Value of APHL Membership

APHL member laboratories have access to an extensive array of benefits and services to assist in carrying out their critical mission of protecting the public’s health. APHL—and the members who sustain it—are charting the future of the public health laboratory system at a time when laboratory services have never been so important to the nation’s health.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE

APHL actively supports our members during an emergency response, which has been significant during the coronavirus pandemic. APHL provides member laboratories regular briefings, guidance and assistance.

In 2020, APHL worked with members and provided the infrastructure necessary to electronically send standardized COVID-19 requests and results to CDC.

APHL advocacy efforts helped secure COVID-19 supplemental funding for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity cooperative agreements, including costs for facilities and equipment to improve capabilities, such as high throughput testing and physical improvements to accommodate modern equipment.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

APHL provides opportunities to apply for direct funding for a range of projects, including quality systems projects, implementation of specific testing methodologies, software acquisition, support for regional consortia, equipment/service contracts, maintaining reference/support center analyses, evaluation of instruments and testing algorithms and more.

Direct funding to member laboratories totaled almost $17 million in 2019 and over $18 million in 2020.

Every member is important to us! If you have any questions or comments, contact membership@aphl.org. We are here to serve you!

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Outbreaks and public health events demand timely information. APHL connects member laboratories to best practices and federal agencies in times of crisis, as well as providing assistance with day-to-day operations.

In 2020, APHL’s Newborn Screening Program provided funds to 39 states to implement new disorders, perform continuous quality improvement (CQI) projects or to support improvements during the public health emergency.

APHL supported member response to the COVID-19 pandemic through technical assistance, instrument procurement, workforce support and communication and collaboration with public health and federal partners by articulating their needs through APHL’s Incident Command System.

APHL offered technical assistance to seven laboratories seeking to become accredited to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard, as well as five additional laboratories looking to expand the scope of their ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation. Services included document creation, SOP and methods review, internal audit training and on-site assistance, when safe to do so.
DISCOUNTS

Through APHL’s relationships with corporate partners, APHL provides members with a variety of public health pricing discounts for laboratory equipment, reagents, testing supplies, software and service contracts.

For example, one APHL corporate partner offers member laboratories a 40% discount on environmental testing software, including service contracts, and another APHL corporate partner offers member laboratories a 38% discount on LRN Mass Specs and equipment, including service contracts.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

APHL offers high-quality continuing education and workforce development programs, including technical conferences, webinars, hands-on workshops, seminars and online courses, to strengthen skills and promote excellence in laboratory practice. APHL’s Annual Conference is the only educational event in the nation dedicated to public health laboratory science. APHL also offers fellowship programs, opportunities for member laboratories to host a fellow, and a vibrant emerging leader program.

In 2020, APHL provided 148 different professional development opportunities to members and awarded over 20,000 continuing education credit hours to more than 7,000 people.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & GOVERNANCE

APHL members have the opportunity to help govern and guide the association. This includes representing APHL on external workgroups, providing input on subject-specific taskforces, engaging in collaborative committee work, and strengthening laboratory capacity in developing countries. Laboratory institutional member representatives (laboratory directors) are eligible for election to the Board of Directors.

Over 500 laboratory members serve on committees, subcommittees, workgroups or taskforces.

RESOURCES

Members have 24/7 access to timely information and resources, including APHL survey data, guidance for federal grant applications, best practices and scientific guidance, thanks to the Member Resource Center, eUpdate, Lab Matters and other valuable benefits. Additionally, member laboratories are connected to APHL’s robust public health laboratory network through CoLABorate, APHL’s online community.

CoLABorate is home to approximately 700 active users who’ve produced over 10,000 discussion posts since 2017. CoLABorate users produced over 4,000 discussion posts in 2020 alone, a fourfold increase over the previous year!

QUESTIONS ABOUT APHL MEMBERSHIP OR BENEFITS?

David Fouse
Director, Marketing & Communications
david.fouse@aphl.org

Drew Gaskins
Senior Specialist, Membership
drew.gaskins@aphl.org

Camille Walker
Manager, Corporate Relations
camille.walker@aphl.org