



PUBLIC HEALTH

**ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON**

Public Health Accreditation

Washington State Board of Health
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Rita Schmidt, Performance Management Coordinator
Office of Public Health Systems Development



Voluntary Accreditation Goal

The goal of a voluntary national accreditation program is to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of state and local public health departments.

Exploring Accreditation Final Report, p.4



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PHAB Partners

- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- National Association Local Boards of Health (NALBOH)
- National Indian Health Board (NIHB)



Eligible Applicants for Public Health Accreditation

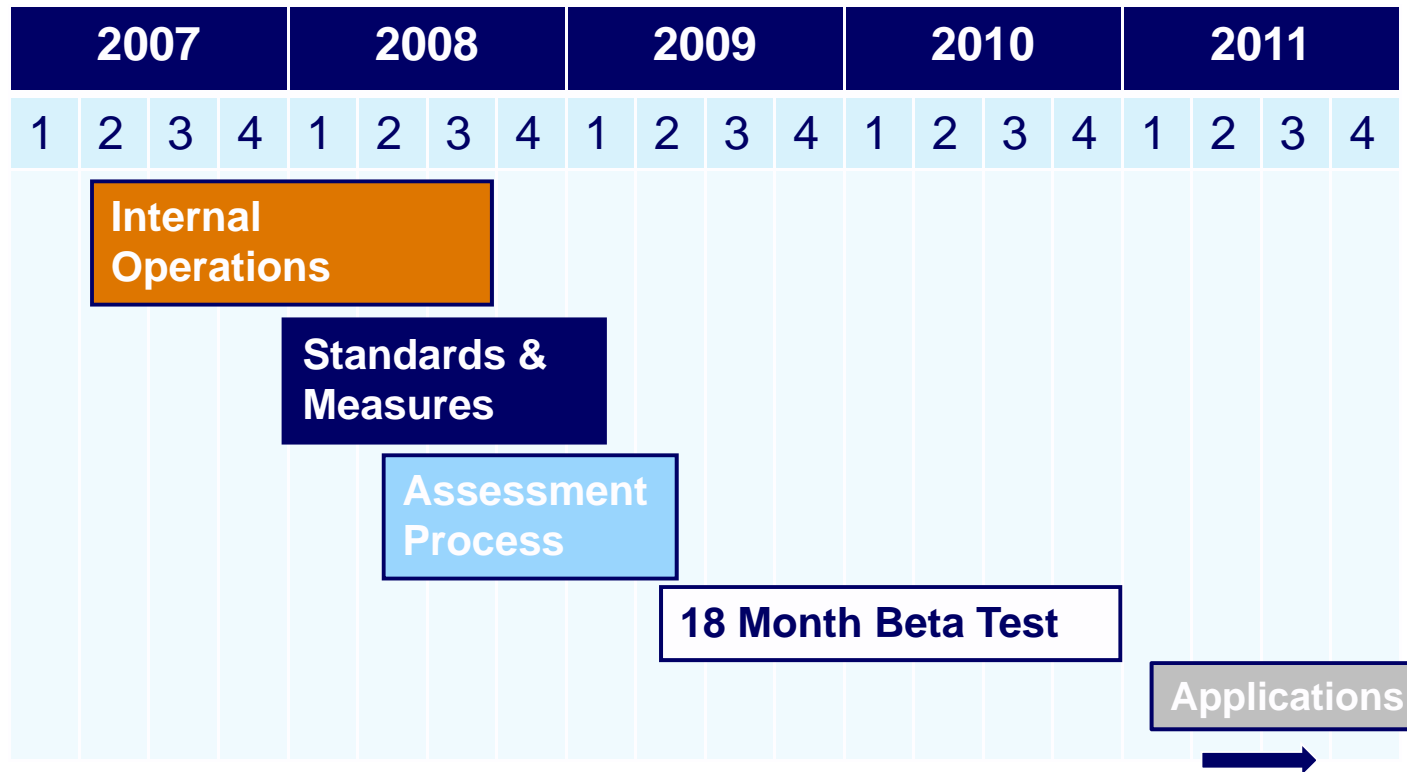
- State health departments
- Territorial health departments
- Local (city and county) health departments
- Tribal health departments



The Value of Accreditation: Agency & Public Benefits

- Improved public health outcomes
- A tool for quality and performance improvement
- Accountability
- Credibility
- Recognition of excellence
- Clarification of expectations
- Increased visibility

Five Year Timeline



Standards Vetting

Standards and measures vetted for public review and comment

- Purpose of vetting - Improve the standards and measures through review and comments by the field
- Draft standards, measures – Occurred between January and April
- Comments – Submitted in writing, online, through discussion group meetings at national convenings, teleconferences, webinars

Vetting: Areas of Inquiry

- Will it help improve public health?
- Is this important?
- Is this clear?
- Can you do this now? (i.e., is this reasonable, or too “blue sky”?)
- If so, can you prove it? (i.e., document it, so it can be measured)



PHAB Accreditation Processes

- Final set of standards and measures
 - 11 domains
 - 30 standards
 - Measures apply to LHJ and SHD
 - Guidance document indicates the documentation that will meet the measure
- Application for accreditation
- Site visit and documentation of performance
- Scoring and Accreditation conferred by Board
- <http://www.phaboard.org>

What We Have in Washington

- 12 public health standards and measures
- Regular assessment process (every 3 years)
- Local public health indicators
- Individual site reports and overall report
- Participation of every LHJ, DOH and SBOH
- Recommendations for quality improvement
- Measurement of progress in the public health system

WA Standards vs. the Accreditation Process

WA System

- System wide snapshot
- QI approach
- Every measure scored
- Full participation
- Full disclosure of scores

Accreditation

- County by county
- Pass or fail
- Confidential scores

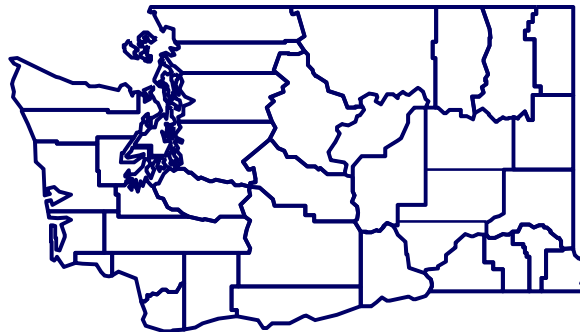
Process for Washington Discussion

- Discussion with WSALPHO forums and DOH
- Review and vet national standards (winter 09)
- Identify options
- PHIP Performance Management Committee develops recommendations
- PHIP Performance Management Workgroup makes final decision

Our Goal

A predictable level of public health protection throughout the state

“What every person has a right to expect.”



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