

Accepted Program Areas for PHAB Documentation

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PHAB's public health department accreditation addresses a range of core public health programs and activities, including but not limited to:

- Access to clinical services
- Chronic disease prevention and control
- Communicable disease
- Community health
- Environmental public health governance
- Health education
- Health promotion
- Injury prevention
- Management /administration of public health programs and activities
- Maternal and child health
- Public health emergency preparedness
- Public health laboratory services

When choosing programmatic examples to submit to PHAB, select documentation from programs that directly address the core public health functions and ten essential public health services. These program areas form the basis for PHAB's authority to accredit health departments in the country.

PHAB's scope of accreditation authority does not extend to the following areas:

- Primary Care
- Dental Clinics
- Home Health
- Social Services
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Abuse Services
- Domestic Violence Services
- Primary Care
- Dental Clinics
- Home Health
- Social Services

Documentation from these program areas will not be generally accepted for public health department accreditation.



PHAB accredits governmental public health departments operated by Tribes, states, local jurisdictions, and territories. However, PHAB's accreditation authority does not extend to all program areas that might be administered by some health departments. PHAB will not accept and consider documentation from programs that are outside of PHAB's authority or for whom other accreditation/credentialing/oversight entities exist.

PHAB will accept documentation from programs that are:

- Population based,
- Directly address the core public health functions and ten essential public health services, and
- Not under the authority of other national organizations or federal agencies that have oversight or accreditation authority.

PHAB's scope of accreditation authority does not extend to the areas listed below. Documentation from these program areas will not be generally accepted or considered for public health department accreditation.

A. PHAB's public health department accreditation not address individual or personal health services, for example:

- Primary Care
- Dental Clinics
- Home Health
- Social Services
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Abuse Services
- Domestic Violence Services

For example, PHAB will accept documentation from a public health education program that informs the public of the need for dental hygiene; PHAB will not accept documentation from a dental clinic that provides individual dental services.

B. PHAB's public health department accreditation not address programs that have existing accreditation or oversight bodies, for example:

- Health care facilities licensure and certification
- Licensing programs for professionals
- Long term care licensure and certification
- Health insurance, payment, benefits certification, or health care financing systems (e.g., Medicaid)
- Emergency Medical Services

Health care facilities have an existing accreditation process available through the Joint Commission. State licensure laws vary in their requirements for health care worker licensure and health care facilities. CMS oversees the administration of the Medicaid program and the inspections for long-term care. The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) accredits community health centers and primary care. The Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) accredits home health and behavioral health. The Council on Accreditation (COA) accredits behavioral health and child welfare. The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accredits aging services, behavioral health child and youth services. The Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) accredits emergency services.