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 throughout the coronavirus pandemic. APHL provides member laboratories regular briefings, guidance and assistance.

APHL advocacy efforts helped secure COVID-19 supplemental funding for public health laboratories, including for construction and renovation of facilities, data modernization efforts and equipment such as high throughput testing. Supplemental funding is also providing transformational investments to support the laboratory workforce.

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 $18 million in 2020 and over $22 million in 2021.

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 provides assistance with day-to-day operations. Through these efforts, APHL fills a vital gap in the critically understaffed public health workforce by leveraging shared infrastructure, subject matter expertise and resources.

Members have access to a variety of technical assistance opportunities in areas such as project management, business analysis, terminology, technical architecture, system integration, database development, and informatics training. As of 2021, APHL has provided technical assistance to every member laboratory through the COVID-19 response as well as other data exchange initiatives like PHLIP, AR Lab Network and ETOR implementation.

In 2022, APHL's Newborn Screening Program provided funds to 26 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 with an emphasis on building sequencing capacity, instrument procurement, workforce support and communication and collaboration with public health and federal partners by articulating their needs through APHL's Incident Command System.

WORKFORCE

APHL was awarded $282 million over five years to help strengthen the capacity of our nation’s public health laboratories. The Public Health Laboratory Workforce Pipeline Project will increase the number of qualified personnel by expanding training opportunities, building up the existing APHL-CDC Fellowship Program and launching a new internship program to enhance capacity of APHL member labs now and for the future.
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, through access to the Member Resource Center, the Public Health Laboratory System Database and Laboratory Profiles (laboratory directors and their delegates), 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 800 active users who’ve produced over 14,000 discussion posts since 2017. In 2021, CoLAborate users produced over 4,000 discussion posts for the second year in a row!

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

QUESTIONS ABOUT APHL MEMBERSHIP OR BENEFITS?

Association of Public Health Laboratories | 8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 700 | Silver Spring, MD 20910 | www.aphl.org