



# WTP Coronavirus Activities: U45 2021 Program Year Funding

---

## National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Training Program (WTP)

### Activities funded by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020

Summary of COVID-19 activities funded under the 2021 program year awards, through NIH RFA-ES-19-003 Hazardous Materials Worker Health and Safety Training (U45 Clinical Trials Not Allowed) (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-ES-19-003.html>)

August 24, 2020

### Summary

NIEHS WTP awarded a total of \$3.7 million in Coronavirus funds across the 17 awardees under the Hazardous Materials Worker Health and Safety Training program ([https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training\\_program\\_areas/hwwt/index.cfm](https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training_program_areas/hwwt/index.cfm)). The Coronavirus funds were part of the 2021 program year awards (August 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021).

The funding will support activities such as:

- Extensive training to diverse essential and returning worker populations across the U.S. states and territories on COVID-19 health and safety, personal protective equipment, resiliency/mental health, and trainer development
- Development of curricula tailored to their worker population, some adapting NIEHS training tools
- Beginning or increasing their organizational capacity to deliver on-line/blended/technology-enhanced training for COVID-19 and their ongoing hazardous materials training
- Creating procedures for safe in-person training using physical distancing and infection control as people return to work

**NIEHS WTP Homepage** ([www.niehs.nih.gov/wtp](http://www.niehs.nih.gov/wtp))

**NIEHS WTP Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resource Page** (<https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/covid19worker/>)

Grant Number	PI Name(s)	Institution	Summary
ES014084-16S1	Byrd, Lamont	<b>International Brotherhood of Teamsters</b>	The International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) Consortium developed a Biosafety Preparedness training program in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and will deliver a 1-hr COVID-19 Awareness Course for frontline workers. The target populations for IBT's COVID-19 Program are the IBT Food Processing Division, representing workers in the meat packing, cannery, and other sectors of the food processing industry; and the IBT Public Service Division, representing workers employed by local governments (including school districts), such as bus drivers, maintenance staff, custodians, cafeteria workers, and office workers. Lastly, the Consortium will conduct a train-the-trainer course for business agents, shop stewards, and other union officials who represent frontline workers at high risk of exposure COVID-19.
3U45 ES006185-30S1	Cain, Christina Trahan	<b>CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training</b>	CPWR delivers training to workers in the U.S. construction industry to ensure construction workers are safe from the coronavirus or other health and safety issues resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. CPWR will provide training both directly using their trainers and through their training consortium of affiliates under the North America's Building Trades Unions. CPWR's coursework will include: COVID-19 and the Construction Industry Awareness; Infection Control Risk Assessment/COVID-19 Awareness, Basic Respiratory Protection, and Respiratory Protection Train-the-Trainer. Funds will also be used to develop a sustainable distance learning platform and to support virtual training infrastructure.
ES007850-26S1	Cali, Salvatore	<b>OAI, Inc.</b>	OAI, Inc., a Chicago community-based workforce agency, will train front-line and underserved target populations that handle hazardous substances and have potential exposure to COVID-19. These workers include first responders and workers performing other essential services, such as facilities cleaning (environmental) operations, construction and renovation, materials handling, and transport. Courses will include COVID-19 Train-the-Trainer, COVID-19 Awareness, Infectious Disease Response Awareness and Operations, Respiratory Protection, and Hazard Analysis for Businesses.
3U45 ES006162-29S1	Cyphers, Frank	<b>International Chemical Workers Union Council</b>	International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC) proposes a COVID-19 web-based training plan that would be implemented immediately to meet the national need to protect their diverse population from SARS-CoV-2 exposure, many of whom are essential workers at significant risk. ICWUC will deliver a variety of on-line COVID programs including general awareness, COVID Personal Protective Equipment, cleaning agents, and safe return to the workplace. ICWUC will also continue to develop trainers for their ability to deliver training on-line and will develop COVID-19 programs in Spanish and Vietnamese. Some of these efforts will expand their minority outreach through key partner organizations.
5U45ES006167-29S1	Del Re, Elizabeth	<b>International Association of Fire Fighters</b>	International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) instructors will conduct a series of Coronavirus Infectious Disease Response training classes during the year to foster awareness of changes in the use of personal protective equipment for fire fighters, EMTs, and paramedics. Additionally, IAFF will conduct a Coronavirus and Infectious Disease Response Training Train-the-Trainer class. Funds will also be used to support program development and infrastructure for the virtual training environment.

Grant Number	PI Name(s)	Institution	Summary
3 U45 ES006175-31S1	Fitch, Ashlee	Steelworker Charitable and Educational Organization	The United Steelworkers Tony Mazzocchi Center (TMC), and its training partners, will develop a program designed to provide information on disease transmission and controls necessary to reduce its impact. The program will include course delivery such as operational level COVID-19 course for health care providers, COVID-19 and infectious disease awareness for non-health care settings, infectious disease awareness for underserved communities, and train-the-trainer. Additionally, the program will a mentorship and trainer enhancement component to build skills and knowledge of the coronavirus training cadre.
3 U45 ES019350-11S1	Grant, Stephen	Nova Southeastern University	Nova Southeastern University's Project SEAMIST will provide training in awareness and safe working habits in response to the current COVID-19 outbreak. Project SEAMIST's primary responsibility is for the training of workers in the maritime industries and community for hazardous chemical safety and response. They will deliver COVID-19 training that is adapted for their maritime clientele, including Resolve Maritime Academy, ship and port workers, and warehouse employees and freight forwarders. Project SEAMIST will collaborate with Emory University on delivery of their infectious disease programs.
3U45 ES019337-11S1	Mellecker, Margaret	National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education	The National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (NPETE)/ Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST) will deliver courses through sub-awards to partners reaching specific audiences: Guam Community College will offer Disaster Preparedness courses with emphasis on COVID-19 at the college for military and civilian responders from Guam, Micronesia, American Samoa and the Marianas. PathStone Corporation, Puerto Rico will train community members to respond to disasters in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean with emphasis on COVID-19. Baptist Relief Mission serving disaster response/clean-up with a COVID-19 protocol program in Colorado and surrounding states, will support three one-week CCCHST instructor internships. Additionally, NPETE will offer an annual set of Disaster Preparedness courses with emphasis on COVID-19 at Tribal College's for civilian responders and Tribal College instructors from North Central Tribal Nations.
3U45ES006155-30S1	Oldfield, Kenneth	Alabama Fire College	Alabama Fire College (AFC) will deliver training courses for first responders and public safety personnel in the southeast and Native Americans across the country. Courses such as Incident Command System (ICS) classes and the 8-hour Responder Safety Awareness will be adapted and enhanced to include lessons learned from the current COVID-19 pandemic. AFC will also deliver Core Disaster Life Support and the Basic Disaster Life Support courses to complement AFC's Mass Casualty Incident Triage course, providing an all-hazards approach to mass casualty and community disaster case management. AFC will continue its partnership with the Deep South Biosafety Worker Training Program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) to deliver awareness and operations level infectious disease courses, training simulations, and e-training modules to health care provider, first responder, and Native American populations. Lastly, AFC will develop instructors capable of offering Disaster Worker Resiliency Training as a resource for responders and Native American communities struggling with the social, economic, and mental health impact of the long-term pandemic response.

Grant Number	PI Name(s)	Institution	Summary
ES032171-01S1	Pree Hepburn, Krystal and Fanara, Tracy	Sustainable Workplace Alliance, Inc.	Sustainable Workplace Alliance, Inc. (SWA) will target at-risk populations in the U.S. Territory of Puerto Rico, specifically the rural communities of Canovanas, Loiza, Rio Grande, and San Lorenzo. SWA will provide remote training (and where appropriate and safe, live face-to-face training) to faith-based and community-based organizations to better equip them with the knowledge, tools and equipment they need to serve their communities. Special emphasis will be given to older adults (65+ years), people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions (e.g. chronic lung disease, immunocompromising conditions, diabetes) and vulnerable populations (e.g. work camps, multi-generational living space, nursing homes, prisoners).
ES006184-29S1	Raynor, Peter	University of Minnesota	The Midwest Consortium out of University of Minnesota will train a variety of workers at risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2, such as emergency response team members; manufacturing assembly, childcare, food donation, and healthcare workers; and community members. Training courses will include COVID-19 Awareness for Communities for workers and residents of vulnerable communities, COVID-19 Training for Environmental Services Workers, COVID-19 Awareness + Drill for emergency response team members in manufacturing plants, and Industry-specific COVID-19 Training. Funds will also be used to develop a sustainable distance learning platform for consortium members.
ES006173-29S1	Riley, Kevin	University of California Los Angeles	The Western Region Universities Consortium (WRUC) out of University of California Los Angeles will train various worker and community audiences disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Occupational sectors trained will include healthcare workers; small business owners; tribal groups; high school students working in the service sector; job training program participants in Los Angeles, Portland, and Alaska; home care/nursing home workers; and low-wage Spanish-speaking workers in Southern and Northern California. WRUC will deliver health and safety courses such as the Cal/OSHA Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD) Standard, respiratory protection, COVID-19 awareness, and Train-the-Trainer.
3 U45 ES019360-11S1	Rios, Janelle and Emery, Robert	University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	The Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (P2R) Consortium, which includes primary awardee The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Texas A&M University, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and the University of Utah will provide support for COVID-19 training. The consortium will build a COVID-19 curriculum at three levels: (1) community level short courses of an hour or shorter; (2) awareness level courses that emphasize recognizing and mitigating occupational risks associated with viral exposure; and (3) operations level courses for workers who may have direct contact with infected individuals or items contaminated with bodily fluids. Their curriculum emphasizes hazard recognition, self-care, hand washing, personal medical surveillance, and exposure mitigation using the hierarchy of controls.

Grant Number	PI Name(s)	Institution	Summary
3 U45 ES006179-29S1	Rosen, Mitchel	Rutgers School of Public Health	The New Jersey/New York Hazardous Materials Worker Training Center will provide essential training in response to the Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2, COVID-19) pandemic. Utilizing a broad-based approach, the Center will essential and returning workers in New Jersey, New York and Puerto Rico. The consortium's training courses will include delivery of the NIEHS Protecting Yourself from COVID-19 in the Workplace and Essential/Returning Workers Training Tools to community-based organizations; Elastomeric Respirator training to healthcare workers; COVID-19 Preparedness and Infectious Disease Awareness in the Workplace training to union carpenters in New York City; Nail Salon Safety & Health course to low wage, Asian and Latinx, immigrant, women workers; courses to workers in Puerto Rico on COVID-10 general safety, indoor air quality, and implications for teachers and child care providers; and COVID-19 safety and resilience for disaster volunteers.
3 U45 ES006180-29S1	Sivin, Darius and Comai, Andy	International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America	The International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW) will conduct training to prevent and reduce exposure to SARS-CoV-2 among healthcare workers, emergency first responders, manufacturing workers, and members of underserved Hispanic/Latino communities. UAW will deliver the following courses: Essential and Returning Workers, Resiliency, and COVID-19 Awareness. UAW will also support evaluation activities with their Spanish-speaking audiences and the development of tools to support virtual training delivery.
3 U45 ES006172-29S1	Turcotte, David	University of Massachusetts Lowell	The New England Consortium-Civil Service Employees Association (TNEC-CSEA) will deliver ongoing COVID-19 and infectious disease response training sessions. They will be focusing on training essential workers in local businesses that are now opening up across the region and home health care providers, including reaching out to vulnerable Spanish and Portuguese speaking workers. Course to be delivered include COVID-19 awareness – cleaning and disinfecting; COVID-19 awareness – returning to work; operations-level COVID-19 health and safety; protecting yourself in home healthcare, long-term healthcare, and school settings; and resilience.
ES010664-22S1	Wright, Beverly and Bullard, Robert	Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Inc.	The Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Inc., along with Texas Southern University, will train workers across various employment sectors along the Gulf Coast, such as childcare, faith-based organizations, small and minority businesses. construction, post-mortem service industry, janitorial workers, and community members. Courses will include COVID-19 Essential Worker Training, COVID-19 Cleaning and Disinfecting, COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment, and COVID-19 and Disaster Preparedness.