

Quick Start to Public Health



This Quick Start Guide is intended to be a reference for those new to public health. Linda Frazee is a Public Health Nurse Specialist in the Office of Local Public Health. Please contact her for further information or technical assistance.

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Kansas Department of Health and Environment: <http://www.kdheks.gov/>

Explore the Divisions and Bureaus within KDHE

- **Local Public Health Section**

http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/local_health.html

In this section you will find links to the monthly public health news letter, "Connections", National Public Health Performance Standards, Multi-State Learning Collaborative, Local Health Department Directory, Public Health Accreditation Standards, the Aid to Local Grant Process, Data, Regional Public Health Meeting information, and more!

- **Kansas Information for Communities (KIC)**

<http://kic.kdhe.state.ks.us/kic/>

- **The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)**

<http://www.kdheks.gov/brfss/index.html>

TRAINING AND CORE COMPETENCIES

Create a KS-TRAIN account <http://ks.train.org> - Search for courses by topic, provider, or competency. Create a personal training plan!

Click on the "Competencies" tab to find the list of the Council on Linkages' Public Health Competencies and a crosswalk with the Public Health Essential Services:

Tier 1 professionals who carry out day-to-day tasks and aren't in management positions

Tier 2 apply to individuals with program management and/or supervisory responsibilities

Tier 3 apply to individuals at a senior/management level and leaders of public health organizations

Public Health Topics:

1. **Accreditation**

The following materials are each linked and posted on the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) website: <http://www.phaboard.org/>

[Guide to National Public Health Department Accreditation Version 1.0](#)

[PHAB Standards and Measures Version 1.0](#)

[PHAB Accreditation Fee Schedule 2011-2012](#)

[PHAB Educational Services](#)

[Accreditation Readiness Checklists](#)

[PHAB Acronyms and Glossary of Terms Version 1.0](#)

[e-PHAB Statement of Intent Information](#)

[e-PHAB Application Information](#)

[PHAB Generic Presentation for Local Health Departments](#)

[PHAB Standards and Measures Documentation Selection Spreadsheet Version 1.0](#)

[Considerations for Assigning an Accreditation Coordinator Tip Sheet](#)

[Accreditation Coordinator Handbook Version 1.0](#)

2. **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** <http://www.cdc.gov/>
The CDC is one of the major operating components of the Department of Health and Human Services
3. **The Community Guide** <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/index.html>
The Community Guide is a resource for **evidence-based** Task Force recommendations and findings about what works to improve public health.
4. **Community Health Assessment**
 - **MAPP** - <http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/mapp/index.cfm>
 - **KU Community Tool Box – Guidance for MAPP**
http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tablecontents/chapter2_section13.aspx
 - **CHANGE TOOL** - <http://www.cdc.gov/healthycommunitiesprogram/tools/change.htm>
 - **Kansas Health Matters** <http://www.kansashealthmatters.org/index.php>
Kansas Health Matters is a one stop source of non-biased data and information about community health in Kansas. It is intended to help hospitals, health departments, policy makers, community planners and members learn about issues, identify improvements and collaborate for positive change.
 - **MAP-IT: A Guide To Using Healthy People 2020 in Your Community**
<http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/implementing/default.aspx>
Use MAP-IT to mobilize partners, assess the needs of your community, create and implement a plan to reach Healthy People 2020 objectives and track your community's progress.
5. **Core Competencies**
 - **Tools Web Page**
http://www.phf.org/programs/corecompetencies/Pages/Core_Public_Health_Competencies_Tools.aspx
Public health professionals are encouraged to use these tools and resources to achieve their workforce development needs and improve performance

The [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice's](#) (Council on Linkages) [Core Competencies Workgroup](#) is developing tools and other resources to help organizations integrate the Core Competencies into their workforce development activities. Resources currently available include:

- A. A [Crosswalk of the Core Competencies and the Essential Public Health Services](#), illustrating the relationship between individual competencies and the EPHS;
- B. [Competency Assessments](#) to help public health professionals determine their level of knowledge and skill with respect to each of the competencies;
- C. The [3-Step Competency Prioritization Sequence](#), a quality improvement process for focusing workforce development efforts on areas that address gaps in workforce strengths, while advancing organizational goals; and
- D. [Competency-Based Job Descriptions](#), which incorporate the Core Competencies in order to tie work activities to specific skills and help ensure the right fit for a position.

6. **E-mail lists** <http://phpartners.org/dlists.html>
Resources to support e-mail communication among public health colleagues
7. **Evaluation**
 - **Toolkit:** Getting the most out of your program, getting the most for your program: [http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/File/MRC_Resources/Evaluation_Toolkit_Overview_5-2\(1\).pdf](http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/File/MRC_Resources/Evaluation_Toolkit_Overview_5-2(1).pdf)
 - **CDC's Program Evaluation Web Site** <http://www.cdc.gov/eval/>
 - **Health Communication Strategies**
National Prevention Information Network website:
<http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/campaign/strategy.asp>
8. **Health Communication Strategies**
National Prevention Information Network website:
<http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/campaign/strategy.asp>
9. **Kansas Public Health Statutes and Regulations** <http://www.kpha.camp8.org/>
These can be found under "documents" in the "members section" only of the KS Public Health Association. This alone is worth your membership dues!
10. **KU Community Toolbox** <http://ctb.ku.edu/en/default.aspx>
The Community Tool Box is a global resource for free information on essential skills for building healthy communities.
11. **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR): Ten Great Public Health Achievements --- United States, 2001—2010**, <http://www2a.cdc.gov/php/>
12. **National Network of Libraries of Medicine** <http://nnlm.gov/hip/>
Portal to multiple sites of health information on the Web
13. **Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS)** <http://www.cdc.gov/ostlts/>
OSTLTS's mission is to improve the capacity and performance of the public health system
14. **Public Health Finance** www.publichealthfinance.org
The site provides content to advance the application of finance and management concepts to the practice of public health.
15. **Public Health Law**
 - **CDC Public Health Law Program** <http://www2a.cdc.gov/php/>
The Public Health Law Program is part of the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS). Public health law examines the authority of the government at various jurisdictional levels to improve the health of the general population within societal limits and norms
 - **Official website of the Kansas State Legislature** <http://www.kslegislature.org/li/>
16. **The Public Health Performance Improvement Toolkit**
<http://nnphi.org/tools/public-health-performance-improvement-toolkit-2>
Online collection of tools, trainings, and related resources that have been developed by public health practitioners through their work in public health improvement and in preparation for national voluntary accreditation.
17. **Public Health Preparedness**
 - **KDHE Preparedness Web Site**, <http://www.kdheks.gov/cphp/index.htm>
 - **CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response Site**, <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/>

- **Public Health Emergency Preparedness federal guidance documents,** <https://www.cfd.gov/?s=program&mode=form&tab=step1&id=daf5594198d0ff7408b7e0804b8a50a8>
- **The Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities: National Guidance for Healthcare System Preparedness,** <http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/hpp/reports/Documents/capabilities.pdf>

18. Quality Improvement

- **PHF Quality Improvement (QI) Quick Guide** <http://www.phf.org/quickguide/>
The QI Quick Guide provides an introduction to quality improvement (QI) and a gateway to resources that public health professionals can use to pursue QI initiatives within their organizations
- **Embracing Quality in Public Health: A Practitioner's Quality Improvement Guidebook** <http://mphiaccredandqi.org/Download.aspx>
This second edition of *Embracing Quality in Public Health* reflects five years of study, action, and learning among the authors and many other generous, thoughtful individuals who contributed their time and talent to informing this resource.
- **NNPHI's PH Performance Tool Kit:** <http://nnphi.org/tools/public-health-performance-improvement-toolkit-2?view=file&topic=59#>
Features a variety of tools and resources - including presentations, samples and guides - on many QI topic areas.
- **Resources for Public Health Quality Improvement** <http://www.ihf.org/knowledge/Pages/Tools/ResourcesforPublicHealth.aspx>
The alphabetical list of resources selected by the Public Health Foundation (PHF) is intended to help public health leaders and practitioners apply quality improvement to programs and processes, with the ultimate goal of saving lives, cutting costs, and getting better results.

19. Ten Essential Services of Public Health

The Essential Services provide a working definition of public health and a guiding framework for the responsibilities of local public health systems. <http://www.cdc.gov/nphpsp/essentialservices.html>

ORGANIZATIONS:

1. **American Public Health Association (APHA)** <http://www.apha.org/>
The American Public Health Association is the oldest and most diverse organization of public health professionals in the world (since 1872.)
2. **Association of State and Territorial Health Officials** <http://www.astho.org/>
ASTHO is the national nonprofit organization representing the public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia, as well as the 120,000 public health professionals these agencies employ.
3. **Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice** <http://www.phf.org/programs/council/Pages/default.aspx/index.htm>
The Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice (Council on Linkages) is a coalition of representatives from [19 national organizations](#).
4. **Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD)** <http://www.kalhd.org/>
KALHD is dedicated to strengthening local health departments for the purpose of improving and protecting the health of all Kansans
5. **Kansas Environmental Health Association (KEHA)** <http://www.e-keha.org/>

KEHA is an affiliate of the National Environmental Health Association and the International Association of Food Protection.

6. **Kansas Health Foundation** <http://www.kansashealth.org/aboutus>
The Kansas Health Foundation is a private philanthropy dedicated to improving the health of all Kansans.
5. **Kansas Health Institute (KHI)** <http://www.khi.org>
The Kansas Health Institute was established in 1995 by the Kansas Health Foundation to be an information resource for state policymakers.
****Sign up for their news feed at:** <http://www.khi.org/accounts/register/>. **
6. **Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA)** <http://www.kpha.us/>. The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) is the professional association for Kansas's public health practitioners, professionals, and advocates.
7. **Public Health Foundation (PHF)** <http://www.phf.org/>
The Public Health foundation (PHF) is dedicated to achieving healthy communities through research, training, and technical assistance.
8. **National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)**
<http://www.naccho.org/>
The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is the national organization representing local health departments.
9. **National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH)**
<http://www.nalboh.org/>
NALBOH is dedicated to preparing and strengthening boards of health.
10. **National Network of Public Health Institutes NNPHI** <http://www.nnphi.org/>
Support national public health system initiatives and strengthen PHIs to promote multi-sector activities resulting in measurable improvements of public health structures, systems, and outcomes.
11. **Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)** <http://www.phaboard.org/>
PHAB is the accrediting body for national public health accreditation.
12. **Public Health Partners** <http://phpartners.org/index.html>
Public Health Partners is a collaboration of U.S. government agencies, public health organization and health sciences libraries.
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