

## NACCHO's Accreditation Coordinators Learning Community

NACCHO's Accreditation Coordinators Learning Community (ACLC) provides a space for local health department Accreditation Coordinators<sup>1</sup> to network with peers, share effective practices and lessons learned, and find answers to their questions.

**Why should Accreditation Coordinators join the ACLC?** As local health department Accreditation Coordinators navigate The Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB's) public health accreditation program, they may find themselves with questions or in need of advice and support. Joining the ACLC provides local health department Accreditation Coordinators with:

- *Connections* to other Accreditation Coordinators navigating PHAB's system,
- *Access* to a private forum for sharing information and resources,
- *Opportunities* to network and share knowledge with peers and NACCHO staff via conference calls and an in-person meeting,
- *Assistance* from NACCHO staff through the review of select documentation prior to submission to PHAB, and
- the *Knowledge* that ACLC members are paving the way for other LHDs by contributing the body of work and knowledge around accreditation.

**What are the benefits of peer networking?** Local health departments who participated in PHAB's Beta Test detailed some of the benefits of peer networking as they worked towards accreditation and to institute QI projects. Some of these benefits included:

- *"Sharing experiences, building networks of colleagues so we didn't/don't feel alone"*
- *"It was very good to find out what others were doing and how they were doing it, exchange of resources"*
- *"The value of meeting leaders in public health, both those as proven leaders and those growing into such a position was a benefit I far underestimated. To know people in public health across this great nation by face, name and voice created a "security blanket" that I often use for suggestions, guidance and sometimes just plain ole' venting!"*
- *"Networking allowed us to learn that other health departments have similar challenges and being able to meet individuals which you can call in the future to consult and share experiences is extremely helpful."*

**How to join?** To join NACCHO's Accreditation Coordinators Learning Community, please go to:

<http://nacchoaclc.ning.com/main/authorization/signUp>. Once your membership is approved by NACCHO staff, you will have access to the private forum. Members are invited, but not required, to post in the discussion forums and blogs, respond to questions from other members and NACCHO staff, answer poll questions, and participate in conference calls and webinars.

**Who is eligible to join the ACLC?** Membership in the ACLC is open to any local health department Accreditation Coordinator who has applied<sup>2</sup> to the Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB's) voluntary national public health accreditation program. Interested Accreditation Coordinators must provide proof that their application has been accepted by PHAB before their membership will be accepted.

**Questions?** Contact Lowrie Ward at [lward@naccho.org](mailto:lward@naccho.org) or 202-507-4196

<sup>1</sup> The role of the Accreditation Coordinator is defined in the [PHAB Guide to Public Health Department Accreditation Version 1.0](#).

<sup>2</sup> To be approved for membership, Accreditation Coordinators must submit evidence that they have completed the accreditation application form and required supporting material to PHAB (including a letter of support from the governing authority and the three prerequisite documents) as defined in Step 2 of PHAB's Accreditation Process