

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has released the next version the Standards & Measures for the accreditation of governmental public health departments at the state, Tribal, local, and Territorial level. One of the explicit [goals](#) of Version 2022 is to “promote accountability.” Consistent with that goal, PHAB sought [recommendations](#) from representatives of local boards of health and other governing entities about how best to incorporate governance concepts in the revised requirements.

The table below highlights measures that reference governance - either the formal governing entity, an advisory board, or both - as part of the requirements.

Topic	Initial Accreditation Measure	Reaccreditation Measure
Public Health Data Findings	1.3.2	1.3.1
Communications (unified messaging)	3.2.2	
Policy Setting	5.1.1 5.1.2	5.1.1
Strategic Planning	10.1.1 10.1.3	10.1.1 10.1.2
Finances	10.2.8	10.2.5
Communications between Health Department and Governing Entity	3.1.3 10.3.2 10.3.3	10.3.2

In addition to these measures, the guidance within the accreditation Standards & Measures encourages health departments to engage with their governing entities in their work related to health equity, performance management & quality improvement, ethics, enforcement & compliance, and communications to the public. The legal authority of the governing entity will be required as part of a health department’s application to apply for accreditation.