

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

State Resources

To allocate scarce Personal Protective Equipment, the NC Department of Health and Human Services and the NC Department of Public Safety have created a policy and website to assist healthcare facilities in obtaining PPE. The online request form with instructions can be found [here](#). Scroll down on the web page and click on Other Health Care Facilities to complete a request for PPE from the state.

Other Sources

In addition to state, resources, there are several possible private suppliers for PPE outside of normal supply chains. While the NCAFP does not endorse any one supplier nor have we been able to verify the quality of the PPE, the following is a list of potential sources for PPE.

- The NC Medical Society has developed a mechanism to procure personal protective equipment (PPE) through group purchasing. This two-pronged effort offers practices a chance to place an online order through a joint group purchasing arrangement with the Charleston County (South Carolina) Medical Society and other state and local medical societies and/or to work with local North Carolina manufacturers to produce needed PPE materials. [The easy ordering process is detailed on this webpage](#). Thresholds for PPE must be met before the orders can be placed, so this may not be an immediate fix for your PPE needs, but can help with longer-term needs.
- Thanks to the advocacy of AAFP, Amazon Business has opened its priority access for COVID-19 supplies to individual physicians. If you are interested in purchasing PPE through Amazon, visit the recent AAFP News story [here](#) for additional details.
- The Tar Heel Mask Initiative, led by UNC Students, aims to provide as many surgical and KN95 masks as possible while also donating proceeds to Feeding America and the Restaurant Employee Relief Fund. The initiative currently has over 100,000 general purpose masks and 20,000 KN-95 masks in stock. You can find more at www.tarheelmasks.com.
- Masksfordocs.com is a group of tech, business, design, and non-profit communities who are working to produce supplies for physicians during the crisis. There are two chapters in North Carolina: one in the Triangle and one in the Mountain Area. You can go to the local chapters page of www.masksfordocs.com, find the NC chapter in your area and then request supplies. Some NCAFP members have had success with this organization, particularly with Face Shields.
- CCNC reports that Additive America is creating PPE face shields and making them available for direct purchase by health care workers through their website [here](#).
- Blue Cross NC has been working with innovators across the state to support their efforts to produce PPE through alternative means (i.e., 3D printing, injection molding). Blue Cross NC helped create this site and form to gauge your interest and need, and to directly connect you to producers of these materials. Please visit [here](#) for additional details.
- A consortium of Morganton area businesses, led by the NC Textile District manufacturing network, has shifted their production to PPE during the crisis. You can learn more about what they are offering and how to order at www.carolinatextiledistrictppe.com.
- Level 2 Medical Grade Gowns (Medium and Large) are available for \$6.70 each by e-mailing: orders@gomd.care.

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