



Notice: PPE Distribution Ending 7/2/21

Since March 2020, Piney Woods RAC has been distributing state-sourced Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to regional partners at the request of the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). At this time, the PPE supply chain has largely returned to normal and Piney Woods RAC will be demobilizing the PPE distribution mission within the month of June *and reverting back to the State of Texas Assistance Request (STAR) process.*

Key Points

- All PPE requests submitted prior to June 15th will be processed normally, *following the current guidelines.*
- **Tuesday, June 15, 2021**, Piney Woods RAC will shut down the PPE Request Portal in WebEOC and will no longer fulfill non-emergency PPE requests.
- After June 15th Emergency PPE requests can be submitted via the STAR process in WebEOC *through your local Emergency Management Coordinator (see below for instructions on submitting a STAR).*
- All PPE requests submitted after June 15th will be required to demonstrate that the requestor cannot source PPE through any private sector vendors by including screenshots of recent vendor emails denying an order or “out-of-stock” items on vendor websites.
- **Friday, July 2nd, 2021**, Piney Woods RAC support for COVID-related PPE Requests will be demobilized.

Where Can I Find a PPE Vendor?

- The Texas Medical Association (TMA) maintains a Texas-based PPE Vendor Guide that can be accessed on their website at <https://www.texmed.org/Template.aspx?id=55056>
- Dentists who are members of the Texas Dental Association (TDA) can purchase PPE through TDA Perks Supplies at the following website: <https://tdaperks.com/programs/dental-supplies/>
- Additional PPE vendors include (but are not limited to):
 - Grainger www.grainger.com
 - Boundtree www.boundtree.com
 - Abatix www.abatix.com
 - Ameritech www.prestigeameritech.com
 - MSC Direct – www.mscdirect.com
 - Uline www.uline.com
 - Medline www.medline.com
 - Cardinal www.cardinalhealth.com
 - McKesson www.mckesson.com
 - MANS www.mans.us

How do I submit a STAR for an emergency supply of PPE for June 15th through July2?

If you experience an emergency PPE shortage and are unable to purchase PPE from any private vendors, you may submit a STAR for PPE *through your local Office of Emergency Management.* This is only for emergency PPE shortage requests; all non-emergency requests will be denied. To submit an emergency PPE request, follow the steps below.

1. Download and complete the PPE Request Form from the Piney Woods RAC Website at <https://www.rac-g.org>
2. Send the PPE Request Form *and proof of your inability to purchase PPE from any private vendors* (i.e. emails from multiple vendors within the last week confirming that they cannot fulfill your PPE order) to your local Office of Emergency Management (OEM).
 - a. To find your local OEM, search “City/County Name Office of Emergency Management” online using the city/county where your organization resides.
3. Piney Woods RAC will contact the local OEM who submitted the STAR to validate the request.
4. If the request is valid, Piney Woods RAC will contact the requesting organization to coordinate pickup.