



# PHAP

## PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

### *Training the next generation of public health professionals*

Managed by CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS), the Public Health Associate Program (PHAP) is developing the next generation of public health professionals in state, tribal, local, and territorial public health agencies.

PHAP, a workforce development program, provides associates with hands-on experience in the day-to-day operations of public health organizations. Over the two-year program, associates complete a comprehensive training curriculum while working alongside other public health professionals across a variety of public health settings—state, tribal, local, and territorial public health organizations; nongovernmental organizations; public health institutes and associations; academic institutions; and CDC quarantine stations.

CSTLTS works closely with other CDC programs and the PHAP host sites to place, train, and mentor associates to support the frontline of public health. Since its inception in 2007, PHAP has placed more than 1,650 public health associates in public health agencies and nongovernmental organizations across 49 states, the District of Columbia, and the US territories. Most associates serve in positions at public health organizations after PHAP. For example, 80% of associates who graduated in 2021 accepted jobs in public health following their time in PHAP.

### **Strengthening Public Health**

Associates build workforce capacity and fill staffing shortages at their host sites while they gain invaluable hands-on public health experience working on some of the most pressing public health priorities, including:

- Chronic disease prevention and health promotion
- Environmental health
- Global migration and quarantine
- Immunization
- Injury and violence prevention
- Maternal and child health
- Public health preparedness
- Prevention of STD, TB, HIV, and other communicable diseases

PHAP offers associates hands-on experience that can serve as the foundation for their careers in public health. PHAP graduates are then qualified to apply for public health positions at CDC and other public health organizations.

**For more information about the Public Health Associate Program, visit [www.cdc.gov/phap](http://www.cdc.gov/phap) or contact program staff at [phap@cdc.gov](mailto:phap@cdc.gov) or 404.498.0030.**



*“PHAP has given me a wide range of applied experience in public health that is rare for a recent college graduate. I am very appreciative for the variation built into the PHAP curriculum because it gave me exposure to a wide array of public health programs and helped me build skills that will be important to any career in public health or service in my future.”*

**– Former associate**



*“We love this program! We benefit from the associates' energy and expertise in public health, and in return, we provide great opportunities for them to do meaningful work.”*

**– Former host site**



**Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention**  
Center for State, Tribal, Local,  
and Territorial Support