

Public Health Accreditation Board

Scope of Authority Overview



*Advancing
public health
performance*

The Scope of Authority policy provides guidance on the activities and services that are appropriate to submit as documentation for accreditation because they are consistent with PHAB's focus on improving the health of populations.

[Read the Scope of Authority policy.](#)

Questions?

Contact your assigned Accreditation Specialist or reach out to Marita Chilton at mchilton@phaboard.org

Overview

The Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB) national public health department accreditation standards are based on the [Ten Essential Public Health Services](#) framework. PHAB Standards and Measures are focused on development and implementation of policies, systems, programs and services for disease prevention, health protection, and health promotion for the entire population and/or specific groups of the population in the health department's jurisdiction. In March 2021, PHAB expanded its scope to include more population-based interventions and services based on feedback from health departments. PHAB's Scope of Authority policy is now more inclusive of population-based interventions often at the core of health department work.

Population vs. Individual Health

PHAB accreditation focuses on interventions that affect the health of populations. Although populations are comprised of individuals, the focus of PHAB accreditation is not on services provided to an individual client.

Highlight of Activities and Services Within PHAB's Scope

The Scope of Authority policy highlights the 10 Essential Public Health Services and their focus on improving the health of populations. It also includes an addendum with examples of activities both within and outside of PHAB scope for a range of topics such as:

- Performance Management, Customer Satisfaction, and Quality Improvement
- WIC, Family Planning and Home Health
- Health Insurance and Access to Health Care
- Chronic Disease
- Injury Prevention and Occupational Health
- Environmental Health
- Workforce

Highlight of Activities and Services Outside PHAB's Scope

Below, we provide principles about what PHAB's accreditation does not cover:

- Individual patient care and clinical protocols that govern the provision of care to an individual
- Administration of programs of health care services, such as Medicaid
- Individual professional and facilities licensure and certificate programs
- Programs designed to improve health or well-being of animals