



WELD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
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Weld County Health Department Awarded National Accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board

Weld County, Colorado – Today, the Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The national accreditation program works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and transforming the quality and performance of the local public health departments. The Weld County Health Department is one of fewer than 200 health departments nationally that have thus far achieved accreditation through PHAB since the organization launched in 2011. The Weld County Health Department is only the fourth local health department to become accredited in Colorado.

“We are pleased and excited to be recognized for achieving national standards that foster effectiveness and promote continuous quality improvement,” said Mark E. Wallace, MD, MPH, Executive Director of the Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment. “The accreditation process helps to ensure that the programs and services we provide are as responsive as possible to the needs of our community. With accreditation, the Health Department is demonstrating increased accountability and credibility to the public, funders, elected officials and partner organizations with which we work.”

To receive accreditation, a health department must undergo a rigorous, multi-faceted, peer reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets or exceeds a set of quality standards and measures. “Whenever you see our seal of accreditation, you will know that the Weld County Health Department has been rigorously examined and meets or exceeds national standards that promote continuous quality improvement for public health,” said Eric Aakko, Health Department spokesperson and accreditation coordinator. “By continuing to improve our services and performance, we can be sure we are meeting the public health needs of those we serve as effectively as possible.”

The Weld County Health Department provides a range of services, from immunizations to birth and death certificates, to restaurant food safety, to air and water quality monitoring, to youth drug use prevention, and disease outbreak investigations and response. For more visit www.weldhealth.org.

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), established in 2007, was created to serve as the national public health accrediting body. The development of national public health accreditation has involved public health leaders and practitioners from the national, Tribal, state, and local levels. For more visit: <http://www.phaboard.org/>

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