



# 6 “Easy” Things To Do to Get Started with Accreditation

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# National Indian Health Board

**Purpose:** To advocate on behalf of all federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes to ensure the fulfillment of the trust responsibility to deliver health and public health services as assured through treaties, and reaffirmed in legislation, executive orders and Supreme Court cases.

**Mission Statement:** One Voice affirming and empowering American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples to protect and improve health and reduce health disparities.



# #1 Educate/Orient

- Talk about public health “accreditation”
- Leadership, Health Director, Key Staff
  - Tribal Leaders’ Perspectives on Public Health Accreditation video [http://nihb.org/tribalasi/tribal\\_asi\\_tools.php](http://nihb.org/tribalasi/tribal_asi_tools.php)
  - PHAB online orientation <http://www.phaboard.org/education-center/phab-online-orientation/>
  - Attend national and regional trainings (NIHB National Tribal Public Health Summit, Open Forum for Quality Improvement, Public Health Improvement Training (PHIT))



# #2 Conduct Self Assessments

- National Public Health Department Accreditation Readiness Checklist
  - <http://www.phaboard.org/accreditation-process/accreditation-materials/>
- Tribal Self-Assessment Workbook with PHAB 1.5 Standards and Measures
  - <http://www.instituteforwihealth.org/tribal.html>
- Performance management self assessment
  - [http://www.phf.org/focusareas/performancemanagement/toolkit/Pages/PM\\_Toolkit\\_Self\\_Assessment.aspx](http://www.phf.org/focusareas/performancemanagement/toolkit/Pages/PM_Toolkit_Self_Assessment.aspx)



# #3 Get Public Accreditation “On the Books”

- Tribal resolution
- Project charter
- Strategic Plan



# #4 Create a Timeline

- Use phases to divide the work into manageable pieces
- Set goals (high level and detailed)
- Be realistic
- 3-5 year plan has been recommended



# #5 Identify a Core Accreditation Team

- Must have Health Director involvement
- Appoint or plan for an Accreditation Coordinator  
<http://www.phaboard.org/wp-content/uploads/Considerations-for-Assigning-an-Accreditation-Coordinator-Tip-Sheet-March-2012.pdf>
- <http://www.phaboard.org/wp-content/uploads/PHAB-Accreditation-Coordinator-Handbook-Version-1.0.pdf>
- Know that this team will grow and morph as you proceed
- Include a stakeholder engagement/communications lead



# #6 Access and Engage Resources

- Grants (Tribal ASI) <http://nihb.org/tribalasi/index.php>
- Networking
- TA providers
  - Tribal Epi centers, Area Indian Health Boards
  - National Indian Health Board ([www.nihb.org](http://www.nihb.org) )
  - Association of American Indian Physicians ([www.aaip.org](http://www.aaip.org) )
- Consultants
  - RedStar International (<http://www.redstarintl.org/>)
- Other National Orgs
  - National Association of City and County Health Officials ([www.NACCHO.org](http://www.NACCHO.org) )
  - Association of State and Territorial Health Officers ([www.ASTHO.org](http://www.ASTHO.org) )
  - Public Health Foundation ([www.PHF.org](http://www.PHF.org) )

