



Better data. Better decisions. Better health.

## Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

### August 2021 - October 2021

Learning community calls	2
Collaborative platform, Circle	2
Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant	3
DMI Planning Toolkit	3
Building a DMI team	4

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Frequently asked questions from January - July 2021 can be found within [this](#) document.

## Learning community calls

### WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM A LEARNING COMMUNITY CALL?

The DMI Learning Community calls hope to:

- Provide a deeper understanding of the overall data modernization initiative,
- Share practical knowledge, skills, and resources,
- Build partnerships with colleagues in the area of data modernization,
- Engage with peers to share best practices, and
- Collaborate to identify solutions to common challenges.

### HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE CALL CALENDAR SERIES?

Complete the [Data Modernization Initiative Learning Community Registration](#). The Data Modernization team will send out the calendar series and collaborative platform login within five business days.

### WILL THE PRESENTATION AND RECORDING BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE LEARNING COMMUNITY CALLS?

The presentation and recording will be posted on Circle after the learning community calls, and the specific link will be sent in our follow-up email after each call. Feel free to share the presentations and recordings with other staff in your organization.

## Collaborative platform, Circle

### WHAT IS CIRCLE?

An online collaboration space for the Data Modernization Initiative (DMI) learning community. In previous years, the learning community used a platform called Basecamp. Circle has the potential to greatly improve access to resources related to DMI such as learning call recording, slides and workshop materials. Circle also has message boards and direct messaging collaboration tools for enhanced engagement among community members.

### WHO PARTICIPATES IN CIRCLE?

Circle is designed to be a space for DMI leads and their core team to come together and collaborate with each other, with other jurisdictions, with CDC and with supporting partners. There is no limit to how many staff from each jurisdiction can participate in Circle. Everyone who was previously registered in Basecamp was automatically added to Circle. If you did not get an invitation to Circle, see the 'How to join circle?' question below.

## HOW TO JOIN CIRCLE?

If you have any team members or consultants that would like to participate in the Data Modernization learning community, please direct them to the [Data Modernization Initiative Learning Community Registration](#) or go to the DMI Circle [homepage](#) and click, 'Not a member? Register here.'



Log in to your account

Sign in with an email

Continue with Twitter

Continue with Facebook



Not a Member? Register here

Forgot your password?

## Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant

### WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO SUBMIT AS PART OF THE ELC FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT?

CDC hosted open office hours in August/September 2021. A running compilation of Q&A was distributed to all ELC recipients. Email [edx@cdc.gov](mailto:edx@cdc.gov) to be added to the email list and to get the compiled list of questions and answers.

### HOW WILL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BE PROVIDED AS PART OF THE ELC?

The best resource will be determined according to each jurisdiction's request. CDC encourages jurisdictions to email technical assistance requests to [edx@cdc.gov](mailto:edx@cdc.gov).

## DMI Planning Toolkit

### WHAT IS THE DMI PLANNING TOOLKIT?

The Data Modernization Planning Toolkit supports Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases recipients in planning data modernization ventures at health departments. It is not an implementation plan, as each jurisdiction's data modernization projects will differ. Instead, it is a guide to build leadership and partner buy-in for data modernization work and to assist health departments in developing plans that prioritize data modernization activities.

**WHEN WILL THE DATA MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE PLANNING TOOLKIT BE AVAILABLE?**

The toolkit is available now on the PHII website: [Data Modernization Initiative Planning Toolkit](#).

**DO YOU HAVE A TEMPLATE THAT WILL WORK THROUGH CONSIDERATIONS OF ALL THE DIFFERENT PIECES AND PARTS TO BE ABLE TO BUDGET APPROPRIATELY AGAINST THE FUNDING WE RECEIVED?**

As far as in the Data Modernization Toolkit, there is not a section included related to funding at this time. Please email the Data Modernization team at [datamodlearning@taskforce.org](mailto:datamodlearning@taskforce.org) with any requests for additional components of the toolkit and PHII will work with the CDC to determine the best way to handle these requests. In the meantime, CDC will investigate whether there are resources available related to budgeting and provide these resources to the learning community.

**ARE YOU ACCEPTING ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF HOW JURISDICTIONS ARE USING THE TOOLKIT?**

The toolkit features callouts which are examples of how jurisdictions have put an aspect of the toolkit into practice. If you have implemented or used some of the toolkit in your work, email us at [datamodlearning@taskforce.org](mailto:datamodlearning@taskforce.org) so we can highlight your jurisdiction's success.

**Building a DMI team**

**ARE THERE ANY RESOURCES THAT HELP TO OUTLINE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IT AND INFORMATICS?**

PHII has a complete [toolkit](#) dedicated to communicating and defining the role of informatics in public health. In addition, this particular question is directly addressed in the PHII white paper, [Key considerations for establishing a public health informatics program](#) under "how to distinguish the program from central IT".