

Welcome to the 2024 Dental Public Health Leadership Academy Application Guide

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What is the AIDPH Dental Public Health Leadership Academy?



The American Institute of Dental Public Health is excited to open applications for the 2024 -2025 cohort of the Dental Public Health Leadership Academy (DPHLA), a 12-month virtual fellowship designed to elevate and empower up to 20 early- to mid-career professionals who desire formal training in leadership principles and want to apply their skills in oral health and public health work. DPHLA integrates AIDPH's Empowering Transformation for Community Health (ETCH) Framework to ensure attention to adult

learning principles and a health-justice mindset. This approach allows our education and leadership programming to both foster personal and professional growth and aligns with AIDPH's mission of empowering communities and advocating for justice in oral health.

DPHLA offers a dynamic blend of didactic instruction, case-based scenarios, personal reflection, and practical exercises. This multifaceted learning experience is enhanced by the opportunity to engage in professional networking and collaborative peer-to-peer learning.

Key features of DPHLA include:

- **Transformative Learning:** AIDPH supports fellows to critically reflect, challenge assumptions, and transform perspectives, all while addressing the social, political, and environmental determinants of health.
- **Empowering Education:** Participants engage in critical consciousness, enabling them to become agents of change and disrupt systems of oppression through a health justice approach.

DPHLA is a fellowship program offered through the **AIDPH Academy**. The AIDPH Academy is the hub of educational programming for AIDPH, serving as a dynamic platform for public health professionals seeking to enhance their knowledge and leadership skills in oral health. The Academy offers a spectrum of educational experiences ranging from webinars and workshops to comprehensive certificate programs and fellowships. By offering varied intensities and modalities of learning, the AIDPH Academy ensures that participants find the education and leadership training that best fits their needs, embodying our commitment to empowering transformation in community health.

After graduating from the DPHLA fellowship, attendees will be considered Fellows of the AIDPH Academy and receive ongoing, exclusive professional development opportunities from AIDPH.



How will DPHLA Stimulate Your Personal & Professional Growth?

It is AIDPH's goal to create an experience that provides tangible benefits to both fellows and their affiliated organizations. AIDPH designs educational experiences to build the capacity of professionals and students and equip them for future leadership in the broader health workforce. The network that AIDPH creates through this fellowship and the relationships that continue afterward support future systems change, benefiting participants, organizations, and the health and well-being of vulnerable populations. Here's how DPHLA will catalyze your personal and professional growth:



- Master Core Leadership Domains: Dive deep into the essential leadership facets of dental public health, equipping yourself with the competencies to lead with confidence and expertise.
- Explore Public Health Policy and Advocacy: Build a robust understanding of dental and broader public health policies, gaining the knowledge to advocate effectively for meaningful change.
- **Practical Application of Learning**: Apply your newfound leadership and policy insights directly to organizational or community challenges, turning theory into impactful action.
- **Career Trajectory Clarity**: With guidance from diverse professional leaders, clarify and strengthen your career path, identifying opportunities and strategies for advancement.
- **Dynamic Networking and Community**: Join a vibrant cohort, fostering long-term professional relationships through networking opportunities designed to support and expand your career horizons.
- Mentorship and Peer Support: Engage in enriching peer-to-peer mentoring, and receive invaluable insights from DPHLA alumni, building a supportive network that encourages continuous growth.
- Exclusive Access to National Leaders: Connect with leading dental public health experts through exclusive events, expanding your professional network and understanding of the field.
- Continuing Education Credits: Earn CEUs that support your ongoing professional development and fulfill various credentialing requirements.
- Alumni Community Involvement: Upon completion, join the DPHLA alumni community, a facilitated network that offers ongoing support, resources, and collaboration opportunities.

DPHLA is not just a program, it's a transformative experience that nurtures your growth, expands your professional network, and prepares you to lead with vision and impact in the world of dental public health. Embrace this opportunity to advance your career, contribute to systemic change, and be part of a community committed to justice-oriented oral health.



2024 DPHLA Fellowship Elements

The DPHLA fellowship is designed to ignite your potential, offering a multifaceted approach to learning that integrates theoretical knowledge with practical application, all within a supportive and engaging community of peers and leaders in dental public health.

Dynamic Monthly Seminars: Embark on a transformative journey with our 12-month fellowship, featuring two-hour monthly seminars that delve deep into leadership and public health policy themes. Each session is tailored to the cohort's interests and needs, building progressively on prior learnings to ensure a cohesive educational journey. Topics may range from personal leadership styles to Medicaid policy, conflict management, and health justice in leadership. These seminars, held on the third Wednesday of each month, are interactive platforms where expert faculty lead didactic learning, experiential activities, and peer discussions.

Flash Mentoring Sessions: Supplement your experience with flash mentoring sessions featuring career-development guidance and insights from seasoned professionals in dental public health. These one-hour sessions provide a unique opportunity to tailor your learning to your career aspirations.

Interim Learning and Application: Between seminars, engage with targeted pre-readings and assignments designed to deepen your understanding and prepare you for active participation in upcoming sessions. These activities, taking just two to four hours per month, reinforce your learning and encourage practical application.

Robust Networking Opportunities: Build lasting connections with a network of national leaders and peers. Exclusive virtual networking events with leaders from the AIDPH Corporate Leadership Council, Board of Directors, and other national organizations offer additional opportunities to expand your professional network. AIDPH offers exclusive networking opportunities and program discounts to fellows outside of DPHLA as part of our AIDPH Academy.

Transformation Project Support: Apply your leadership skills through a transformation project within your organization or community. This hands-on experience allows you to address real-world challenges and solidify your leadership training, with support from DPHLA faculty during and between monthly cohort calls.

Peer Mentorship: Forge meaningful relationships through our peer mentorship component, the "Squad," for regular virtual meetups. This enriching exchange enhances your learning experience while strengthening the community within the DPHLA, fostering a supportive environment where leaders can grow together.



The Application and Selection Process

Use this link to complete the DPHLA Application:

Interested individuals should complete the fellowship application **by Tuesday, May 28, 2024**, **at 5:00 pm PDT**. AIDPH staff and program faculty will assess each application to ensure that applicants are positioned well to participate and are likely to benefit from doing so. In reviewing each application, AIDPH will consider:

- Demonstrated self-awareness of one's leadership strengths and opportunities for growth.
- Demonstrated awareness or understanding of opportunities presented by leadership in the dental public health field.
- The overall thoughtfulness and thoroughness of answers to the application questions.
- The availability and willingness to commit the time necessary to complete the fellowship and participate fully.

| Application guidance issued | April 2024 |
|---|--------------------|
| Informational webinar to learn more about the fellowship and the application process | May 7, 2024 |
| Applications due to AIDPH via this Form | May 28, 2024 |
| AIDPH sends notifications of acceptance decisions | July 2024 |
| Participants sign written commitment to participate & pay tuition | July - August 2024 |
| Monthly, full-cohort calls begin | September 2024 |
| Program concludes with individual project presentations on last monthly, full-cohort call | August 2025 |



DPHLA Fellowship FAQs

• What should I expect for my DPHLA experience?

Your DPHLA experience will be a comprehensive, engaging, and transformative journey through the lens of dental public health leadership. This fellowship requires approximately five to seven hours a month and includes synchronous and asynchronous learning elements. Ultimately, you will gain the most value from the program when you fully engage and participate in all program elements.

• Who is a good fit for this fellowship?

This experience is best for individuals who are early- to mid-career professionals who want formal leadership training. While program faculty will support you to successfully complete this fellowship, participants who are self-motivated are the best fit for this program. AIDPH encourages applicants from traditionally underrepresented and historically excluded communities. Please reach out to programs@AIDPH.org with any questions about eligibility.

• How much does the program cost?

Program tuition is **\$2,000 for working professionals not currently enrolled in a full-time education program, and \$1,500 for students**. AIDPH encourages applicants to seek financial support from their institutions or employers, or from other external sources. AIDPH has prepared <u>this letter</u> describing the benefits of the fellowship to both schools and employers; please take the time to review these letters for personal use in exploring sponsorship from your organization.

• How is the program delivered?

This fellowship is tailored to a virtual environment, with seminars, peer networking, and mentorship occurring in a learning management system. Seminars and calls will be conducted via Zoom and all course materials, participation activities, event details, and cohort engagement will be accessible on a community-based learning platform that facilitates coursework and social interaction.

• What should I expect when I complete the fellowship?

DPHLA is designed to support your personal and professional growth. When you complete the fellowship, you'll receive a certificate acknowledging you are a fellow of the AIDPH Academy. You'll also have a transformation project ready for implementation. Many of our fellows have used their projects to support grant applications, work initiatives, conference presentations, and capstone projects.



Expectations of Participants

To ensure the value of this program to the full cohort of fellows, each individual taking part in the DPHLA will commit to the following fellowship policies:

- Attend at least 10 of the 12 monthly seminars, which will be held on the third Wednesday of each month (September 2024 – August 2025) from 12:00 to 2:00 pm ET. All fellows must attend the first seminar in September. The only exception to that scheduling will be in April 2025, when the seminar will be adjusted in light of the 2025 National Oral Health Conference.
- 2) Submit assignments, including pre-work for seminars, sections of the program's individual transformation project plan, and other requests for information related to the program by the deadlines provided. AIDPH will grant extensions when communicated at least 48 hours in advance.
- 3) Actively engage in the program's shared online workspace.
- 4) Maintain confidentiality related to other fellows' experiences, organizations, projects, and other information shared during the program, except when provided with explicit permission to do so.
- 5) Comply with program norms and expectations as set by program faculty and fellow participants.

Individuals who do not comply with program expectations jeopardize their ability to earn a certificate and be included as a fellow of the AIDPH Academy.

Statement of Accessibility

AIDPH is committed to ensuring accessibility and inclusion in our programming. As such, we will work with each fellow to determine what, if any, accessibility accommodations are needed to fully participate in the program and coordinate those needs as possible during the program.

Please reach out to <u>programs@AIDPH.org</u> with any questions about the application, selection process, or program.