

The National Public Health Performance Standards Program Technical Assistance and Training Resources for Users

Overview

The National Public Health Performance Standards Program (NPHPSP) is a partnership initiative established to improve the practice of public health and the performance of public health systems. By providing optimal-level standards that public health systems can strive to achieve, public health systems can identify areas for quality improvement.

In order to maximize the benefits of the NPHPSP, there must be a strong understanding of the purpose of the standards, the concepts upon which the standards are based, and the self-assessment process through which the standards should be used. Training and technical assistance resources are available to assure that this understanding exists.

The NPHPSP includes three instruments:

- State Public Health System Performance Standards Assessment
- Local Public Health Systems Performance Standards Assessment
- Local Public Health Governance Performance Standards Assessment

Because all three instruments were based upon the same concepts, format, and self-assessment process, the training and technical assistance resources listed below are appropriate for each of the instruments.

State and local public health systems should consider implementing the performance assessment instruments through a coordinated statewide approach. Using the instruments during the same time period can create opportunities to coordinate orientation activities, technical assistance, and improvement planning at the state and local levels. In fact, some states are using funding from the CDC Bioterrorism Grant Program to support their statewide efforts.

What Technical Assistance Resources Are Available?

Various products and resources are available to assist state and local public health systems and governing bodies in their assessment process:

- **Three NPHPSP Assessment Instruments** –designed to assess: 1) state public health systems, 2) local public health systems, and 3) local public health governing bodies.
- **Glossary** – provides further detail regarding terminology and acronyms used within the three instruments.
- **User Guide** – a document with instructions for use of the three NPHPSP instruments.
- **Frequently Asked Questions** – provides responses to frequently asked questions.
- **PowerPoint presentation** – assists public health leaders in educating others about the NPHPSP assessment process.
- **MAPP** – a community strategic planning process that includes four assessments – one of which uses the NPHPSP local instrument – and guides communities through a health improvement process. Online at www.naccho.org



- **On-line technical assistance resources for quality improvement** – an on-line document providing Internet links to a variety of resources that NPHPSP user can access in their efforts to improve performance in each Essential Service. See: <http://www.phf.org/PerformanceTools/NPHPSPtools-EPHS.pdf>
- **Educational materials** – folders, fact sheets, and other promotional materials that can assist public health leaders in initiating the NPHPSP assessment process in their state or community.
- **CDC Help Line** – a help line with direct access to CDC staff supporting the NPHPSP. Contact: 1-800-PHPPO49 (1-800-747-7649).

What Training Activities Are Available?

- **Direct training** – CDC and NPHPSP partners can provide on-site orientation and training to states supporting statewide implementation of the NPHPSP instruments. The logistics of the training can be determined based on the needs of the state. Different formats, such as satellite videoconferencing, regional meetings, or a statewide orientation conference, can be considered.



- **Train the trainer** – Local liaisons in state health departments, public health institute representatives, and others can receive comprehensive training about the NPHPSP. In turn, these individuals will be prepared to provide training to colleagues and can serve as the primary coordinator of a statewide effort. Having a knowledgeable contact within the state is handy and provides the opportunity for NPHPSP users to learn about the assessment process from a colleague.
- **Funding** – The NPHPSP is an activity that may be considered under Focus Area A of the CDC Grant Program, Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bioterrorism. States can use these funds to support statewide implementation of the NPHPSP assessment instruments and improvement planning activities.

We Welcome your Feedback!

CDC and the NPHPSP partners will continue to develop additional resources to assist with implementation of the assessment process. We welcome your suggestions and feedback regarding improvement of current resources or development of new products.

For More Information or to Access these Resources

Contact 1-800-747-7649 (1-800-PHPPO49) or visit our Internet site at

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/nphpsp>. Links to NPHPSP partner organizations are also available at this Website.

