

Health Department Accreditation and the NPHPSP: A Perfect Match



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Session Objectives

- Describe the accreditation process with respect to the required key elements for health department applicants.
- Describe the information PHAB is using to inform the final program launch.
- Discuss the relationship between the NPHPS and PHAB's accreditation process.

The Year of the Beta Test - 2010

- 30 health departments (8 state, 19 local and 3 tribal)
- Conduct the beta test as much like final accreditation as possible
- Evaluator – National Opinion Research Center (NORC)
- All elements subject to change for final accreditation program launch in 2011

Purpose of Beta Test

1. Testing how it really works
 - Formative evaluation
 - Quality improvement
2. Estimate costs of accreditation
 - Labor hours and time commitment
 - Other expenses
3. Develop Program elements
 - Scoring and weighting
 - Accreditation status criteria
 - Role of the Accreditation Review Committee

Accreditation Process Overview

1. Pre-application
Applicant prepares and assesses readiness, informs PHAB of its intent to apply, and receives training
2. Application
Applicant submits application form
3. Self-assessment
Applicant gathers documentation
4. Site Visit
Site visit is conducted and report developed
5. Accreditation Decisions
PHAB Board will award accreditation status
6. Appeals
Procedure for appeals and complaints
7. Reports and Re-accreditation
Department reports progress and reapplies

What Are Health Departments Doing that Are Not Test Sites ?

- Review Standards
- Review Assessment Process
- Develop a Strategic Plan
- Conduct a Community Health Assessment
- Develop a Community Health Improvement Plan
- Organize the health department (governance to staff)

Relationship to the NPHPHP

- A natural match
- Have a common historical base
- Standards and terminology similar
- The NPHPSP process is complementary
- Could satisfy several measures
- Great readiness instrument

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Three required components

- Community health assessment
- Community health improvement plan
- Agency strategic plan

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Community Health Assessment

A systematic process, or group of processes, aimed at identifying the population health determinants in such a way that they can be addressed by the community and its partners. This process includes community health in its broadest definition and, while it may be coordinated by the health department, is the result of the work of various partners. It can include assets and well as problem issues.

PHAB 9

Community Health Improvement Plan

- A long-term systematic effort to address issues identified by the assessment and community health improvement process
- Is broader than the health department agency
- Should include partners
- Should be timely
- Can be used by partners to prioritize activities and set priorities

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Strategic Plan

- Internal to the health department (although may have been developed with input from partners)
- Describes goals, objectives, strategies and new initiatives
- Should guide the health department in forming its role in the community it serves and in setting its own priorities

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Developmental Work in 2010

- Standards development Beta Testing and revise
- Assessment process Beta Testing and revise
- Site Visit development Beta Testing and revise
- PHAB Evaluation Plan and Research Agenda
- Incentives Recommendations
- Future operations: fees, Information system, etc.

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Inputs for Program Planning

Beta Test Formal Evaluation

Feedback on the Beta Test Tools

Think Tank Monographs

- Centralized States Governance
- Environmental public health
- Public health laboratory
- Large City/Metro
- Emergency Preparedness

Specific Work on Tribal Accreditation

The PHAB Board will consider these major categories of input as they plan to launch the full accreditation program in 2011.

PHAB 13

Let Us Know if You Have Questions

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PHAB 14