

BC's Emergency Health Provider Registry
Frequently Asked Questions
UPDATED: August 2021

1. What is BC's Emergency Health Provider Registry (EHPR)?

The EHPR is an online registry which was first developed to support deployment of health authority employed health care providers during the 2017-2018 wildfire season and was later updated for use during the COVID-19 pandemic. Activation of the EHPR is a proactive step to ensure BC's health care system is best prepared to respond to emergencies of a varied nature, including COVID-19, wildfires and floods. It is an online registry of health care professionals or health authority staff who are able and willing to be deployed or hired to support B.C.'s health system response.

2. Who should register with the EHPR?

All eligible health care providers or health care staff are invited to register. This includes:

- Health authority employees;
- Health care providers in good standing (meet fitness to practice requirements) with their health profession regulatory college or credentialing body, who usually work in private practice and would like to be deployed to work in a health authority setting;
- Students, including medical residents and employed student nurses; and,
- Retired health care providers who are:
 - registered on a temporary emergency basis with their health profession regulatory college or credentialing body and are willing to work in a health authority; or,
 - unregistered but are able to support an emergency response by providing non-clinical care; or,
 - unregistered but who meet the requirements outlined in the Provincial Health Officer Order to provide or support COVID-19 immunization services – provided the declared public health emergency is in effect.

3. How do I register?

Eligible individuals should fill out the online registration form. Health care providers are asked in the form to give consent for their personal information to be shared with health authorities, the Ministry of Health and Health Match BC.

The online form is found [here](https://forms.hlth.gov.bc.ca/emergency-health-provider-registry) (<https://forms.hlth.gov.bc.ca/emergency-health-provider-registry>). You will be asked to confirm in the online form that you are a registrant in good standing or have been given temporary emergency registration by your respective regulatory or credentialing body, if appropriate.

Please provide as much specific information as possible. This will allow health authorities to effectively and efficiently contact individuals. Please pay particular attention to indicating what specific credentials and/or training you have received.

4. How is the EHPR be used?

The EHPR will be used if/when health authorities require additional health care providers in response to the health emergency at hand (i.e., wildfire, COVID-19). Health authorities will be able to access and use the EHPR to initiate contact with a broad range of health care providers, if/when

additional assistance is required.

5. If I join the EHPR, when will I be called?

Ensuring a highly trained group of health care providers are ready to provide care is critical to planning for a quickly evolving emergency.

It is possible you may be contacted shortly after completing your registration. Health authority needs will vary and reach out will occur as and when needed.

Following registration, you may also receive infrequent emails asking you to confirm that you are still interested in remaining on the EHPR, or if your information has changed. This helps to ensure that the registry remains useful and does not include stale information.

6. I am a health authority employee; do I need to get my supervisor's permission prior to registering on

We recommend that you inform your supervisor prior to registering, to ensure they are supportive of potential deployment. You will be required to obtain your supervisor's approval prior to being deployed to another health authority.

7. Do I need to be immunized against COVID-19 to register or be deployed?

It is strongly recommended that all employees registering on the EHPR be fully immunized against COVID-19. Upon deployment, all prevailing infection prevention and control policies must be followed by deployed staff, including mandatory immunization in some circumstances. The receiving HA reserves the right to require immunization prior to deployment, in accordance with the current COVID-19 conditions in their region.

8. Who can health care providers contact for help in filling out the COVID-19 Provider Registry online registration form?

Health care providers are asked to first attempt to complete the online form on their own. If problems arise, please email EHPRquestions@gov.bc.ca for assistance filling out the form.

Questions about the nature of the work required or terms of employment are best answered by a health authority representative once an offer of employment/request for deployment has been extended, not at the time of completing the online registration form. Signing on to the EHPR does not mean that a health care provider is required to accept an offer of employment from a health authority.

9. As a health care provider, will I get a choice of where I will work and how I will be deployed? What protective precautions will be in place?

Health care providers are asked to state their preferred deployment location(s) when completing the online registration form along with a question about preferred placement options for deployment.

Questions related to your preferred work settings, locations, and protective precautions will be most accurately answered if/when a health authority contacts you.

Signing on to the EHPR does not mean that you are required to accept an offer of employment or re-deployment from a health authority, nor does it mean that a health care provider will receive an offer. Before a position is offered, a health authority representative will contact a health care

provider to better understand individual competencies and practice experience.

10. I have been out of practice for some time, or I am concerned that I may be unfamiliar with the care setting.

Before a position is offered, a health authority representative will contact you to better understand your individual competencies and practice experience. It is important to share any concerns you might have with the health authority. The health authority will be able to share information on what orientation and onboarding supports may be available, and what ongoing supports might be available.

11. What role do health authorities have in relation to the EHPR and who will have access to my personal information?

Health authorities will be able to access the EHPR and review the list of active health care providers to find those who have the skills required to respond to the emergency at hand. Health authority representatives will contact health care providers directly to discuss employment opportunities and extend offers of employment.

Your private information is securely encrypted and will not be shared outside of health authorities without your consent. Your personal information is collected in compliance with BC privacy legislation under section 26(c) and (e) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Your information will be retained for five years and may be shared with the Ministry of Health, Health Match BC and health authorities, to support B.C.'s health emergency response.

*** Thank you for your efforts to support the BC's health emergency response ***