

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Basic FAQs

— What is PPE?

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is protective clothing, goggles, or other equipment designed to protect the wearer from injury or infection. In this case, we are looking for PPE to protect our frontline healthcare workers from infection by COVID-19.

— What PPE is needed?

Each site is unique! Our request sites are looking for many kinds of equipment, including N95 masks, safety goggles, bunny suits, face shields, gowns, and disposable booties. Many sites have requested additional items such as hand sanitizer, thermometers, and walkie-talkies. Each listing has a complete list of items that they need, as well as whether they accept open packages or non-medical grade items. Refer to the card to see if you have something that a healthcare worker needs! Some sites have requested homemade masks and 3D-printed or makerspace items. If you are part of a makerspace community or can contribute homemade items, see our Makerspace Community FAQ.

— Who am I donating to?

Our website includes Level I Trauma Centers across the country, but we also feature a broader scope of healthcare providers (HCPs) such as community healthcare clinics, long-term care facilities, blood banks, shelters, and more. We are committed to getting PPE to all of our frontline workers during the pandemic. For more information on the full list of HCPs we support, check out our wiki.

— How do you know these sites require PPE?

Healthcare providers, administrators, or regional Partners in need of PPE have filled out our PPE request form. After the form is submitted, our dedicated data team moderates every single request before publishing it to our site.

— Want to join the #findthemasks map? Need to update or remove info?

[Complete this form](#)

PPE Contributor FAQs

— How to Donate PPE

Our network of volunteers has created a global map of over 4000+ locations, like hospitals and clinics, where you can donate your masks, gowns, and other PPE.

1. **Use our map** on the [homepage](#) to find a hospital or health center near you accepting donations.
2. **Follow their instructions** for what they accept and how to drop it off.
3. **If you are donating opened packages**, please put them in a ziploc bag with a note saying whether they have been used, whether anyone in your household has been sick or travelled outside the country, and the expiration date if known.

— Can I mail in masks?

Our partners at [Mask Match](#) can help.

— What if I have open packages of PPE?

If you are donating opened packages, make sure the receiving site accepts them! Each contact card will indicate this information. When you're ready, place the opened packages in a ziploc bag and include a note with the following information:

- Under what conditions have they been stored? Backyard paint job? Construction? Art? Other? Let the requesting site know so they can provide it to the correct unit (regular hospital use vs. ICU).
- Whether anyone in your household has been sick, travelled, or come in contact with someone who has travelled in the last 14-days.
- The expiration date, if known.

— Need logistical help or compensation to donate 500+ items of PPE?

Our partners at [getusppe.org/give](#) have an intake form where you can register, and a volunteer will get back to you.

— How do I decide which location to donate to?

If you're looking for a place to start, we suggest entering your address or city into our search tool to find donation sites near you. You can also filter listings to see sites that are looking for the PPE items that you can contribute.

Make sure that you read each site's donation instructions carefully; some sites will accept open packages or homemade items, while others do not!

Once you've found a few possible sites, choose one that aligns with your values and donation size. There are a wide variety of sites that need PPE, and ultimately, the choice is yours. You will be helping protect our frontline healthcare workers no matter which you choose!

— Can't find a donation site near you?

Not a problem! Some PPE requests include mailing addresses. Find a request site that accepts mail-in donations, and follow the instructions for that site.

— How else can I help?

We would love it if you helped us share our project on social media and within your networks! Sharing our site helps new healthcare providers find us, and it helps our healthcare providers connect with more potential PPE contributors!

Join our amazing team of volunteers at [here](#).

FAQs for PPE Recipients

+ How long will it take for my request to be processed?

+ I submitted a listing but it hasn't shown up yet. What should I do?

Makerspace Community FAQs

+ I make handmade masks, 3D-print face shields, or am part of a makerspace community! How can I help?

+ Since my makerspace or maker group is producing PPE, how can we get added to the map so that requesters and individual makers can find us?

+ I am an individual maker or volunteer with limited ability to produce PPE, but I'd love to help out. What can I do?

+ Why don't all sites allow non-medical grade items?

+ Who are #findthemasks Makers partners?

+ I'm an independent maker, how do I join a Maker Group or network?

Data FAQs

+ Who owns the data?

+ What happens when I submit data?

Still have questions?

Get in touch! Our volunteer team is here to answer your questions.

Inquiries:
contact@findthemasks.com

Looking for ways to help?
[Join Us](#)