The Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice

Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals Report

September 29, 2022

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 Core Competencies were recently revised, with the current version completed 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](#), [45% of local health departments](#), and [25% of territorial health departments](#) use the Core Competencies. So far in 2022, the Core Competencies and resources and tools designed to support implementation have been accessed online more than 72,000 times, with nearly 45,000 visits to the [Core Competencies webpage](#) since the 2021 version was released. Council staff have responded to more than 30 requests for assistance with the Core Competencies in 2022, serving 23 organizations in 15 states and Tanzania.

Dissemination of the 2021 Core Competencies

The 2021 Core Competencies have been available through the [Council website](#) since November 2021, and dissemination activities continue to ensure the public health community has access to this latest version for workforce development efforts. The Core Competencies will be featured during three presentations at the [American Public Health Association 2022 Annual Meeting & Expo](#) in November 2022: *[New Tools for Using the 2021 Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals](#)* and *[Who Has Time for Workforce Development? Reinvigorating Your Workforce Development Program](#)* on November 6 and *[Advancing Health Equity with the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals](#)* on November 8. The Core Competencies were also shared during an on-demand session at the [2022 National Association of County and City Health Officials 360 Conference](#) in July 2022: *Introducing the 2021 Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals: Crosscutting Skills for a High-Performing Workforce*. All Council members are encouraged to publicize the Core Competencies through websites, newsletters, social media, meetings, presentations, or other communications channels.

Resources and Tools for Implementing the Core Competencies

Work also continues to update and develop resources and tools to support individuals and organizations in implementing the Core Competencies. Recently, a prioritization tool that supports organizations in identifying the most essential Core Competencies for different jobs within public health was updated. This tool will be available on the Council website in the near future. Input on resources and tools that would help support use of the Core Competencies is welcome and may be shared by emailing Kathleen Amos at kamos@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 Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.