

# Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support

## Improving Community Health Outcomes by Strengthening State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Public Health Agencies

CDC's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS) was created specifically to support health departments—the nation's front line of public health defense. Every day, thousands of health departments work to provide timely, high-quality, and sustainable public health services to protect Americans' health and safety. CSTLTS achieves its mission through meaningful collaboration and partnership with state, tribal, local, and territorial leaders of the public health system. CSTLTS works within CDC and in the field to identify and address gaps, opportunities, and strategies to enhance service delivery and public health improvement.

### We develop strategic partnerships and engage stakeholders to enhance health system coordination and collaboration and further public health priorities.

- Build the capacity of Indian Country to identify and mitigate public health threats by 1) managing the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Advisory Committee, 2) connecting tribal nations to CDC programs, 3) providing funding for building and improving [tribal public health infrastructure](#), and 4) coordinating tribal consultations to improve American Indian and Alaska Native health
- Provide leadership for public health strategies, policies, programs, and system improvements in the US territories and freely associated states, while recognizing their unique cultural, political, geographic, and disease-burden needs
- Host an [annual orientation](#) to help new health officials from across the country learn about CDC and connect with CDC leaders
- Offer tools and training to help CDC project officers deliver high quality technical, scientific, and programmatic services to health agencies and other funded partners

### CSTLTS SUPPORTS



## We strengthen public health competencies and capacities to support and maintain an elite public health workforce.

- Provide service-learning assignments through the [Public Health Associate Program](#) (PHAP) and [National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health](#), preparing the next generation of public health workers while expanding public health agency capacities
- Support competency model development and provide training to the public health workforce on cross-cutting skills, such as leadership, public health law, and performance improvement
- Provide surge support during public health emergencies

## We improve operational excellence of health departments to fortify public health infrastructure and core capabilities.

- Administer and oversee the [Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant](#), which provides all 50 states, 2 American Indian tribes, 5 US territories, 3 freely associated states, and the District of Columbia with funding to address their prioritized public health needs and challenges with innovative and community-driven methods
- Manage a suite of cross-cutting capacity-building cooperative agreements and grants to:
  - Partner with national public health organizations and associations to develop the public health workforce, communicate public health information, translate science into practice, address outbreaks and disasters, and evaluate public health services
  - Build, implement, and improve the tribal public health system and improve tribal health; for example, one grant reaches 346 tribes and tribal organizations to provide infrastructure and other resources for addressing COVID-19
- Enhance performance management capacity of health departments by supporting state, tribal, local, and territorial health agencies in meeting national standards and attaining [accreditation](#)
- Consult on policy and legal options that affect CDC health priorities and provide [services and resources](#)—such as technical assistance, publications, and workforce development—to CDC programs and state, tribal, local, and territorial communities, thus enhancing public health professionals' capacity to use law as a public health tool

## We promote and support efforts to build evidence of what works to strengthen public health infrastructure and capabilities.

- Research public health laws' effects on health outcomes, compile comprehensive legal datasets, and train partners on the use of public health law
- Develop and apply innovative methods for measuring and evaluating cross-cutting, capacity-building public health programs
- Support development and dissemination of partners' key reports—including profiles of public health agencies—that provide vital data for decision-making about public health strategies, programs, and resources
- Manage the [Public Health Professionals Gateway](#), a website developed specifically to help health departments easily find important CDC information, data, evidence, analyses, and tools
- Offer searchable grant and cooperative agreement information through the [CDC Grant Funding Profiles tool](#)
- Promote timely news from across CDC with [Did You Know?](#), a feature that informs public health programs so they can move data and recommendations into action, and publish [Field Notes](#), which spotlights success and innovation in state, tribal, local, and territorial health agencies

## We cultivate a diverse workforce, inclusive workplace, and equity in all programs and services

- Support public health agencies in addressing gaps in public health response and services for jurisdictions and populations that have been historically underserved
- Recruit and develop a public health workforce that mirrors the communities and demographics it serves and understands the critical challenges of addressing social determinants of health
- Provide technical assistance, training, and on-the-ground knowledge for working in effective, culturally appropriate ways with stakeholders in tribes, territories, and freely associated states

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Public Health Professionals Gateway:  
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