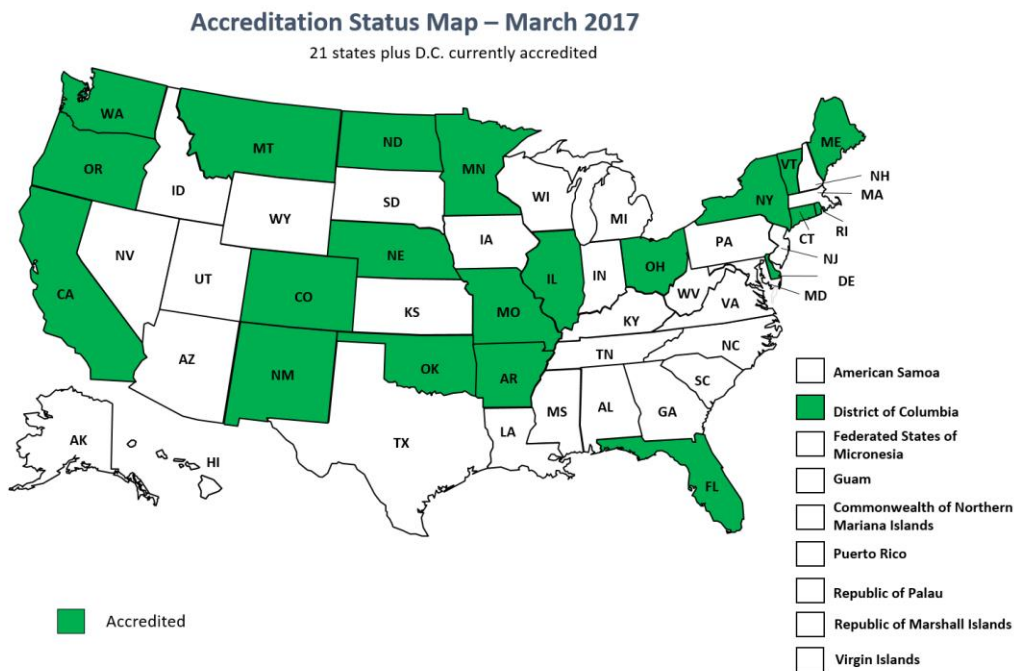


National Public Health Department Accreditation & ASTHO Technical Assistance

National Public Health Department Accreditation

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) launched the national public health accreditation process for state, local, and tribal health departments in September 2011. Accreditation involves adopting a set of standards, developing a process to measure health departments' performance against those standards, and recognizing those departments that meet them.¹ State health agencies seeking accreditation must demonstrate conformity with [PHAB Standards and Measures](#), which align with the [three core functions of public health](#) and the [10 Essential Public Health Services](#). Accreditation allows health departments to identify performance improvement opportunities, enhance management, develop leadership, and strengthen relationships with members of the community.²

As of March 2017, 21 states plus the District of Columbia have been accredited through PHAB.



ASTHO Technical Assistance

ASTHO provides customized technical assistance to state health agencies in the areas of accreditation readiness, performance management and quality improvement, organizational self-assessment against

¹ Public Health Accreditation Board. "Guide to National Public Health Department Initial Accreditation." June 2015. Page 1.

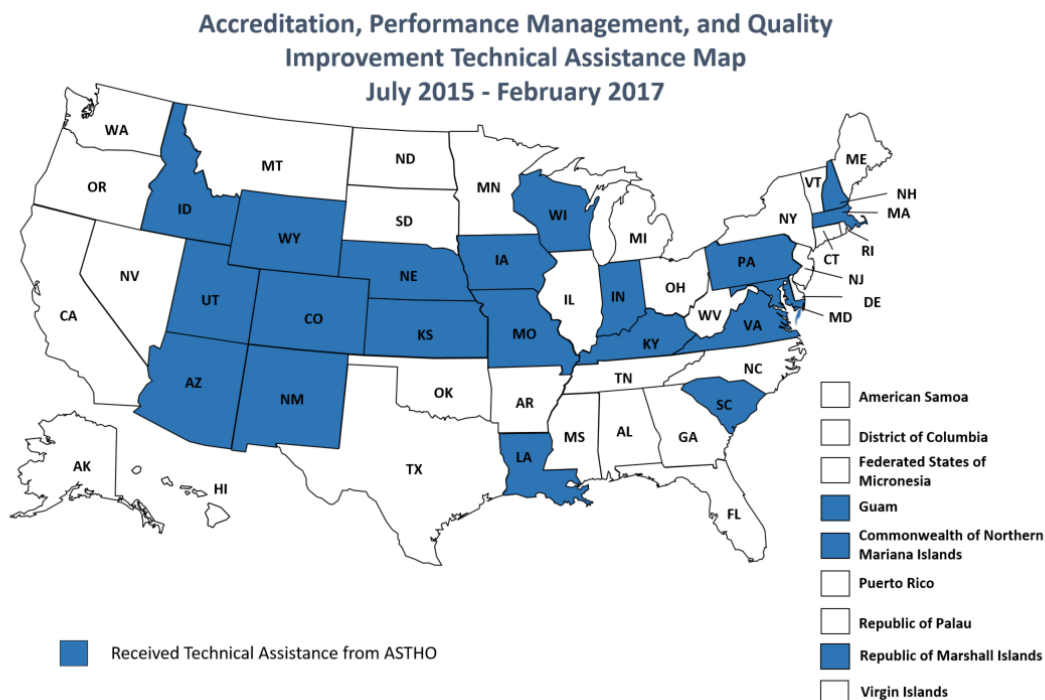
² Public Health Accreditation Board, page 3.

For more information about National Public Health Department Accreditation or technical assistance opportunities, please contact accreditation@astho.org.

PHAB Standards and Measures, documentation review, PHAB site visit preparation, leadership readiness for accreditation, and maintenance of accreditation status. Technical assistance is provided virtually, in-person, and in collaboration with external subject matter experts. Beginning in 2015, ASTHO initiated a competitive application process to select agencies to participate in long-term and coordinated technical assistance. Requests for applications are released in the late summer and all states are encouraged to apply.

ASTHO also provides customized technical assistance to territorial and freely associated state health agencies. This support focuses on community health assessment, community health improvement plans, strategic planning, performance management, quality improvement, workforce development, and other accreditation readiness activities. Technical assistance is designed to advance the readiness and ability of territories and freely associated states to apply for and achieve accreditation. In addition, it is tailored to the unique public health structure of island communities. Like states, the territorial and freely associated technical assistance is provided virtually, in-person, and in collaboration with external subject matter experts. Beginning in 2015, ASTHO initiated the Accreditation Support Initiative framework to competitively select territorial and freely associated states to participate in long-term and coordinated technical assistance. Requests for applications are released in the late summer and all territories and freely associated states are encouraged to apply.

From July 2015 - February 2017, 20 states and three territories and freely associated states received technical assistance from ASTHO's performance and quality team.



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