Preparing for National Public Health Accreditation

PHAN
Public Health Association of Nebraska
March 31, 2014
Today’s Objectives

• Define accreditation

• Understand the accreditation process

• Share resources for more information

• Learn how your will prepare for accreditation

• Discuss next steps for your department
Accreditation is a status that provides public notification that an institution, agency, or program meets standards of quality set forth by an accrediting agency.

American Psychological Association definition of accreditation
Goal: to improve and protect the health of every community by advancing the quality and performance of public health departments (state, local, Tribal, territorial).
What is Public Health Accreditation?

The measurement of health department performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidenced-based standards.

The issuance of recognition of achievement of accreditation within a specified time frame by a nationally recognized entity.

The continual development, revision, and distribution of public health standards.
Overview of Standards

Domain 1
   Conduct Assessment Activities

Domain 2
   Investigate Health Problems

Domain 3
   Inform and Educate about Public Health

Domain 4
   Engage with the Public to Solve Public Health Problems

Domain 5
   Develop public health policies and plans

Domain 6
   Enforce public health laws and regulations
Overview of Standards

Domain 7
Promote strategies to improve access

Domain 8
Maintain a competent workforce

Domain 9
Evaluate and continuously improve

Domain 10
Contribute to and apply the evidence base for public health

Domain 11
Maintain administrative and management capacity

Domain 12
Maintain capacity to engage the public health governing entity
Prerequisites

• Community health assessment

• Community health improvement plan

• Agency strategic plan
MAPP: An Accreditation Preparation Tool

Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP):

• Community focused approach to health improvement efforts

• Assessment and prioritization of strategic issues

• Results in:
  • Community health assessment
  • Community health improvement plan
What is the accreditation process?

1. Pre-application
2. Application
3. Documentation selection and submission
4. Site Visit
5. Accreditation Decisions
6. Reports
7. Reaccreditation (5 years later)
Step 1: Pre-application

- Assess readiness
- Receive training
- Inform PHAB
Step 2: Application

- Online application
- 12 months
Step 3: Document Selection & Submission

• Collect documentation
• Score standards/measures
Step 4: Site Visit

• 2-3 day site visit, by practitioners
• Site visitors report developed
Step 5: Accreditation Decisions

• Accredited

• Non accredited
  • Action Plan
6. Appeals

• Eligibility

• Accreditation status
7. Reports and reaccreditation

- Department reports progress and reapply.

- Accreditation lasts 5 years, with progress reports submitted annually.
Reasons to Apply

• Accountability and credibility
• Potential increased access to resources
• Strengthening LHDs, from within
• Opportunities to improve
• And more!
Public Health Accreditation Board

• Guide to accreditation
• Glossary
• Readiness checklist
• Standards and Measures Version 1.0
• Guide to interpretation

National Association of County and City Health Officials

• How To guides
• Examples of documentation
• Examples from LHDs
• Toolkit of resources

www.phaboard.org

www.naccho.org
Next Steps for Accreditation

• All hands on deck

• New responsibilities

• Recognition

• Celebrate success
Accreditation is the beginning

Accreditation

Re-accreditation

Improving the public’s health through continuous quality improvement
• Released 12-23-13
• Columns for the number of required examples and date requirements were added.
• Standards and measures were reworded to improve clarity.
• The word "should" was removed and replaced with "must" or the requirement was deleted.
• PHAB's definition of "core public health programs" was clarified.