

What is public health accreditation?

Much like schools and hospitals get accredited, health departments can also become accredited. All state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments are eligible to apply for national voluntary public health accreditation. In 2011, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) launched its national public health accreditation program. PHAB is a nonprofit 501(c)3 entity and serves as the independent accrediting body. The first health departments were accredited by PHAB in 2013, and—just three years after the launch of PHAB's national accreditation program—more than half of the US population is served by an accredited health department. Public health accreditation signifies that a health department is meeting national standards for ensuring that essential public health services are provided in the community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supports national accreditation for health departments through funding for the program, technical expertise, and activities to advance accreditation readiness.

What is the Accreditation Support Initiative?

The Accreditation Support Initiative (ASI) was created in 2011 by CDC's Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS) to increase the number of health departments that are ready to apply for national voluntary public health department accreditation. OSTLTS provides funding through ASI to help health departments prepare for and begin the accreditation process. ASI proves that small amounts of funding can have a big impact in helping health departments meet their accreditation goals. Since 2011, OSTLTS has made 175 individual ASI awards.



Who receives ASI funding?

ASI funding is prioritized to reach local health departments, tribes, and territories since these organizations often have less direct access to other investments and support available from CDC. Local ASI awards are administered by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). Tribal ASI awards are administered by the National Indian Health Board (NIHB). Territorial awards are administered by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). Awards are typically \$4,000–\$15,000. CDC also provides ASI funding to state public health associations that help health departments prepare for accreditation. These awards are managed by the American Public Health Association (APHA) and are typically around \$5,000.



How have ASI awardees used the support they received from ASI?

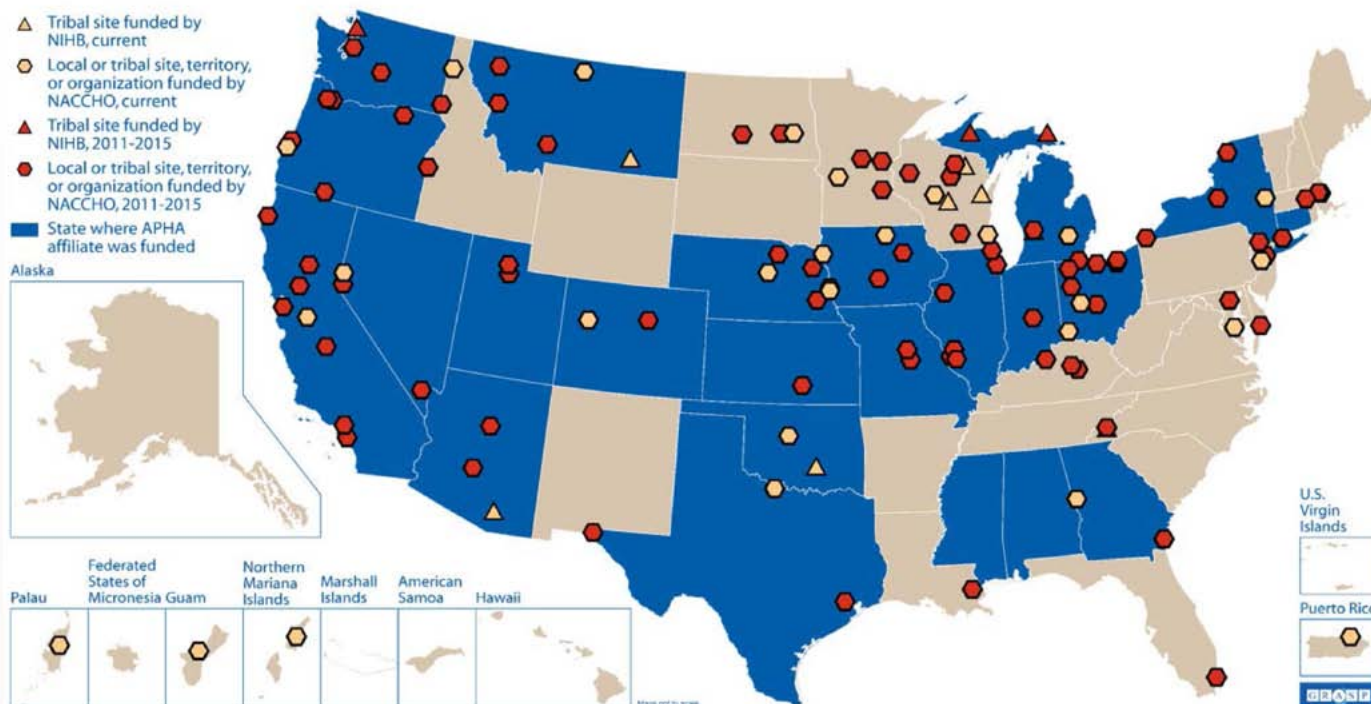
Awardees have

- Used funding for PHAB application fees (up to 50% of the fee can be paid using ASI funds)
- Paid for staff or contractor time to support accreditation and performance improvement
- Prepared for accreditation by using funding to support community health assessments and improvement plans, agency strategic plans, quality improvement projects, and more

Where can I find more information about accreditation and ASI?

- To learn more about the nationally established standards and measures, review guidance for the national accreditation program, and view a list of nationally accredited health departments, visit www.phaboard.org.
- For more information about CDC's role in accreditation and its partners who administer ASI, visit www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/accreditation.
- For specific questions about ASI and eligibility, contact PHAccreditation@cdc.gov.

All Current and Past* ASI-Funded Sites



*Current ASI grantees were funded from July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016.

Past annual ASI grantees were funded from 2011–2015.