



Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals Report

June 24, 2024

Overview

The [Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals](#) (Core Competencies) reflect foundational or crosscutting knowledge and skills for professionals engaged in the practice, education, and research of public health. Guidance for [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#) (Council) efforts related to the Core Competencies is provided by the [Core Competencies Workgroup](#), which includes members representing a variety of practice and academic organizations and interests within the public health field. The most recent version of the Core Competencies was revised and approved by the Council in October 2021.

Core Competencies Use

The Core Competencies are widely used within public health workforce development efforts across the US. Data show that approximately 80% of state health departments, [60% of Tribal health organizations](#), [55% of local health departments](#), and 25% of territorial health departments use the Core Competencies. Since the last Council meeting, the Core Competencies and resources and tools designed to support implementation have been accessed online more than 4,400 times, with about 177,000 visits to the Core Competencies webpages since the 2021 version was released. Also, since the last Council meeting, Council staff have responded to 5 requests for assistance with the Core Competencies, serving 4 organizations in 3 states and the United Kingdom.

Webinars and Conferences

In May 2024, the Core Competencies were highlighted in a webinar, [Using the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals to Support Workforce Development](#), which featured speakers from the [Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services](#) and the [City of Milwaukee Health Department](#) who spoke about using the Core Competencies to assess their workforce; identify gaps in knowledge, skills, and abilities; and address those gaps through training and other workforce development opportunities.

A session at the recent [Public Health Improvement Training](#) focused on how the Core Competencies can be used in designing workforce development plans and showcased the work of [Sedgwick County Health Department](#) (KS) in applying the Core Competencies. The Core Competencies will also be highlighted at several conferences later this year. They will be featured at the [Public Health Learning Forum: Workforce Development in Action](#) in October in a session on using the Core Competencies and TRAIN Learning Network for workforce development. The Core Competencies will also appear at the [American Public Health Association Annual Meeting](#) in a session, *Using the Core Competencies to Better Prepare for a Career in Public Health*.

Resources and Tools for Implementing the Core Competencies

Work to update and develop resources and tools to support individuals and organizations in implementing the Core Competencies is ongoing. A [new resource](#) describing the relationship between the Core Competencies, 10 Essential Public Health Services, and Foundational Public Health Services is now available. This, along with other tools related to the Core Competencies, is available on the Council website and can be found on the updated [Core Competencies Tools](#)

[page](#). Input on resources and tools to support use of the Core Competencies is welcome and may be shared by emailing Mayela Arana at marana@phf.org.

Additional information about activities related to the Core Competencies can be found through the [Core Competencies](#) section of the Council website or by contacting Mayela Arana at marana@phf.org.