Sneak Peek: PHAB’s Proposed Accreditation Standards, Version 2022

Paul Kuehnert, DNP, RN, FAAN | President & CEO
Jessica Kronstadt, MPP | Vice President, Program, Research & Evaluation
Marita Chilton, MPH | Director of Accreditation
# Public Health Accreditation Board Strategic Plan

*October 1, 2020 – March 31, 2022*

## Vision
A high-performing governmental public health system that supports all people living their healthiest lives.

## Mission
Advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation.

## Values
- Trust
- Respect
- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Growth-mindset

## Principles
- Excellence
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Transparency
- Accountability

## Strategic Priorities
1. Reinforce the Need for Public Health System Improvement and the Role of Accreditation
2. Advance Governmental Public Health through Innovation
3. Achieve Health Equity and Anti-Racism
4. Strengthen Standards and Resources to Support Health Departments’ Capabilities
5. Retain Accredited Health Departments
6. Ensure Programs and Services Meet Continuum of Health Department Needs

*Supported and Facilitated by Davidoff Mission-Driven Business Strategy*
Accreditation Activity as of May 14, 2021

Applicant names are kept confidential

*Single accreditation for multiple health departments
**US population based on US Census Bureau 2010 of 308,745,538

Numbers on the map represent the total number of accredited health departments and vital records and health statistics units in each state.

### Type of Health Department

| Type of Health Department | Accredited | In Process | Total in e-PHAB |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Local                     | 276        | 104        | 380            |
| State                     | 39         | 2          | 41             |
| Tribal                    | 4          | 4          | 8              |
| Territorial               | -          | 1          | 1              |
| Army                      | 2          | 3          | 5              |
| VRHS Unit                 | 2          | 8          | 10             |
| Centralized States Integrated System* | 1/67 | - | 1/67 |

Number of HDs: 322
Population (Unduplicated)**: 273,052,128, 18,998,798, 292,050,926
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Benefit Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Stimulated QI and performance improvement opportunities within the HD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89%</td>
<td>Improved our HD’s ability to identify &amp; address gaps in employee training and workforce development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td>Stimulated greater collaboration across departments or units within the HD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85%</td>
<td>Improved the HD’s overall capacity to provide high quality programs and services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Increased the HD’s capacity to identify and address health priorities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evaluation Findings: NORC Survey Related to Initial Accreditation

- Accreditation has improved Board of Health or Governing Entity’s **working knowledge** of health department **roles and responsibilities**
  - **69%**
    - Agreed or strongly agreed one year after being accredited

- Accreditation has improved health department **communication** with Board of Health or Governing Entity
  - **67%**
    - Agreed or strongly agreed one year after being accredited
Version 2022 Standards & Measures Goals

1. **Reflect current aspirations of the field**, while being mindful not to raise the bar too high.

2. **Focus on meeting the intent of the measures rather than on documenting it** by reducing duplication and streamlining requirements.

3. **Promote accountability** so that stakeholders can feel confident that accredited health departments possess key capacities.

4. **Clarify requirements** by adding more guidance and examples and consolidating the “must” requirements in the Required Documentation column.
Board of Health & Governing Entity Feedback

- In 2017, crosswalk between 6 Functions of Public Health Governance and Standards & Measures
- In 2018 & 2019, town hall sessions about Governance Standards & Measures at the NALBOH annual conference
- In 2020, recommendations were reviewed for their application to other forms of governance
- In 2021, a virtual “expert panel” on Administration, Management, and Governance of Health Departments was conducted to gather feedback on governing entity related measures.
We want to hear from YOU!

- Enter clarifying questions throughout the presentation into the CHAT box

- Use SLIDO when prompted – www.slido.com  Code: #PHAB2022

- Additional feedback after today’s session: visit the Version 2022 webpage https://phaboard.org/version-2022/ and click on the feedback form link

Draft Measures and concepts shown today are in progress and subject to change
10 Essential Public Health Services Framework

THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve optimal health for all, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that enable good health and seek to remove obstructions and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.

10 Essential Public Health Services
(September 2020)
Timeline

Psychometrics
Evidence Base
Content Analysis

Commissioned Papers
Expert Panels
Think Tanks

Develop Drafts
Accreditation Improvement Committee

Vetting Draft Standards & Measures

2017 & 2018

2018 & 2019 & 2020

2020 - 2021

Fall 2021

Feedback from the Field
Timeline Cont.

- **Adopted set** of version 2022 Standards & Measures will be released in early 2022.
- For **Initial** accreditation, version 2022 will not go into effect until **on or after July 1, 2022**.
  - Health Departments applying for Initial Accreditation can submit application prior to the effective date to be assessed under version 1.5.
- Health departments who apply for **Reaccreditation** during the 2022 calendar year, will have the option of using either version 1.5 or version 2022.
Reflect Current Aspirations of the field

- Learning from think tanks and commissioned papers;
- Findings from surveys of health departments;
- Lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic

View papers, think tank reports, data summaries, literature scans: [https://phaboard.org/version-2022/](https://phaboard.org/version-2022/)
Promoting Accountability: Foundational Public Health Capabilities

- Cross-cutting skills and capacities
- Support basic public health protections
- Key to ensuring the community’s health and achieving equitable health outcomes
Focus on Meeting the Intent of the Measures & Clarify Requirements

- Adding more guidance and examples
- Improving readability through formatting changes
- Bringing Standards into Reaccreditation
- Splitting some measures into 2 measures (number of requirements not increased)
- Reducing duplication between measures
- Removing measures that don’t make sense in practice
- Allowing the health department to submit improvements they make during the review process (rather than point-in-time review)
Sneak Peek & Major Changes

• This is a work in progress and subject to change
• Not a comprehensive list of proposed changes
V2022, Selected Changes

● More than 80% of Health Departments who responded to a survey in May/June 2020 agreed that: "Overall accreditation has helped our health department in its response to the pandemic."
  ○ Cited the importance of partnerships that had been developed/strengthened through accreditation process
  ○ Suggested expanding requirements related to relationships with response partners, to communications, to use of data, and to administrative preparedness.

● Proposed changes in Emergency Preparedness requirements (Domain 2)
  ○ Addressed areas identified in survey
  ○ Better alignment with CDC’s Operational Readiness Review & NACCHO’s Project Public Health Ready initiative
V2022, Selected Changes

- Domain 7 will include both access to health care services and access to social services
- PHAB’s Scope of Authority revised in March 2021, expands what can be submitted
- https://phaboard.org/scope-of-authority/
V2022, Selected Changes

- Domain 5 will include establishing and maintaining health policies and laws
- Domain 9 will include PM & QI (v1.5 D9) & Evaluation and Research (v1.5 D10)
- Domain 10 will include organizational infrastructure
  - Includes the Strategic Plan, HR, Finance, IT, Ethics, and the Governing Entity
Proposed Governing Entity Themes
Interwoven Across Domains

- Review and discussion of data analysis and findings with the governing entity (Domain 1).
- Communication with the governing entity and others, about what public health is, what the health department does, and why it matters (Domain 3).
- Demonstration that the health department stays informed of the public health issues that are being discussed by the health department’s governing entity and entities that set policies and laws that impact the health department (Domain 5).
Proposed Governing Entity Themes Interwoven Across Domains, cont.

- Engagement and communication with the governing entity related to Performance Management & Quality Improvement (Domain 9).
- Communicating research findings and implications to the governing entity or other external audiences (Domain 9).
- Active engagement with the governing entity in the development of the health department’s strategic plan (Domain 10).
- Communication with the governing entity concerning implementation of the strategic plan (Domain 10).
Proposed Governing Entity Focused Standard

- Standard 10.3: Foster accountability, transparency and inclusivity within the organizational infrastructure to support ethical practice, decision-making and governance.
  - Governing Entity **Orientation**: The process to orient new members of the governing entity.
  - Governing Entity **Communication**: Measure solely focused on communications between the governing entity and health department take place both routinely and as needed.
www.slido.com
Code: #PHAB2022
Provide feedback by visiting the Version 2022 webpage https://phaboard.org/version-2022/ and click on the feedback form link.

Learn about other ways PHAB is evolving based on feedback from the field:

- Pathways Recognition Program: https://phaboard.org/pathways/
- Revised Scope of Authority policy: https://phaboard.org/scope-of-authority/
Have additional feedback?
We want to hear it!
Marita Chilton: mchilton@phaboard.org