



Rebuilding the Public Health Workforce: The Public Health Advocacy Consensus Task Force

June 24, 2024

Overview

Advocacy is a critical skill as the field continues to focus on rebuilding the public health workforce in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in preparation for the future. However, recent studies show that public health professionals may still be underprepared to engage in advocacy. During this [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#) meeting, Glenn Schneider, Director of the [Public Health Advocacy Consensus Task Force](#) (PH-ACT); Meghan Ames, Education Program Manager, [Lerner Center for Public Health Advocacy](#) (Lerner Center); and Elaine Auld, Chief Executive Officer (retired) for the [Society for Public Health Education](#), will share how the Lerner Center and the [de Beaumont Foundation](#) are partnering with other national and state public health organizations to: 1) gain consensus on the definition of public health advocacy; 2) identify the essential advocacy skills needed to operationalize it; and 3) draft guidance that could help schools and programs. The goal of the PH-ACT is to build a stronger, more effective, advocacy competency training to improve public health policy at the federal, state, and local levels.

The PH-ACT will engage in a rigorous consensus-building process to define public health advocacy and essential skills to operationalize it and has requested Council endorsement of this process. Discussion of the initiative and request will occur during this Council meeting, with a vote on endorsement via email following the meeting.