Background:
The lecture introduced the topic of Public Health Accreditation. Many public health departments have already put much preparation into the accreditation process. The assignment is designed to familiarize students with the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Domains and Standards.

Even back in the fall of 2007, to assure it was putting resources into providing services that were a priority, Escambia County Health Department (ECHD) in Florida created a ranking tool they dubbed ‘the matrix’. This matrix is a tool for comparing all the services provided by ECHD, and analyzing:

1. how the services align with the health department’s responsibility to protect the public’s health under Florida statutes and regulations, and
2. how the services connect to the NACCHO Operational Definition of a Functional Local Health Department (Operational Definition). (The Operational Definition was the tool health department’s worked with until the Domains and standards for Public Health Accreditation were available since it was the framework in the development of Public Health Accreditation).

Assignment:

This assignment is using a version of Escambia County’s matrix. Students are asked to indicate how the selected services connect to the current tool public health departments are using, Public Health Accreditation (PHAB) Domains and Standards which has been posted with this assignment. (We also show whether ESHD determined the service is or is not required by state law.)

1. Accessing the correct domain: The assignment is designed to familiarize students with the PHAB Domains and Standards, but it is about 250 pages long so we do not expect you to read through it.

   a) Begin by selecting a service from the ESHD matrix that is of interest to you. Please choose a service that another group member has not already discussed in a posting.
   b) Then, please review the listing of domains printed below* to find one or two to which you think the service you selected belongs. Then, use the ‘bookmarks’ in PHAB Domains and Standards and click on one that you want to look at. Each Domain has one or more standards listed. And for each standard the following is indicated in a table:

      Standard:
      Measure
      Purpose
      Significance
      Required Documentation
      Guidance

2. Posting: In your first posting, restate the service from the matrix document that you are analyzing. Then state the domain to which it belongs. State also the standard under that Domain and the measure and required documentation (2 points maximum).
3. In a second posting, you should respond to another student’s posting on the issue by offering a suggestion of another domain or another standard within a domain under which you think the service belongs. Please offer constructive criticism. Students will not receive credit for the second posting if merely agreeing with the initial posting. Please remember the grading rubric that requires students to provide a meaningful response to another students’ posting in order to receive full credit (1 point maximum).

4. Please use Netiquette in all postings, and see the syllabus for due dates and grading rubric.

*Public Health Accreditation Domains*

- Domain 1: Conduct and disseminate assessments focused on population health status and public health issues facing the community
- Domain 2: Investigate health problems and environmental public health hazards to protect the community
- Domain 3: Inform and educate about public health issues and functions
- Domain 4: Engage with the community to identify and address health problems
- Domain 5: Develop public health policies and plans
- Domain 6: Enforce public health laws and regulations
- Domain 7: Promote strategies to improve access to healthcare services
- Domain 8: Maintain a competent public health workforce
- Domain 9: Evaluate and continuously improve processes, programs, and interventions
- Domain 10: Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health
- *Domain 11: Maintain Administrative and Management Capacity*
- *Domain 12: Maintain Capacity to Engage the Public Health Governing*