



Updated March 22, 2020

## Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) Guidelines for Prioritization of Allocation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

### Purpose:

The process is intended to guide the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) on how to prioritize the fulfillment of resource requests for PPE across the state to meet the needs of the response to COVID-19. PPE is a scarce resource and difficult to procure across the state, nationally, and internationally. The prioritization document does not guarantee fulfillment of every order that meets the priority criteria, nor does it ensure fulfillment of complete orders. Orders may be partially filled due to limited stock. The Secretary of Health, State Health Officer or Unified Command have the ability to modify these criteria based on emerging response needs.

### Prioritization for PPE

#### TIER #1

1. Hospitals with the greatest number of **confirmed cases/most number of confirmed cases**
2. Long Term Care Facilities with **confirmed cases/most number of confirmed cases**
3. EMS and first responders – who are being asked to transport **confirmed cases**

#### TIER #2

4. Any healthcare facilities with a **confirmed case**
5. Congregate settings with **confirmed cases**<sup>1</sup>
6. Other EMS
7. Quarantine / Isolation Facilities run by state

#### TIER #3

8. Quarantine / Isolation Facilities run by other jurisdiction
9. Skilled Nursing Facilities/Long term care facilities
10. Other healthcare facilities<sup>2</sup>

#### TIER #4

11. Families of **confirmed cases** who are at home
12. Other first responders

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<sup>1</sup> Congregate settings (e.g., jails, prisons, homeless shelters, inpatient substance use disorder facilities, dormitories, etc.)

<sup>2</sup> Other healthcare facilities" (e.g., hospitals that do not yet have confirmed cases, behavioral health facilities, outpatient clinics and services , outpatient dialysis centers, urgent care clinics, ambulatory surgical centers, etc.)



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## Other Considerations

- Recommend fill orders for up to 7 days (with assurance no gap between current order and new order)
- Amount - Methodology for quantities of PPE allocate (Recommendation based on facility size, number of HC workers, number of confirmed or suspected cases – or # patients needing to be assessed X # PPE change changes necessary X number of days being fulfilled for)
- Differentiation of prioritization for N95 masks—Recommend the locations that perform aerosol generating procedures have highest
- Recipients are expected to be familiar with protocols for safely using PPE and with current ADH guidelines for conserving PPE and are expected to implement those guidelines whenever possible
- Recipients will need to arrange access to medical waste removal services or have an acceptable alternative approved by the ADH
- Consideration may be given to other groups<sup>3</sup> as needed

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<sup>3</sup> Other groups may include home health workers, public health investigators, funeral homes with deceased COVID-19 patients, etc.