



*Helping raise the standard
for public health.*

Public Health Accreditation Board: Overview and Status Report

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Health and Environment**

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Voluntary Accreditation Goal

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

Exploring Accreditation Final Report, p. 4

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Applicants for Public Health Accreditation

- ▶ State health departments
- ▶ Territorial health departments
- ▶ Local (city and county) health departments
- ▶ Tribal health departments

The Value of Accreditation: Public Benefit

Improved Public Health Outcomes

The Value of Accreditation: Agency Benefits & Public Benefits

- ▶ A Tool for Quality and Performance Improvement
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Credibility
- ▶ Recognition of Excellence
- ▶ Clarification of Expectations
- ▶ Increased Visibility

Public Health Accreditation Program
 TIMELINE (updated June, 2008)

2008							2009								
June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May				
Draft Standards		Vet standards & measures			Revise and finalize draft standards			Board Adopt				Beta Test 18 month			
Draft Equivalency Recognition policies							Vet		Revise	Board Adopt					
Assessment Process designed							Vet								
Develop accreditation IT applications															
						Identify site visitors			Identify & train site visitors						
Hire Site Visit Manager			Site visitor training developed												
						Form Incentives Workgroup			Consider Incentives and Fees						
Coordinate with providers of technical assistance															
R&E Committee : Research agenda, evaluation plan, data principles															
Hire evaluation manager													Data management consultant		
Communications and Marketing Consultant															
RWJ Communications Training															
Hire Project Manager															

*ANSI Principles for Standards Development

- ▶ Consensus on a proposed standard by a group or “consensus body” that includes subject matter experts.
- ▶ Broad-based public review and comment on draft standards.
- ▶ Consideration of and response to comments submitted.
- ▶ Incorporation of approved changes into a draft standard.

*American National Standards Institute

PHAB Standards Development Workgroup

- ▶ Members are state and local health department representatives
- ▶ Collaborative, consensus, iterative process
- ▶ Two Sub-groups: State and Local Standards
- ▶ Professional Facilitator – MCPP Healthcare Consulting
- ▶ Open Meetings – Five Meetings in 2008
 - February 13 & 14 (Dallas)
 - April 1 & 2 (Washington)
 - June 5 & 6 (Chicago)
 - July 17 & 18 (Las Vegas)
 - November (TBD)

Workgroup Principles for Standards and Measures

- ▶ Advance the collective practice—it is not a test, it is about quality improvement
- ▶ Build on Essential PH Services, Operational Definition, NPHPSP, and state experiences
- ▶ Keep them simple and reduce redundancy
- ▶ Be sensitive to burden of preparation and review
- ▶ Applicable to local and state, and aligning their roles
- ▶ Applicable to large and small agencies

Standards Vetting

- ▶ **Purpose:** Improve the standards and measures through review and comments by the field
- ▶ Draft standards will be available in August
 - Printed version
 - Online
- ▶ Comments may be submitted August through October, 2008
 - In writing
 - Online
 - Through discussion group meetings at national convenings, local discussions, teleconferences, webinars

Standards Vetting

- ▶ Is this important?
- ▶ Is this clear?
- ▶ Can you do this now? (*i.e.*, is this reasonable – or too “blue sky”?)
- ▶ If so, can you prove it? (*i.e.*, document it, so it can be measured.)
- ▶ Will it help improve public health?

Equivalency Recognition Workgroup

- ▶ Develop guidelines and principles to govern the evaluation of state-based accreditation programs for local health departments so that equivalency of the state program to the national accreditation program can be determined
- ▶ Coordinate with Standards Development
 - Co-locate meetings (same dates and location)
- ▶ Professional Accreditation Consultant – Michael Hamm and Associates

Assessment Process Workgroup

- ▶ Determine how to evaluate whether a health department has achieved accreditation status
- ▶ Determine how health departments can appeal decisions
- ▶ Meeting dates to be determined – first meeting June 25 & 26, 2008
- ▶ Professional Accreditation Consultant – Michael Hamm and Assoc

Research and Evaluation Committee

- ▶ Develop a plan for evaluating the assessment processes and identifying research that would improve the standards-setting and accreditation program
- ▶ Chaired by William Riley, PhD
 - Associate Dean, School of Public health, University of Minnesota
- ▶ Met in March 13 &14, 2008 (Washington, D.C.)
- ▶ Second meeting to be scheduled for the summer of 2008

Incentives

- ▶ Recognition of high performance and quality improvement
- ▶ Accountability to the public and governing bodies
- ▶ Enhanced access to resources for performance improvement
- ▶ Participation in a learning community dedicated to excellent health outcomes
- ▶ Improvement of public health in the US

Your next steps

- ▶ Review Exploring Accreditation Final Recommendations
- ▶ Follow PHAB progress on www.phaboard.org
- ▶ Convene key “thought leaders” to discuss accreditation next steps in your agency
- ▶ Work with your association
 - ASTHO, NACCHO, NALBOH
- ▶ Employ the National Public Health Performance Standards
- ▶ Review the Operational Definition for Local Health Departments

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