Data Modernization Workforce Acceleration Initiative (WAI) Public Health Training Recommendations

Core Training Recommendations

The following trainings were selected as recommended core training and resources with the intent of orienting WAI placements to key public health domains and concepts as context to support their role in public health agencies. The list includes a mix of e-learning courses, on-demand videos, webpages, and other short readings that address topics in four overarching categories: Public Health Overview, Public Health Informatics, Public Health Governance and Policy, and Others. Each of these resources is available to the public at no cost, though setting up an account is required for some.

Domain	Key Topics/Discussion Questions	Recommended Trainings	Format & Time Commitment
Category 1: Public Health Overview			
1A: Public Health 101	What is public health? How does public health differ from health care? What is the importance of public health? What are the essential public health services, core public health functions, and core sciences (e.g., epidemiology, informatics, surveillance, laboratories, etc)?	APHA What is Public Health Introduction to Public Health | Public Health 101 Series | CDC "Working with Governmental Public Health Agencies" (log in to learn.cste.org and enter course title) 1. What is Governmental Public Health	**4-minute** video introduction **52-minute** e-learning course Self-paced e-learning course (**approx. 1.5 hours**)

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		2. Services, Structures, and Key Players 3. Surveillance and Response Activities 4. Collaboration, Data Sharing, Communication	
1B: Public Health Authority	What do public health agencies (PHAs) do? ● What is their authority? ● How are PHAs structured and what are their roles in the US? How are they distinct and where do they overlap? ○ CDC, HHS ○ State ○ Local ○ Tribal	Public Health Authority Toolkit | ASTHO (PDF version) Structure of Government | ChangeLab Solutions	Webpage or PDF; **quick read (5 min)** **53 minute** Video Training
1C: Public Health Funding	How are PHAs funded? (Bottom-up nature of public health authority; top-down nature of CDC funding)	How Public Health Agencies are Funded (*Slide deck with notes and links*)	**14 mins**
Category 2: Public Health Informatics			
2A: Public Health Informatics	What is Public Health Informatics? What is the role and value of informatics in public health and how can informatics be applied to public health? How does public health informatics differ from health care IT and health informatics?	Public Health 101 series-Informatics (repeated from above-Intro to Public Health Informatics and Intro to Public Health Surveillance included in series)	Self-paced e-course (**approx 45-60 min**)

Domain	Key Topics/Discussion Questions	Recommended Trainings	Format & Time Commitment
		PHII Telling the Story of Data Modernization Toolkit PHII Defining Public Health Informatics CDC/FrameWorks Institute/PHII Reframing Public Health Informatics Toolkit	**30+ minutes** to familiarize with resources included Self-paced website and toolkit resource review
2B: U.S. Public Health Data Ecosystem	What are the core public health data systems (e.g., IIS, DS/eCR systems, cancer registries) and their uses (e.g., surveillance)? What are some examples of STLT-deployed vs national systems like NEDSS Base System (NBS), ESSENCE? Who are some of the key national partners in data modernization?	U.S. Public Health Data Ecosystem (*Slide deck with notes and links*) Access course via TRAIN	**32 mins**
2C: CDC Public Health Data Strategy	What is the CDC Public Health Data Strategy? How do TEFCA, USCDI/USCDI+, and FHIR fit into CDC's public health data strategy, and what are some resources to stay connected and help agencies advance in these areas?	PH Data Strategy HLN Blog: CDC releases 2026 Public Health Data Strategy (PHDS) "CSTE Data Modernization 101" (create free account to log into learn.cste.org and enter course title in search)	Webpage and Blog review (**approx 10 min**) Self-paced e-course (**approx 1 hour, 30 min**)
2D: Public Health Interoperability and Standards Overview	What is interoperability and why is it important? What are the commonly used messages and standards that support interoperability (e.g., ELR,	Interoperability for Public Health Practitioners - University of Utah	**1.5 hours in total**, 3-part video training

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	eCR, IZ, SS)? How do HL7 FHIR concepts fit into interoperability, and what is the status of FHIR in Public Health? *Although this was created in 2022, it provides relevant concepts, terminology, and historical context*		
Category 3: Public Health Data Policy and Governance			
3A: Data and Information Governance in Public Health	What data governance considerations impact decisions related to data collection, management and use? • **Information** Governance Principles • **Data** Governance overview	Information Governance for Public Health Data Governance for Public Health	Quick PDF read-**approx. 15-20 min** Self-paced e-learning course-**approx. 45-60 min**
Category 4: Other Core Public Health Skills (discuss what is available from respective public health agency)			
4A: Overview of key skills for success in public health	What are some example situations where you need to demonstrate strong skills in the following sorts of areas? Communications, Customer Service ("servant leadership"), Cultural Competence, Community partnerships/stakeholder engagement, change management, etc.	Examples: https://www.train.org/main/training_plan/7641 (covers some like health literacy, cross-cultural communication, community partnerships, etc.) Servant Leadership 101 - Overview | Rise 360 (articulate.com)	Varies by topic **10-12 minute** e-learning micro course