Domain 11: Maintain Administrative and Management Capacity

Domain 11 focuses on health department management and administration capacity. Organizational administration and management is the process of organizing, leading, and controlling the efforts of organizational human and other resources to make decisions and achieve organizational goals. Health departments must have a well-managed human resources system, be competent in general financial management, have data management capacity and capability, and be knowledgeable about public health authorities and mandates. And, because of the nature of public health – the focus on the collective good, the employment of government action, and the objective of population-based outcomes – public health leaders need an infrastructure to ensure that decisions, policies, plans, and programs are ethical and address health equity. Health department leaders and staff must be knowledgeable about the structure, organization, and financing of their public health department and other agencies and organizations that provide public health services.

DOMAIN 11 INCLUDES TWO STANDARDS:

| Standard 11.1: | Develop and Maintain an Operational Infrastructure to Support the Performance of Public Health Functions |
|----------------|--|
| Standard 11.2: | Establish Effective Financial Management Systems |

A strong operational infrastructure is necessary in order to administer public health services efficiently and effectively to meet the needs of the population. By maintaining a strong organizational infrastructure, the health department can assess and improve its operations, staffing, and program support systems.

MEASURE

Measure 11.1.1 A

Policies and procedures regarding health department operations, reviewed regularly, and accessible to staff

PURPOSE

The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's processes for maintaining policies and procedures, which includes developing, writing, reviewing, revising, training, and sharing health department policy and procedures with staff. This measure focuses on health department policies that direct organizational operations, not programs and program guidelines.

SIGNIFICANCE

Standardized written policies and procedures are needed to operate an organization efficiently and effectively. Regular review and revision of those policies and procedures is important for continuous quality improvement. Staff needs to have ready access to policies and procedures to be informed of organizational and operations expectations.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

1. Policy and procedure manual or individual policies

GUIDANCE

1. The health department must provide written operations policies/ procedures. This could be one manual or a group of policies.

These are operations policies, not human resource policies, which are addressed in Measure 11.1.5. Policies could address these topics, for example, records retention and back-up procedures, reimbursement, invoicing, emergency/ evacuation, events planning, procurement of office supplies, facilities operations, use of department equipment (including phones and internet), use of department vehicles, tobacco use, recycling, scheduling the use of meeting rooms, the development of policies that includes who needs to sign what types of policies and how often they are reviewed, and any policies and procedures that concern the operations of the department.

The policies can be provided to staff in paper form, on a central computer file, or a link to an electronic format. If electronic, the policies can be files on a server or postings on the web. If the policies are voluminous, the health department may provide a Table of Contents or list of policies.

NUMBER OF EXAMPLES V

1 Manual
or, if a Table
of Contents
or list is
provided,
2 example
policies
are also

required.

DATED WITHIN

MEASURE 11.1.1 A, continued

| | Only the most recent version of policies must be provided. Some health departments may use policies and procedures that are not specific to the health department, but are government-wide (i.e., state, city or county) or relate to a larger super-health agency or umbrella agency. These policies and procedures could demonstrate compliance with the measure if they apply to the health department as well as other government agencies. | | |
|---|--|------------------------|---------|
| 2. Health department organizational chart | 2. The health department must provide its health department organizational chart. If the health department is part of a super-agency or umbrella agency, and some of the documentation provided is from other divisions within the umbrella agency, then an organizational chart showing the health department's relationship with the other divisions is also required. The health department's organizational chart must show leadership, upper management positions, and the organization of programs. It need not detail every staff person. Position titles or program names are required; individuals' names are not required. If changes are made to the organizational chart between the submission of documentation to PHAB and the site visit, the health department must submit a copy of the revised chart to the site visit team. NOTE: This and the budget are the only two instance where information may be changed or updated between the submission of the health department's documents to PHAB and the time of the site visit. | 1 organizational chart | 2 years |
| 3. Review of policies and procedures | 3. The health department must document the review of policies and procedures. The original policies and procedures may have been in place for many years; official dates of policy revisions demonstrate that a review has been conducted within the last five years. Documentation could be policies that were adopted longer than 5 years ago but that have been reviewed, revised, and signed off on by the health department within the last five years. | 2 examples | 5 years |
| 4. Methods for staff access to policies | 4. The health department must document how staff access policies. Access methods can include for example, the website; health department intranet; server access; or paper copy distributed to staff, available from supervisors, or located in central locations. | 1 example | 5 years |

MEASURE

PURPOSE

SIGNIFICANCE

Measure 11.1.2 A

Ethical issues identified and ethical decisions made

The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's policies and process for the identification and resolution of ethical issues that arise from the department's program, policies, interventions, or employee/employer relations.

Efforts to achieve the goal of protecting and promoting the public's health have inherent ethical challenges. Employer/employees relations may also raise ethical issues. Understanding the ethical dimensions of policies and decisions is important for the provision of effective public health and public health management. Defining and addressing ethical issues should be handled through an explicit, rigorous, and standard manner that uses critical reasoning.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

GUIDANCE

NUMBER OF DEXAMPLES W

DATED WITHIN

1. Strategies for decision making relative to ethical issues

1. The health department must document the identification of issues with ethical considerations and a strategic deliberative process for consideration and resolution of ethical issues. The policies and procedures must set forth a transparent process that provides an opportunity for input from affected stakeholders and considers their interests. The policies and procedures must provide for the consideration of the best evidence available. There must be opportunities to evaluate decisions as new information becomes available and there must be a provision for accountability of the decision makers.

Examples of a process include the adoption of the Public Health Code of Ethics, the establishment of an ethics board, the designation of a committee or process of the governing entity, or other process.

1 process or set of policies and procedures

5 years

2. Ethical issues reviewed and resolved

2. The health department must document the consideration, deliberation, and resolution of ethical issues.

Examples of ethical issues include, for example, privately constructed sewers, distribution of vaccine in a shortage situation, staff mandatory immunizations, an employee's use of social media, an employee's acceptance of gifts.

1 example

5 vears

MFASURE PURPOSE SIGNIFICANCE The purpose of this measure Measure 11.1.3 A It is critical that health departments and the individuals who work in them maintain customer confidentiality and protect client health information. Lack of attention is to assess how the health Policies regarding to confidentiality policies and their implementation can lead to violations of department protects customer confidentiality, including confidentiality. confidentiality. This creates liability to the health department and lessens credibility. applicable HIPAA requirements REQUIRED **NUMBER OF** DATED **DOCUMENTATION GUIDANCE EXAMPLES** WITHIN 1. Confidentiality 1. The health department must provide written confidentiality policies 1 policy 5 vears policies and procedures. Policies must define the health department's processes for or a set of protecting customer confidentiality, both personal (directed toward the individual) policies and informational (directed at their health data and records). This may include policies concerning such processes as clinical protocols, staff access to records, computer use, business associate agreements, and electronic transfer of data. Policies may be maintained as either a paper copy or in an electronic format. If electronic, the policies can be files on a server or posted on the web. Some health departments may use confidentiality policies and procedures that are not specific to the health department, but are government-wide (i.e., state, city or county) or relate to a larger super-health agency or umbrella agency. 2. Training staff on 2. The health department must document that staff has been trained on 2 examples 5 years the implementation confidentiality policies, including training content and names of those of training of confidentiality who received the training. policies Documentation could be, for example, a copy of training materials and an agenda for the training session – whether group or individual.

The health department must have a record of who attended the training.

Documentation could also be a log, a sign-in sheet or a record/statement from

web-based training.

MEASURE 11.1.3 A, continued

| 3. Signed employee confidentiality form, as required by policies | 3. The health department must provide a confidentiality form or agreement that is signed by employees. Through this form, staff will acknowledge their responsibilities for protecting confidentiality. The health department can submit a copy of the form. Do not submit copies of every employee-signed form; a log or other tracking mechanism showing that employees have signed the form is sufficient. | 1 form and 1 example of a tracking form or log | 5 years | |
|--|---|--|---------|--|
| | | | | |

MEASURE

Measure 11.1.4 A

Policies, processes, programs, and interventions provided that are socially, culturally, and linguistically appropriate to specific populations with higher health risks and poorer health outcomes.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's social, cultural, and linguistic competence in providing public health programs to specific populations with higher health risks and poorer health outcomes.

SIGNIFICANCE

Public health departments are responsible for all residents in the health department's jurisdiction, and that usually includes people of various backgrounds, languages, and cultures. It is important for health departments to understand how values, norms, and traditions of the populations served affect how individuals perceive, think about, and make judgments about health, health behaviors, and public health services. Those values, norms, and traditions affect how populations interact with public health workers, how open they are to health information and health education, and how they can change health behaviors.

Ensuring that the health department's policies, programs, services, materials, and processes address these social, cultural, and language differences (including low literacy, non-English speaking populations, and the visually or hearing impaired) will enhance the health department's ability to provide the most effective programs and services to meet the needs of the population.

Ensuring that the health department's policies, programs, services, materials, and processes intentionally address health disparities and health inequities will enhance the health department's ability to impact the health of the population.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

1. Policy or procedure for the development of interventions and materials that address areas of health inequity among the specific populations and are culturally and linguistically appropriate for the population the health department serves in its iurisdiction

GUIDANCE

1. The health department must provide a policy or procedure that demonstrates how health equity is incorporated as a goal into the development of policies, processes, and programs. A policy or procedure must ensure that social, cultural, and linguistic characteristics of the various populations groups of the population it serves are incorporated into processes, programs, and interventions. Characteristics of populations addressed in the policy or procedure may include social, racial, ethnic, cultural, sexual orientation and gender identity, linguistic characteristics, including non-English speaking populations, and the disabled.

NUMBER OF EXAMPLES

1 policy or procedure

DATED WITHIN

MEASURE 11.1.4 A, continued

| 2. Processes, programs, or interventions provided in a culturally or linguistically competent manner | 2. The health department must document the provisions of processes, programs, or interventions that are culturally or linguistically appropriate, as defined above. Oral communication is integral to many Tribal cultures. If oral communication is used to ensure that programs, processes, and interventions are culturally competent, the health department must provide documentation of its use, for example, plans, protocols, or objectives for focus groups, community gatherings, roundtables, talking circles, digital storytelling, or other activities. Tribal health departments may serve Tribal members from more than one Tribe or non-Tribal individuals. If this is the case, examples of culturally and linguistically competent services provided to these groups. (e.g., interpretation, materials in other languages) are acceptable documentation. | 2 examples; The two examples must come from two different program areas of the health department | 5 years |
|--|--|--|---------|
| 3. Assessment of the health department's cultural competence and knowledge of health equity | 3. The health department must provide an assessment of cultural and linguistic competence. This could be, for example, the Cultural and Linguistic Competency Policy (CLCPA) self-assessment from the National Center for Cultural Competence, assessment against Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) standards, Health Equity at Work: Skills Assessment of Public Health, or another assessment tool. | 1 example | 5 years |
| 4. Health equity and cultural competency training provided to health department staff | 4. The health department must document staff training on health equity and cultural competence, including social, cultural, and/or linguistic aspects of policies, processes and programs. Training may include: examining biases and prejudices; developing cross-cultural skills; learning about specific populations' values, norms, and traditions; and/or learning about how to develop programs and materials for low literacy individuals or the visually or hearing impaired. Documentation must show the content of the training. The health department must provide a record of who attended the training. This may be a log, a sign-in sheet, or a record/statement from web-based training. An example of training includes the Prevention Institute's Health Equity Training Series. Documentation could be, for example, a copy of the training materials or an agenda for the training session as well as a sign-in sheet or attendance list. | 1 example | 5 years |

MEASURE

Measure 11.1.5 A

A human resources function

PURPOSE

The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's management of its human resources. A comprehensive human resource function may be fully contained within the health department or it may be located in its own governmental agency (for example, an office of management), in an office outside the health department, or may be implemented in a combination of ways. If the larger human resources system is outside of the health department, the health department still must perform human resources management functions, for example, ensuring that human resource policies are available to staff, keeping time sheets, managing leave, and conducting employees' performance evaluations. A health department may also contract for certain human resource actions to an outside organization that specializes in human resource management functions.

SIGNIFICANCE

A well-defined and structured human resources function is important for any organization. It provides the health department with the management processes to hire, manage, evaluate personnel, and improve personnel performance. A human resource function supports the health department, individual staff members, staff development, and the overall workplace environment.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

1. Human resource (HR) policies and procedures

GUIDANCE

- 1. The health department must provide a human resource manual or set of policies and procedures. The policies and procedures must address all of the following:
 - Employment and human resources legal requirements that pertain to the jurisdiction served by the health department (Tribal, state, and/or local);
 - Personnel recruitment, selection, and appointment;
 - Employee confidentiality;
 - · Equal opportunity employment;
 - · Salary structure;
 - Hours of work;
 - · Benefits package;
 - Performance evaluation process based on job/position descriptions and individualized development plans; and
 - Problem solving and complaint handling, including sexual harassment.

Some health departments may use a human resource system that is not specific to the health department, but is government-wide (i.e., Tribe, state, city, or county).

NUMBER OF EXAMPLES

1 set of HR policies and procedures

WITHIN 5 years

DATED

MEASURE 11.1.5 A, continued

| | The policies and procedures may not, therefore, be specific to only the health department but to all of city, county, state, or Tribal government. These policies and procedures could demonstrate compliance with the measure if they apply to the health department, as well as other government agencies. Indian Preference Policies may be submitted in place of personnel selection and appointment and/or Equal Opportunity Employment policies. It may also be applicable that Tribal health departments provide MOAs for assignment of personnel [e.g., U.S. Public Health Service/Indian Health Service or other personal service contracts or agreement (PSA)]. | | |
|---|---|------------|---------|
| 2. Staff access to human resource policies and procedures | 2. The health department must document how department staff access human resource policies and procedures. Methods may include, for example, web-based, health department intranet, server access, or distribution of a hard copy that is available from supervisors or located in central locations. | 1 example | 5 years |
| 3. Employment working relationship agreements | 3. The health department must provide documents in use to establish working relationships. Examples of documents used to establish working relationships include, for example, employment agreements, contract template, letter of employment template, contracts, or labor agreements (if appropriate). This does not include contracts for service. | 1 example | 5 years |
| 4. A human resource function that supports management, the workforce, and workforce development by being a responsive partner to programs | 4. The health department must document that the human resource function demonstrates a responsive partnership with management, programs, services, and staff to enable staff that provide public health programs, services, and products. Documentation could be, for example, the human resource function and a program collaboratively resolving a human resource issue, human resource staff that are educated/experienced in public health (for the purpose of assessing workforce needs, enabling workforce development, and recruiting candidates for public health positions), human resource policies that support the public health program functions, and programs and the human resource function working together to develop policies and provide training and development. | 2 examples | 5 years |

MEASURE

Measure 11.1.6 A

Information management function that supports the health department's mission and workforce by providing infrastructure for data storage, protection, and management; and data analysis and reporting

PURPOSE

The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's capacity and capability to store, manage, protect, and utilize electronic information and data in order to provide relevant information for operational efficiency and informed decision making.

SIGNIFICANCE

Effective public health decisions require accurate information and data. Health departments have access to a wealth of data, either created by the department or collected by others. To use data effectively, the health department must organize and process data in a manner to appropriately protect data and also make it available for decision making. The health department must maintain an information management system that provides the ability to store, protect, process, manage, analyze, utilize, and communicate information and data available from multiple sources.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

1. Information technology infrastructure that supports public health functions

GUIDANCE

1. The health department must document that information technology supports public health and administrative functions of the department.

Documentation could be, for example, a scanning system to preserve records, a grant management system, vital records systems, program (such as WIC or immunization) information systems, licensing information systems, inspections and violations records, and on-line data services.

NUMBER OF EXAMPLES

2 examples;

The two examples must be from different areas. The health department may select the areas. They may be program and/or administrative areas.

DATED WITHIN

MEASURE 11.1.6 A, continued

| 2. Secure information systems | 2. The health department must document information vulnerability audits, security policies, and/or internal controls to ensure the privacy and security of information. | | 3 years |
|---|--|-----------|---------|
| 3. Maintenance of confidentiality of data | 3. The health department must provide a policy that the department adheres to federal, state, and local privacy protection regulations for handling data. | | 5 years |
| 4. Maintenance of information management system | 4. The health department must provide a written process for reviewing and developing information management business system requirements to guide systems changes and development. | 1 example | 5 years |
| 5. Management of information assets | 5. The health department must provide an inventory of data or data systems (either collected by the health department or by others) available to the health departments. | 1 example | 3 years |

| MEASURE | PURPOSE | SIGNIFICANCE | | |
|---|--|--|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Measure 11.1.7 A Facilities that are clean, safe, accessible, and secure | The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's facilities for use by both staff and the public. | In order for the health department to impleme interventions, the facilities must be adequate. by the health department must be clean, safe both staff and the public. | All facilities that a | re operated |
| REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION | GUIDANCE | | NUMBER OF EXAMPLES | DATED WITHIN |
| 1. Licenses for laboratory | | de copies of licenses to meet national for the laboratory services provided. Agent certification is required. | As needed | 5 years |
| 2. Inspection reports | independent organization) inspect policies, logs, records, certificate | rtment conducted), or external (an tion reports, cleaning and maintenance of occupancy, contracts or orders. ude environmental public health and safety | 2 examples | 5 years |
| 3. Assurance of accessibility to the health department's facilities | self-evaluation, as described by federa documentation of compliance with ADA regulations that pertain to the jurisdiction to serve. For health departments that nexempt from the federal regulations or national register of historic buildings), Federal department's procedures to serve men | eal laws concerning accessibility. Impliance report or the health department's law regulations. PHAB will accept a related Tribal, state, and/or local laws and on which the health department is authorized may operate in buildings that are either | 1 example | 5 years |

STANDARD 11.2: Establish effective financial management system.

Sound financial practices are basic to any organization. They are required to manage resources wisely, to analyze present and future needs, to sustain operations, and demonstrate accountability. This standard measures the capacity of the health department to manage the organization's finances.

| Measure 11.2.1 A Financial and programmatic oversight of grants and contracts | The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's ability to manage grants and contracts and comply with external governmental funding requirements. | Health departments receive funding from a vasource has specific requirements for the use of to the funding agency. It is important that fund legitimately and that the health department has | of the funds and for s are used appro | or reporting priately and |
|---|---|--|--|---------------------------------|
| REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION | GUIDANCE | | NUMBER OF EXAMPLES | DATED WITHIN |
| 1. Audited financial statements | examinations of the health department external auditors. The health department's audit may be | reports. Audits are formal 's financial accounts. Audits are performed by part of a large audit of the governmental per agency, county government, or state | 2 examples | Previous two fiscal years |
| 2. Program reports | Monitoring reports or corrective action requirements are also acceptable. Con and/or Tribal health departments to profor funding but might not show the com | s. | 2 examples | 5 years |

SIGNIFICANCE

MEASURE

PURPOSE

MEASURE 11.2.1 A, continued

| 3. Communications from federal or state funding | 3. The health department must provide any formal communications from state or federal funders that indicate the health department is a "high-risk grantee." | All, as appropriate | 5 years |
|---|--|---------------------|---------|
| agencies or organizations | Disclosure and documentation must be provided in the following types of instances: the department being put on manual draw-down; the department being put on a corrective action plan; placement on a 'do not fund' list; receivership status; and instances of malfeasance or misappropriations of funds. | | |
| | Documentation could be letters or emails that officially and formally describe concerns from funding agencies (e.g., federal agencies, state health department funding to local health departments). | | |
| | Documentation must also include a description of follow-up actions and internal controls that have occurred to remedy the situation. | | |
| | If there have been no communications regarding "high-risk grantee" status, the health department director must provide a signed statement attesting to that fact. | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
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| | | | |
| | | | |

MEASURE

Measure 11.2.2 A

Written agreements with entities from which the health department purchases, or to which the health department delegates, services, processes, programs, and/or interventions

PURPOSE

The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's management of agreements with other organizations to provide services, processes, programs, or interventions on behalf of the health department.

SIGNIFICANCE

The health department may not directly deliver or provide all services and administrative activities. They may depend on other entities to act on its behalf. These services could be related to organizational, management, and administrative functions, or to program services or interventions delivered to the public.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

1. Contracts/MOUs/
MOAs or other
written agreements
for the provision
of services,
processes,
programs, and/or
interventions

GUIDANCE

1. The health department must provide contracts or MOU/MOAs or other written agreements that have been executed with other organizations or departments.

State health department documentation could be, for example, a written agreement with a local or district health department for one of the examples. The other example must be with another agency or organization.

Local health department documentation could be a written agreement with the state health department for one of the examples. The other example <u>must be</u> with another agency or organization.

Tribal health department documentation could be a written agreement with a local, district, or state health department for one of the examples. The other example must be with another agency or organization. Tribal health departments may use the compact or funding agreement with the U.S. DHHS to carry out programs of the Indian Health Service. Also acceptable for documentation: agreements with non-Tribal entities to provide Contract Health Services (CHS) to beneficiaries of the Tribal health department, as well as MOA/MOUs or other agreements with other entities, such as epidemiological services provided to Tribes from Regional Epidemiologic Centers funded by IHS.

NUMBER OF EXAMPLES

OF DATED WITHIN

2 examples;

the examples must be from two different program/ administrative areas featuring written agreements with different entities

| MEASURE | PURPOSE | SIGNIFICANCE | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| Measure 11.2.3 A Financial management systems | The purpose of this measure is to assess the health department's ability to manage finances. | Sound management of financial resources is a basic department. Health departments are accountable to elected officials, and the public they serve for the resof public funds. | their governing e | ntity, |
| REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION | GUIDANCE | | NUMBER OF EXAMPLES | DATED WITHIN |
| 1. Approved health department budget | effect when the documentate. The budget may be approved by authority, such as a governor's but of a new budget is approved bet and the site visit, the health depotent of the Site Visit Team. NOTE: The building the site where information may | t provide the approved budget that is in tion for accreditation is submitted to PHAB. It the governing entity or other body with approval budget office. The ween the submission of documentation to PHAB artment must provide a copy of the new budget to budget and the organizational chart are the only two by be changed or updated between the submission ments to PHAB and the time of the Site Visit. | 1 budget | 2 years |
| 2. Financial reports | examples provided may demons successive reports of the same. Documentation could be, for examples provided may demons successive reports of the same. | t provide quarterly financial reports. The strate two different types of reporting or may be two type. Imple, expense reports, reimbursement reports, d/or monthly budget reports – summarized or | 2 examples | 5 years |

PURPOSE MEASURE SIGNIFICANCE Measure 11.2.4 A The purpose of this measure is to assess Additional funding to support public health processes, programs, and the health department's activities to interventions should be sought through a variety of means, including Resources sought increase financial resources to support its budget increase requests, budget revision requests, and grants. to support agency infrastructure and to enhance or develop Financial resources should be maximized by leveraging current funds to infrastructure and processes, programs, and interventions. increase resources available for public health. processes, programs, and interventions **DATED** REQUIRED NUMBER OF **FXAMPIFS DOCUMENTATION GUIDANCE** WITHIN 1. The health department must provide grant applications (funded or 1. Formal efforts to 2 examples 5 years seek additional unfunded) or must document the leveraging funds to obtain additional resources (for example, providing matching funds). financial resources 2. The health department must document its communication concerning 2. Communications 2 examples 5 vears concerning the the need for additional investment in public health. Communication could need for financial address a specific issue or address public health in general. support to maintain Documentation could be, for example, articles or letters to the editor of a newspaper, and improve presentations to the community, or testimony to elected officials. public health infrastructure and Tribal health department documentation could be, for example, Tribal letters services or resolutions of support, Tribal public health assessments for the purpose of demonstrating resources needed, or executive order adding resources.