

▶ DIRECT FROM CDC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

bout a decade ago, a group of environmental public health (EPH) professionals from state and local health departments, federal and national public health organizations, and academia engaged in discussions and provided much needed input on the development process for a revolutionary advancement in public health—national voluntary accreditation for public health departments. The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) formally launched the program in 2011 and accredited the first cohort of health departments in 2013. Since that time, PHAB has made significant progress accomplishing its mission to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and transforming

the quality and performance of governmental public health agencies (Ingram, Mays, & Kussainov, 2018; Kronstadt et al., 2016).

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the accreditation standards and measures, which will result in version 2.0. In May 2019, PHAB convened the third EPH think tank to receive input directly from EPH professionals working at accredited health departments with firsthand experience and involvement in the accreditation process. As with the previous

