

Understanding Missouri’s Foundational Public Health Services Model

This essay assignment encourages students to explore the interactive academic version of Missouri’s Foundational Public Health Services model to gain a more thorough understanding of the foundational capabilities and public health areas of expertise that must be available in every Missouri community in order for the public health system to function. Located at www.HealthierMO.org, the interactive model provides definitions, case studies, data, and resources that support student engagement and understanding. (Select “FPHS Model” from the top menu on the page.)

Assignment	Points Deduction Clarification Comments	Points
<p>1. Describe the interconnectivity of the public health capability Emergency Preparedness and Response and the area of expertise Communicable Disease Control. What is a current example of this interconnectivity?</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency response demands an increased capacity in communicable disease control capacity. • Emergency planning activities should include preparing for continuity of operations in the face of limited resources, increased demand for service, and a high stress environment. • Like communicable diseases, public health emergencies are not limited by jurisdictional lines and require collaboration. 		
<p>2. Explain why health equity and social determinants of health should act as a lens through which all other components of the model are assured.</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health equity and social determinants of health should be integrated into all public health capabilities and areas of expertise. • Public health agencies must have the ability to work with their partners to address health inequities and social determinants of health in order to create programs and policies that create an environment that supports optimal health for everyone. • Public health agencies should make health equity a strategic priority, use data to identify health inequities, and apply evidence-based strategies and interventions to assure health equity for everyone. 		

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<p>3. The 2020 Infrastructure and Capacity Assessment survey found that local public health agencies with higher capacity in the foundational capabilities also had higher capacity in the areas of expertise defined in the FPHS model. Explain why, based on your understanding of the interconnectivity of the model’s components.</p> <p><u>Key Concepts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cross-cutting skills identified by the models’ capabilities are required to assure the delivery of foundational public health services identified in the areas of expertise. • Each area of expertise relies on capacity in all seven of the capabilities described in the FPHS model. • The capacity of areas of expertise is typically dependent on staff that specialize in program areas, and the capabilities are highly dependent on a diverse set of administrative skills. 		