastic-sheeting barriers will require more labor and material than asking the client to stay in another part of the home while they work.) Our office required each subgrantee to submit a post-COVID safety plan before they re-entered client homes. The extensiveness of the measures varied substantially from one subgrantee to another.	Right now they're buying it wherever it's available. The company they ordered from a week ago may not have any stock left today.

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			initial bid to install the measure. In this case, there would not be a separate charge for health and safety.		
Mississippi	Yes (N95 Masks, Disinfection Wipes, and gloves)	Yes	Subgrantees will reimbursement based on actual costs per job as part of the budgeted amounts labor and materials.	\$200	Lowes , J & R Product, Vowels Marketplace, online thru Amazon, Big State Supply, HD Solutions,Elkins Wholesale, and Blevins Inc.
New York	Yes (N95 masks)	Yes	We’ve given subgrantees the go ahead to include PPE in their budgets. So we’re relying on them to do their own purchasing and reimbursing them at actual costs. They can also include PPE as a H&S expense for the individual weatherization work in the unit.	We’ll have to see if H&S limits will be reached with the added costs of PPE added to the already ballooning costs for ventilation work, etc. As far as the added costs to our agencies, I think DOE could allow every subrecipient an additional 3% for covid-related costs, at least, over and above admin.	I don’t know enough detail to be able to identify where our subgrantees are purchasing PPE. Presumably they’re small purchase procurements from online dealers in most cases.
Tennessee	Not sure	Not sure	Tennessee WAP has not been invoiced for any COVID specific PPE expenses, at this time. Tennessee is near 100% contractor based. Tennessee’s “Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response” H&S category allows additional expenses for COVID related PPE, supplies, and associated labor. It is based in the same approach as Lead Safe Weatherization. We do not have a cost cap on this new measure. Lead Safe Weatherization averages just over \$300/unit across the state.	I anticipate anywhere between \$200 - \$350 based on our LSW average. Difficult to tell at this point.	Subgrantees and contractors are purchasing their own PPE. We are not aware of any specific vendors. We have not heard of any procurement issues regarding PPE or supplies. We have advertised to the subgrantees that their concerns be communicated to the state office. Very little response has come in our direction. We sure get a lot of emails from PPE supplier EFI.
West Virginia	No	No	Most of our subs only contract out HVAC work. To date, WV Wx agencies haven’t had to deal with this issue.	On our monthly call yesterday the Wx coordinators expressed serious concern over the rising costs of PPE, sanitation supplies, etc. One coordinator mentioned he was looking at an additional \$1,000 a month due to price increases. Most of the larger subs agreed. They expressed concern that these additional costs were being added to the job costs and asked if there was any way to reclassify for monthly reimbursements.	The WV subs are using local vendors when possible. A couple mentioned they are using the same vendor, but I didn’t write down the name.