

## Project Public Health Ready: Helping Local Health Departments Prepare for the Next Public Health Emergency

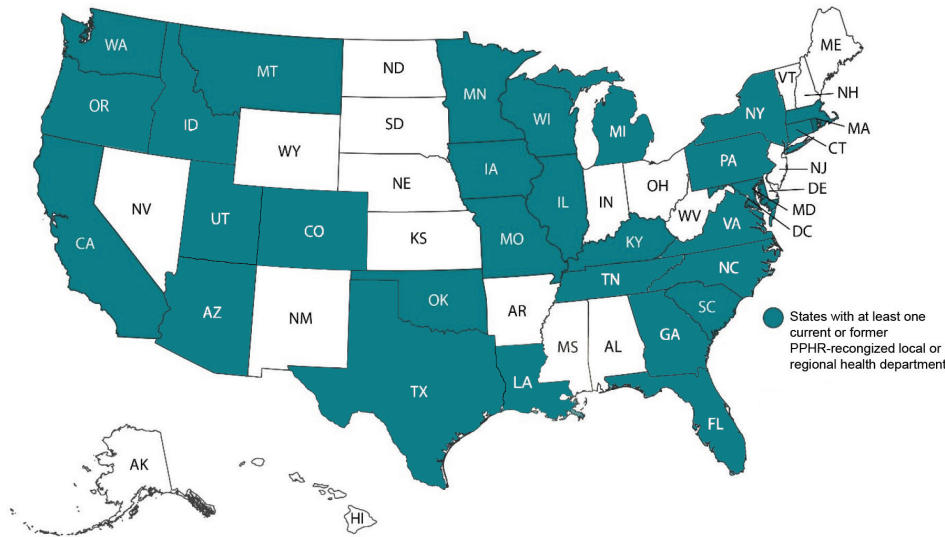


### Program Description

Project Public Health Ready (PPHR) is a criteria-based training and recognition program established by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help local health departments (LHDs) develop core public health and emergency preparedness competencies. This intensive 18-month process provides LHDs the structure to build training and preparedness capacities using a continuous quality improvement model.

### Program Objectives

The PPHR program aims to help local emergency preparedness agencies fully integrate into the response community and prepare for any public health emergency. The PPHR program offers LHDs an opportunity to (1) build partnerships with local, state, and federal leaders, community response partners, and other stakeholders; and (2) facilitate collaboration and team building across the entire health department. At the end of the program, LHDs will have a written comprehensive all-hazards response plan that aligns with the highest national and federal standards. Those who successfully complete the program are PPHR recognized for five years.



**525+**

current or former  
recognized  
jurisdictions in 29  
states

### What Participants are Saying

“PPHR provides a strong framework for planning and response in our jurisdiction. We used its criteria not only to measure our level of readiness during the peer review, but also as a model for plan and exercise development on an ongoing basis. We appreciate the benefits of its benchmarks and evaluation from preparedness experts. We find it to be an exceptional standard by which we can gauge our program’s efforts.”

Robert Goff, MPH  
Tennessee Department of Health

# [FACT SHEET]

July 2020



## PPHR Application

The PPHR application has three goals and five measures. To meet the PPHR requirements, applicants must present evidence of the following:

Goal 1: All-Hazards Preparedness Planning

- Measure #1: All-Hazards Response Plan

Goal 2: Workforce Capacity Development

- Measure #2: Training Needs Assessment
- Measure #3: Workforce Development Plan

Goal 3: Quality Improvement

- Measure #4: Exercise or Response
- Measure #5: Exercise Planning

The PPHR criteria is updated regularly to align with federal guidelines and national initiatives, including:

- CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities
- Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB) Standards and Measures
- FEMA's Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)
- CDC's Operational Readiness Review (ORR) Tool

### What Participants are Saying

"The Project Public Health Ready (PPHR) plan review and application process provided our health department the opportunity to obtain a high level of training and preparedness, anchored in a quality improvement process. When the first COVID-19 positive patient in Utah was from our health jurisdiction, all department staff were prepared to respond professionally and confidently. Additionally, our All-Hazards Plan has served as the foundation for just-in-timing of temporary employees hired to help with all aspects of the response from epidemiology and disease investigation to mass clinic and mass fatality planning. The PPHR model continues to help us throughout the COVID-19 response as we identify plan gaps, areas for improvement, and future training opportunities to incorporate into our Multi-Year-Training-and-Exercise-Plan (MYTEP)."

Ivy Melton Sales, MBA, CHES  
Davis County Health Department

# 91%

of applicants receive  
PPHR recognition

Learn more about the application timeline, cost, and criteria by visiting [www.naccho.org/PPHR](http://www.naccho.org/PPHR), or by contacting the PPHR team at [pphr@naccho.org](mailto:pphr@naccho.org).

# NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health

[www.naccho.org](http://www.naccho.org)



Public Health  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to improve the health of communities by strengthening and advocating for local health departments.

1201 Eye Street, NW, Fourth Floor • Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202-783-5550 • Fax: 202-783-1583

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