



# Welcome to Wisconsin Public Health Nursing

Wisconsin's public health nurses (PHNs) apply nursing and public health principles to assess, develop, implement, and evaluate plans and health programs related to health promotion, disease prevention, and health protection services for individuals, families, and the community ([Wis. Admin. Code ch. DHS 139](#)). All local health departments (LHDs) in Wisconsin are required to conduct a general public health nursing program. [Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 140.03\(5\)](#) defines a program as follows:

"General public health nursing program" means the organization and delivery of public health nursing services by public health nurses qualified under s. [250.06 \(1\)](#), Stats., and s. [DHS 139.08](#) to individuals within the jurisdiction of the local health department.

To review the required services of all LHDs in Wisconsin, reference [Wis. Admin. Code ch. DHS 140](#).

## Office of Policy and Practice Alignment (OPPA) Public Health Nurse Consultants (PHNC)

The OPPA PHNC team is part of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services housed in the Division of Public Health. OPPA PHNCs support the PHNs working in local and Tribal health departments across the state. Reach out to the shared email inbox with questions: [DHSPHNConsultant@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSPHNConsultant@dhs.wisconsin.gov)

## Tools for PHNs

Below are some helpful resources for you as you start as a PHN:

- PHNC webpage: <https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/phnc/index.htm>
- Statewide PHN Network registration: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/phnc/phn-resources.htm>
- Training page for public health employees in Wisconsin: <https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/lh-depts/training/index.htm>
- 10 Essential Public Health Services: <https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/publichealthservices/essentialhealthservices.html>
- Foundational Public Health Services: <https://phnci.org/uploads/resource-files/FPHS-Factsheet-2022.pdf>
- GovDelivery subscription lists:
  - PHNs can sign up for a PHN-specific list: [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=WIDHS\\_460](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDHS_460)
  - Local health department staff can sign up for the Local Public Health Department Staff list: [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=WIDHS\\_569](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDHS_569)
  - Staff who have signed up for the listserv can also sign up for other lists that are accessible to the public: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new>
  - Individuals can sign up for notifications from DHS via a number of lists to receive email updates or follow DHS on social media by clicking on the icons on the bottom of any GovDelivery bulletin: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/alerts.htm>

