

A Step Toward Performance Improvement and Public Health Accreditation

Pathways is a recognition program for local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments designed to support performance improvement efforts, strengthen infrastructure, and facilitate public health system transformation.

Prepare for PHAB Accreditation, Jumpstart Transformation

Pathways is a manageable and affordable option for health departments seeking to jumpstart their transformation efforts. Pathways Recognition can also facilitate accreditation readiness for eligible health departments.

Benefits of Pathways Recognition:

- Tangible progress and incentives toward public health accreditation
- Objective review of performance by an external entity on a subset of national standards
- Assures stakeholders that the health department is delivering Foundational Capabilities
- A cohort approach that provides peer learning and sharing opportunities



Two Tracks, 34 Measures

Measures for Pathways Recognition are a subset of measures from the PHAB Standards & Measures Version 2022, identified as Foundational Capability measures.

Requirements for Pathways Recognition are divided into two tracks. Eligible health departments may choose to complete one or both tracks in whichever order they choose.

Track 1: Services and Partnerships 19 Measures

- Assessment & Surveillance
- Community Partnership Development
- Policy Development & Support
- Emergency Preparedness & Support
- Communications

Track 2: Health Department Systems 15 Measures

- Organizational Competencies
- Accountability & Performance Management

Equity is embedded across both tracks.

Engage in a Pathways Learning Community

Applications are reviewed three times per year — February, June and November — to form learning communities. Applications can be submitted at any point in the year, but will be reviewed during the closest review period. The Learning Community will provide peer learning opportunities and collaboration with PHAB and other health departments.