

COURSEWORK FOR LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM: FOOD & HOUSING HANDBOOK

Effective date December 8, 2023

Last updated September 12, 2024

This handbook serves as a comprehensive guide, outlining the coursework essential for progressing through the Massachusetts Local Public Health Training Program (LPHTP), which encompasses specialized training for Food and Housing inspections. The program is structured into three tiers:

- Tier 1 – Essential Knowledge with online learning modules
- Tier 2 – Instructor Guided Learning featuring both instructor-led classroom and virtual sessions
- Tier 3 – Applied Practice involving joint inspections.

For the Massachusetts Retail Food Inspection Training Program, the coursework is segmented into Tier 1 Food, Tier 2 Food, and Tier 3 Food. Similarly, the Massachusetts Housing Inspection Training Program is divided into Tier 1 Housing, Tier 2 Housing, and Tier 3 Housing.

The overarching goal of the LPHTP is to enhance the existing training infrastructure for local public health professionals (LPHs) who are responsible for enforcing Massachusetts General Laws related to public health services. The program consists of three tiers:

Tier 1 Essential Knowledge: This tier comprises asynchronous eLearning modules covering various LPH topics, delivered through online platforms such as TRAIN MA and ORALearnED (FDA LMS). It provides LPH professionals with the foundational knowledge necessary for understanding key LPH topics.

Tier 2 Instructor Guided Learning: This instructor-led component builds upon the knowledge gained in Tier 1. It offers LPH professionals the opportunity to explore different public health topics in sessions led by experienced instructors. The knowledge acquired in this tier will be applied to real-world public health scenarios in Tier 3.

Tier 3 Applied Practice: This tier focuses on practice-based learning through real public health scenarios. Experienced trainers will guide participants in applying LPH topics, such as food and housing inspections. These practical opportunities are facilitated by the Local Public Health Training Hubs.

Participants must complete each tier sequentially before advancing to the next. Upon completing Tier 3 for either Housing or Food, a trainee will have fulfilled all program requirements. If an individual is already standardized by the FDA for Standard 2 of the Food Training Program, they may bypass Tiers 1 and 2 and proceed directly to Tier 3. Proof of completion of FDA Standard 2 must be submitted to confirm the exemption.

Please note as the Local Public Health Training program grows and evolves over time the prerequisites are subject to change.

***Any course with asterisk (*) is part of the Foundations for Local Public Health Practice. If you completed any of these courses in LPHI and do not see them reflect in your TRAIN account, please contact OLRHtrainingsupport@mass.gov.**

Housing Tier 1 Coursework	
All Tier 1 coursework for housing can be found on TRAIN MA: MA LPH Training Program – Housing Tier 1 Coursework	
* = Course is a part of the <i>Foundations for Local Public Health Practice</i>	
Tier 1 Housing Coursework (To be completed prior to taking the instructor-led housing course)	• Administrative Search Warrants • Nuisance Control Abatement and Removal* • Bed Bugs: A special Housing Topic • Hoarding: A Special Housing Topic • Mold: A Special Housing Topic • Health Promotion and Health Equity* • How to Hold a Public Hearing in Massachusetts* • Public Health Workforce Protection • Safety: Practical Strategies While Doing Field Work* • Solid Waste & Recycling • The 10 Essential Public Health Services in Action* • Orientation to Local Public Health in MA* • Public Health Law and Legal Issues in MA* • Successful Completion of LPHIT Housing (Tier 2)

Food Tier 1 Coursework

Courses can be found on TRAIN MA and ORALearnED

TRAIN MA Coursework: [MA LPH Training Program - Food Tier 1 Coursework](#)

ORALearnED Coursework: [ORA LearnED](#)

For assistance creating an ORALearnED account: [Job Aid: Creating an ORALearnED account](#)

* = Course is a part of the *Foundations for Local Public Health Practice*

Tier 1 Food Coursework (To be completed prior to taking the instructor-led housing course)

MA Laws and Regulations (TRAIN MA)

- Food Protection for Regulators*
- Health Promotion and Health Equity*
- How to Hold a Public Hearing in Massachusetts*
- Public Health Workforce Protection
- Safety: Practical Strategies While Doing Field Work*
- Solid Waste & Recycling
- The 10 Essential Public Health Services in Action*
- Orientation to Local Public Health in MA*
- Public Health Law and Legal Issues in MA*

FDA Retail Food Inspection Curriculum (ORALearnED)

- Laws and Regulations (CC8039W)
- Food Defense (CC8027W)
- Basics of Inspection: Beginning an Inspection (FDA38)
- Basics of Inspections: Issues and Observations (FDA39)
- Public Health Principles (CC8026W)
- Control by Thermal Processing (MIC08)
- Biological Hazards (CC8028W)
- Pasteurization CC8002W)
- Sampling (CC8035W)
- Sanitation Practices (CC8032W)
- HACCP (CC8033W)
- Allergens (CC8029W)
- Communication Skills for Regulators (CC8011W)