

Streamline the accreditation process for Local Health Departments (LHDs) in your state.

Statewide Accreditation Documentation

PHAB is working with accredited state health departments to identify statewide documents in use by LHDs and will review those documents for conformity with PHAB's Standards & Measures for [Pathways Recognition](#), [Initial Accreditation](#), or [Reaccreditation](#)[1]. Approved documents can be used by LHDs for Version 2022 Documentation and state health departments working toward Accreditation under Version 2022.

A few examples of statewide documentation could include:

- Screenshots of **data systems or registries** showing bi-directional data sharing (e.g., immunization registries or surveillance systems).
- Statewide infectious or communicable disease surveillance **protocol**.
- Statewide listservs or **newsletters** highlighting public health policies and practices.
- Statewide **training** on public health laws.

To guide the state health department's selection of appropriate documentation, PHAB will provide interested states with a list of common measures with examples of potential documentation.



Benefits of Statewide Documentation

- **Reduce documentation** burden for LHDs.
- **Foster transparency** and alignment across the governmental public health system – identifying streamlined statewide documentation demonstrates a state health department's commitment to sharing resources and information with LHDs.
- Generate **workflow efficiencies** – collection of statewide documentation eliminates the need for multiple reviews of the same documentation shared between state health departments and LHDs. It may also help to identify opportunities to streamline or deduplicate processes between state and LHDs.
- **Improve accuracy and accountability** – ongoing tracking and management of statewide documentation ensures policies, processes, and other documents remain current.
- Create a **shared understanding** of how key functions are performed between state- and local-level activities. This shared understanding may be useful to orienting new staff and drawing connections across the governmental public health system.
- **Streamline** the state health department's Reaccreditation process – gather the inside scoop on the documents and know conformity with the selected measures if the documents also apply to the state health department.



Statewide Documentation Review Process

PHAB will work with interested State Health Departments (SHD) to select and review statewide documentation.

- 1 **Exploratory:** The SHD engages with PHAB to learn more about the process and steps to get started.
- 2 **Identification:** The SHD identifies 1-2 documents shared and in use among LHDs across the state.
- 3 **Application:** The SHD packages the documents with completed Documentation Forms and submit them to PHAB.
- 4 **Review:** PHAB conducts a review of the documentation submitted for consideration. PHAB will provide feedback about the conformity of documents provided, Documentation Forms, and the application to use as statewide documentation.
- 5 **Adoption:** PHAB-approved statewide documentation will include an updated Documentation Form from PHAB that designates it as approved along with any clarification about what remaining required elements of the measure the LHD will need to provide. Instructions will be included for how the LHD can access and upload the statewide documents.
- 6 **Repeat** steps #2 – 5 and submit more statewide documents to PHAB for review!

For more information or to get started, please contact askphab@phaboard.org.

[1] PHAB's Policy for National Public Health Department Initial Accreditation and Policy for National Public Health Reaccreditation, adopted February 2022, outlines a systematic approach for accredited state health departments to streamline the accreditation process for local health departments within the state. Military Installation Departments of Public Health (MIDPHs) can also use enterprise-wide documentation approved by PHAB. PHAB will work with the Defense Centers of Public Health – Aberdeen (DCPH-A) to identify and conduct reviews of enterprise-wide (e.g., Department of Defense (DoD), Defense Health Agency (DHA) Public Health, or DCPH-A generated) to have pre-approved documents available for use by MIDPHs.