

Public Health Accreditation

Public Health Accreditation is a voluntary national program developed to measure health department performance against an established set of nationally recognized, practice-focused, and evidenced-based standards. Overseen by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) and jointly supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, PHAB modeled its accreditation requirements on the *Ten Essential Public Health Services* to ensure all applicants meet or exceed an established baseline of quality and service. The journey towards Public Health Accreditation requires the close inspection of our core programs, policies, and processes to ensure that they not only meet the standards set by PHAB, but that we continuously work to improve how we deliver Public Health to everyone who lives, learns, works, or plays in Lucas County.



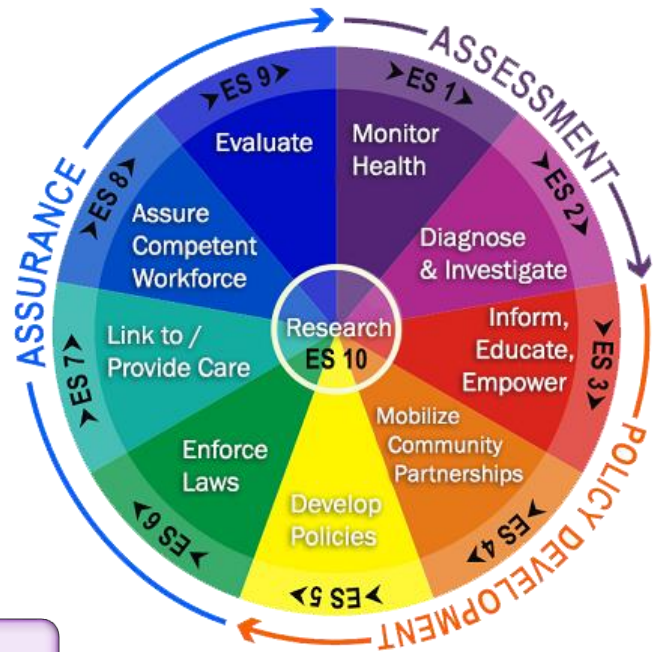
While Public Health Accreditation is voluntary nationally, the state of Ohio is the first and currently only state to mandate all health departments reach an accredited status by the year 2020. Accredited Status awarded by PHAB lasts for 5 years with annual progress reports due to ensure continuous program and process improvement. Towards the end of the 5 year span, a department must submit for re-accreditation to sustain its status.

Domains, Standards, and Measures

Public Health Accreditation is divided into twelve (12) domains of public health service. The first ten (10) domains address the *Ten Essential Public Health Services*; Domain 11 addresses the management and administration of our organization; and Domain 12 addresses governance (how we interact with our Board of Health). Standards are the required level of achievement our health department is expected to meet, while individual measures provide a way of evaluating if each standard has been met. Ultimately, there are over 350 required examples TLCHD must submit for evaluation.

Ten Essential Public Health Services

The *Ten Essential Public Health Services* were developed to clarify the role of public health and provide a framework for public health systems. They are organized under the three (3) core functions of Public Health, **Assessment**, **Policy Development**, and **Assurance** and provide the foundation for PHAB's *Standards and Measures*.



1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Ensure a skilled, competent public health workforce
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of health services
10. Research and apply innovative solutions.

The Seven Stages of the Accreditation Process

Stage 1 Pre-Application

- Health department prepares and assesses readiness for application for accreditation, completes Online Orientation, and informs PHAB of its intent to apply

Stage 2 Application

- Health department submits application and fee, and completes applicant training

Stage 3 Document Selection and Submission

- Applicant selects documentation for each measure, uploads it to e-PHAB, and submits it to PHAB

Stage 4 Site Visit

- Site visit of the health department is conducted by PHAB-trained site visitors and a site visit report is developed

Stage 5 Accreditation Decisions

- PHAB Accreditation Committee will review the site visit report and determine accreditation status of the health department

Stage 6 Reports

- If accredited, the health department submits annual reports

Stage 7 Reaccreditation

- As accreditation status nears expiration, the health department applies for reaccreditation