



PHAP

PUBLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

Training the next generation of public health professionals to become the leaders of tomorrow

CDC's Public Health Associate Program (PHAP) provides early-career public health professionals with real-life experience in the day-to-day operations of public health organizations. Throughout the two-year program, associates work at public health organizations where they gain hands-on experience that will serve as the foundation for their careers in public health. PHAP graduates are qualified to apply for public health positions at CDC and other health organizations.

CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS) manages PHAP. CSTLTS works closely with other CDC programs and the PHAP host site organizations to place, train, and mentor associates. This CSTLTS program supports the frontline of public health in state, tribal, local, and territorial public health agencies, as well as other organizations with public health missions. PHAP meets the need for an ongoing source of dedicated public health professionals.

To date, PHAP has placed more than 1,100 public health associates in public health agencies and nongovernmental organizations across 44 states, the District of Columbia, and the US territories, with 64% continuing to serve in positions at public health organizations.

Strengthening Public Health

In PHAP, associates work alongside professionals across a variety of public health settings. As CDC assignees to agencies in the field, associates hold positions similar to those of their host site co-workers. Associates can build capacity and fill gaps in agencies affected by budget cuts and staffing shortages. Host sites choose a single program area for the associate. Program areas focus on the most pressing local public health priorities.

For more information about the Public Health Associate Program, visit www.cdc.gov/phap or contact program staff at 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, 2016



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

– Host site supervisor, 2017



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