

## CDC's Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS)

### Accessing Key OSTLTS Resources and Services

OSTLTS has many programs, mechanisms, and relationships that we use to communicate, educate, and work with state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) health professionals; national public health organizations; and others about public health issues and CDC programs. We invite STLT public health agencies and other partner organizations to work with us to use these channels. The main OSTLTS line is 404-498-0300; the email address is [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov).

You can find the hyperlinked resources below at: [www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/keyresources.html](http://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/keyresources.html)

- **Accreditation and Performance Improvement**

- **National Public Health Accreditation:** OSTLTS coordinates CDC's support for national voluntary accreditation for STLT health departments. The goal of this program is to improve and protect the public's health by advancing the quality and performance of public health departments. The Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB's) standards and measures are the framework for evaluating a health department's processes and services, outcomes, and progress toward specific goals and objectives. The accreditation assessment process provides valuable, measurable feedback to health departments about their strengths and areas for improvement.
  - Visit [PHAB's website](#) to see the nationally established standards and measures, review guidance for the national accreditation program, and see a list of nationally accredited health departments.
    - Visit the [OSTLTS accreditation web pages](#) to identify resources and tools to support readiness efforts and learn about CDC's work to advance accreditation.
    - Send your accreditation readiness and quality improvement stories or experiences to [phaccreditation@cdc.gov](mailto:phaccreditation@cdc.gov).
- **Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Planning**
  - Use the [community health assessment information and tools](#) to develop and implement community health assessments and health improvement plans, whether for accreditation preparation, nonprofit hospital collaboration, or other reasons.
- **Performance Management and Quality Improvement**
  - Use the [performance management information and tools](#) to increase the effectiveness of health agencies, systems, and services.
- **National Public Health Performance Standards (NPHPS):** One assessment tool that health departments and their governing bodies can use to assess their performance.
  - Visit the [NPHPS website](#) to view archived information about the NPHPS program and links to the current tools (hosted outside CDC).

- **CDC STLT Connection Facebook Page:** This page engages the STLT community in social media conversations and shares public health information that might interest STLT communities.

- [Join the group, post, and share information with others.](#)

- **Did You Know?:** This weekly feature promotes timely news from across CDC to inform public health programs and move data and recommendations into action.

- [Sign up](#) to get Did You Know? emails.
- [Syndicate](#) Did You Know? on your website.
- Browse the archives by [topic](#) or [date](#).

- **[Have You Heard? Facts from the Field](#)**: This feature complements the Did You Know? series and shares STLT health agencies' concerns and challenges, as well as their successes. Anyone may submit content for consideration.
  - Read [instructions](#) on how to submit stories.
  - [Sign up](#) to get Have You Heard? emails.
  - Browse the archives by [topic](#) or [date](#).
  
- **[Health Official Orientation](#)**: OSTLTS coordinates CDC's annual Orientation for New Health Officials, which provides new STLT health officials with a comprehensive perspective of CDC priorities, operations, and leadership. The orientation gives health officials an opportunity to collaborate with CDC leaders and other health officials to advance their public health goals.
  - Access [orientation materials](#).
  - Email [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov) with any questions.
  
- **[Health System Transformation: Resources for Health Departments](#)**: Health system transformation affects the total health system, including all clinical and community players. The US health system is moving from a payment-based system (based on the volume of services provided) to a quality-based system (based on the quality and health outcomes derived from the services received). OSTLTS provides technical assistance, tools, and resources for health agencies and healthcare providers to advance mutual goals, priorities, and initiatives to improve population health. OSTLTS also provides technical assistance to healthcare providers.
  - [Access resources](#) on health system transformation, including presentations and transcripts.
  
- **[OSTLTS Speakers](#)**
  - To request the OSTLTS Director's participation as a speaker at an event or meeting, please complete this speaker request [form](#) [PDF–250KB] and submit it to [ypf1@cdc.gov](mailto:ypf1@cdc.gov).
  - To request other OSTLTS speakers, email [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov).
  
- **[Partnership Support Unit \(PSU\)](#)**: OSTLTS/PSU coordinates several initiatives with national nonprofit organizations to build the capacity and infrastructure of public health agencies and systems.
  - **Web**: The [partnership section](#) of the [STLT Gateway website](#) describes CDC's partnerships and cooperative agreements with 23 national public health organizations to support the public health community. These are just a few examples of CDC's partnerships with national organizations, including those in sectors other than public health.
  - **Email list**: OSTLTS can email information to the public health partners—if we are the cooperative agreement management lead—or we can make connections among external stakeholders and the national organizations.
  - Email [OSTLTSPartnershipFOA@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSPartnershipFOA@cdc.gov) with questions.
  
- **[Phone and Email Assistance](#)**: OSTLTS staff answer or triage requests or issues from health department staff to relevant CDC centers, institutes, or offices (CIOs) for response.
  - Health departments may contact the OSTLTS Support Line at 404-698-9246 or email [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov) with requests for assistance.
  
- **[Prevention Status Reports](#)**: The Prevention Status Reports (PSRs) highlight the status of policies and practices designed to prevent or reduce problems affecting public health. Individual reports are available for all 50 states and the District of Columbia on the following 10 health topics: excessive alcohol use; food safety; healthcare-associated infections; heart

disease and stroke; HIV; motor vehicle injuries; nutrition, physical activity, and obesity; prescription drug overdose; teen pregnancy; and tobacco use.

- [Use the PSRs](#) to learn the status of evidence-based or expert-recommended policies and practices in your state; inform decisions; and educate stakeholders about options to improve and protect health.
  - Refer to the [PSR Toolkit](#), which shows how the PSRs can support accreditation activities and help you advance evidence-based public health practices in your state.
- **[Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant \(PHHS Block Grant\)](#)**: The Block Grant provides all 50 states, 2 American Indian tribes, 8 US territories, and the District of Columbia with funding to address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways.
    - Access resources related to the Block Grant, including [funding information](#) and [grantee highlights](#).
- **[Public Health Law](#)**: CDC's Public Health Law Program (PHLP) works to improve the health of the public by developing law-related tools and providing legal technical assistance to public health practitioners and policy makers in STLT jurisdictions. PHLP's [website](#) provides resources, tools, and training on various public health law issues, including menus of public health laws, judicial bench books, issue briefs, 50-state assessments, and memoranda of understanding between governmental entities.
    - **[Public Health Law News](#)**: This monthly Internet newsletter (~129,000 subscribers as of October 2016) is an important resource for public health law current events, publications, and resources.
      - [Subscribe](#) to the *News*.
    - **Technical assistance**: PHLP provides expert legal analysis on public health law issues and specializes in legal research and writing. PHLP can provide legal expertise to help CDC CIOs or health departments design and incorporate appropriate legal research projects tailored to their particular public health subject matter. PHLP can also help them identify and analyze STLT laws or actions on public health issues.
      - Request [technical assistance](#).
    - **Education and training**: PHLP provides training in public health law for CDC staff and external stakeholders. Public Health Law 101 training sessions give an overview of public health law and discuss its relevance and use in today's public health analysis and practice.
      - [Subscribe](#) to the *News* to learn about upcoming training.
      - Email [phlawprogram@cdc.gov](mailto:phlawprogram@cdc.gov) to request training.
      - Access [training and educational resources](#).
    - **Public health law partners**: PHLP has relationships with national public health law networks and states and can connect stakeholders to those partners, as needed.
      - [View contact information](#) for state and selected local legal counsel.
    - Email [phlawprogram@cdc.gov](mailto:phlawprogram@cdc.gov) with any questions.
- **[Public Health Practice Stories from the Field](#)**: This is a collection of public health success stories from STLT agencies and national organizations. The stories describe practices that have helped improve public health.
    - Email [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov) to submit ideas.
- **[STLT Collaboration Space](#)**: This SharePoint site provides tools and resources created specifically for STLT professionals, including the Communication Resource Center and the CDC Online Resource Directory. Registered users can access free, CDC-produced communication materials that can be customized and shared, such as fact sheets, matte articles, photographs, and broadcast-quality videos. In addition, to increase communication between CDC and public health agency staff, users can search for CDC staff by name, organizational unit, city, or state, and to find their phone numbers and email

addresses.

- [Register](#) to participate in the STLT Collaboration Space.
- Access the [External Partner Quick Registration Guide](#).
- **STLT Subcommittee to the Advisory Committee to the Director of CDC:** This subcommittee is a 15-member panel of leaders from STLT health agencies. The subcommittee provides advice and recommendations to the Advisory Committee to the Director of CDC (ACD) on public health policies and practices relevant to STLT jurisdictions. The subcommittee focuses on integrating CDC priorities with STLTs' work and helping CDC identify strategies to address the most critical challenges STLTs face in an ever-evolving health system. The subcommittee researches and deliberates about potential ways to address these challenges and proposes subsequent positions papers and recommendations for consideration by the ACD.
  - Visit the [website](#) to learn more and read minutes from previous meetings.
  - Attend STLT Subcommittee meetings that are open to the public, as advertised in the [Federal Register](#).
  - Email [OSTLTSDirector@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSDirector@cdc.gov) with any questions.
- **State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) Public Health Professionals Gateway:** The STLT Gateway is designed specifically for health department staff and provides a portal to many CDC resources.
  - [Subscribe](#) to the ["What's New" RSS feed](#) to receive automatic updates from the STLT Gateway to your desktop or browser.
  - Email [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov) with any questions.
- **Training Programs**
  - **Public Health Associate Program (PHAP):** PHAP is a competitive, two-year, paid CDC training program that provides opportunities for recent graduates with a bachelor's or master's degree to gain broad experience in the day-to-day operation of public health programs. Each PHAP associate is assigned to a STLT public health agency and works alongside public health professionals in the field. After completing the program, PHAP graduates are qualified for jobs with government health agencies and are uniquely prepared to pursue an advanced degree in public health.
    - Health departments: [Apply to be a host organization](#).
    - Recent graduates: [Apply to be an associate](#).
    - Email [PHAP@cdc.gov](mailto:PHAP@cdc.gov) with any questions.
  - **National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health:** This applied leadership training program enables multi-sector jurisdictional teams to address public health problems within their communities through team-identified community health improvement projects. Each community-based team receives leadership training and coaching from national experts through collaboration with other teams via webinars, retreats, and networking.
    - Email [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov) for information about this program.
- **Tribal Support Unit (TSU):** TSU links tribal governments with CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Tribal support activities focus on fulfilling CDC's supportive role in ensuring that American Indian/Alaska Native communities receive public health services that keep them safe and healthy.
  - **Tribal Advisory Committee and Tribal Consultations:** Each year, CDC/ATSDR hosts two tribal consultation sessions to provide a forum for consultation between CDC leaders and elected or appointed tribal leaders (or their designated representatives). OSTLTS helps plan and conduct these sessions in cooperation with CDC and ATSDR. These meetings are advertised in the [Federal Register](#).
    - Attend the public portions of the [CDC/ATSDR Tribal Advisory Committee](#) or [tribal consultation](#) sessions.

- Tribal leaders: Submit written testimony and/or present testimony for CDC/ATSDR tribal consultation sessions, according to instructions provided in the applicable Federal Register Notice.
- If eligible, apply to be a member of the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Advisory Committee, when a call for applications is advertised.
- **Technical assistance:** TSU helps tribes connect to CDC resources and expertise and provides technical assistance to STL health agencies about working with tribes or on tribal issues.
  - Email [TribalSupport@cdc.gov](mailto:TribalSupport@cdc.gov) with requests or questions.
- **US Public Health System:** OSTLTS supports, produces, and has compiled a number of resources to help stakeholders understand how the public health system operates, such as [About CDC and the US Public Health System](#) and [Health Agency Profiles](#).
  - Use these resources to educate yourself and others about the public health system and to inform decision-making.
  - When given the opportunity, participate in CDC or national organization surveys of the functions, operations, and status of the public health system.
  - Email [OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov](mailto:OSTLTSfeedback@cdc.gov) with any questions or requests related to these materials or to inform OSTLTS about new, related materials.
- **Vital Signs Town Hall Teleconferences:** These monthly teleconferences are held a week after the release of CDC's monthly Vital Signs report. They offer a venue for health officials to discuss strategies, lessons learned, and success stories, as well as build networks around these leading public health challenges.
  - [Join the monthly call](#).
  - [Browse the teleconference archives](#) by date.

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