

# Public Health Department Accreditation



*Advancing  
public health  
performance*

**Best Practices for Community Health Needs Assessments and  
Implementation Strategies**

**Panel #13: Reporting and Compliance: Local and Regional Dynamics**

**July 13, 2011**

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**Public Health Accreditation Board**

# Session Objectives

- What are issues and options for local agencies in meeting national accreditation standards?
- What is the role of local officials, advocacy groups, and the general public?
- What is needed to move from compliance to transformation?

# What is Public Health Accreditation?



- The measurement of health department performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidenced-based standards.
- The issuance of recognition of achievement of accreditation within a specified time frame by a nationally recognized entity.
- The continual development, revision, and distribution of public health standards.
- The result of many years of deliberate work!

## The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)

PHAB is a non-profit, voluntary accreditation organization founded in 2007 whose goal is to advance public health performance by providing a national framework of standards for local, state, territorial and tribal health departments.

PHAB is the national organization charged with administering the public health accreditation program.

PHAB is located in Alexandria, VA

*The goal of the voluntary national accreditation program is to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of state, local, tribal and territorial public health departments.*





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# GUIDE to National Public Health Department Accreditation

VERSION 1.0  
APPLICATION PERIOD 2011-2012  
APPROVED MAY 2011

# Seven Steps to National Public Health Accreditation Process

## A. Pre-application

Applicant prepares and assesses readiness checklists, views online orientation to accreditation, and formally informs PHAB of its intent to apply

## B. Application

Applicant submits application form with pre-requisites, and first fee payment

Applicant attends in-person training (included in fees)

## C. Document Selection and Submission

Applicant selects documentation and submits it to PHAB for review

## D. Site Visit

Site visit is conducted by a team of peers and report developed

## E. Accreditation Decision

PHAB Board will award accreditation status for 5 years

## F. Reports

Accredited health department submits annual reports

## G. Reaccreditation (5 years later)

Accredited health department applies for reaccreditation



# Pre-Requisites Submitted with the Application

- Community health assessment
- Community health improvement plan
- Health department strategic plan





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# STANDARDS & Measures

**VERSION 1.0**

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# Framework: Domains, Standards, and Measures



12 Domains *(10 Essential PH services plus administration & governance)*



~ Standards



~ Measures



Documentation

# Twelve Domains

1. Conduct assessments focused on population health status and health issues facing the community
2. Investigate health problems and environmental public health hazards to protect the community
3. Inform and educate about public health issues and functions
4. Engage with the community to identify and solve health problems
5. Develop public health policies and plans
6. Enforce public health laws and regulations
7. Promote strategies to improve access to healthcare services
8. Maintain a competent public health workforce
9. Evaluate and continuously improve processes, programs, and interventions
10. Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health
11. Maintain administrative and management capacity
12. Build a strong and effective relationship with governing entity

# Criteria for Evaluating the Community Health Assessment


## **DOMAIN 1: Conduct and disseminate assessments focused on population health status and public health issues facing the community**

- **Standard 1.1:** Participate in or Conduct a Collaborative Process Resulting in a Comprehensive Community Health Assessment
- **Standard 1.2:** Collect and Maintain Reliable, Comparable, and Valid Data That Provide Information on Conditions of Public Health Importance and On the Health Status of the Population
- **Standard 1.3:** Analyze Public Health Data to Identify Trends in Health Problems, Environmental Public Health Hazards, and Social and Economic Factors That Affect the Public's Health
- **Standard 1.4:** Provide and Use the Results of Health Data Analysis to Develop Recommendations Regarding Public Health Policy, Processed, Programs, or Interventions



# Criteria for Evaluating the Community Health Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan

## DOMAIN 5: Develop public health policies and plans

- **Standard 5.1:** Serve As a Primary and Expert Resource for Establishing and Maintaining Public Health Policies, Practices, and Capacity
- **Standard 5.2:** Develop and Implement a Health Department Organizational Strategic Plan
- **Standard 5.3:** Conduct a Comprehensive Planning Process Resulting in a Tribal/State/Community Health Improvement Plan
- **Standard 5.4:** Maintain an All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan



PHAB has deliberately  
developed its approach to  
accreditation as NOT  
compliance oriented.





Questions?



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