



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Lori A. Weaver
Interim Commissioner

Patricia M. Tilley
Director

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May 1, 2023

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

For inclusion on the Governor and Executive Council Consent Calendar, pursuant to MOP 1200, I.D., and MOP 150, V.A.2., authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services, to pay the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) (VC#170491), Silver Spring, MD in the amount of \$9,261 for Fiscal Year 2024 membership dues effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. 100% General Funds.

Funding is anticipated to be available in the Public Health Laboratories as follows:

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 05-95-90-903010-79660000-026-500251 – Organizational Dues | <u>FY 2024</u> \$9,261 |
| Total FY 2024 | \$9,261 |

EXPLANATION

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) brings together governmental and non-governmental public health laboratory employees and constituents to collaborate on best practices in the effort to improve the quality and efficiency of laboratory practices and health outcomes. Membership dues cover nine (9) staff memberships, including legislative briefings, participation in relevant committees, technical trainings and webinars.

Listed below are answers to the standard questions required for Governor and Executive Council organization dues and membership approval submissions.

- How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?
Answer: The American Public Health Association formed the Committee of Laboratories in 1899.

The organization was renamed the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) in 1998. New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories became a member in 1952.

2. Is there any other organization that provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?

Answer: No. APHL is unique and specific for public health laboratories.

3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?

Answer: All other states are members of this organization. DPHS is the only state agency that is a member, no other state agencies are members.

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc.)

Answer: The APHL Board of Directors determines the annual dues for States based on population.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?

Answer: The benefits received are:

- a. APHL legislative staff in Washington, DC advocate for national issues of public health and public health laboratory significance. APHL staff provide timely briefings to state laboratory officials on congressional activities, and non-partisan advocacy on public health issues, such as funding for laboratory emergency response and supply chain access to states during infectious disease outbreaks such as COVID-19 and Monkey Pox.
 - b. Technical support and assistance with grant applications for timely receipt of federal funds. APHL provides supplemental funding for some priorities such as funding to implement new molecular testing methods for emerging diseases.
 - c. Funding for trainings and national meetings as well as webinar training and exercises for a variety of public health topics including continuity of operation plans, molecular testing and bioinformatics.
 - d. Opportunities for Bureau of Laboratory Services staff to participate in relevant APHL committees, such as the APHL Biosafety and Biosecurity Committee and the APHL Laboratory Systems and Standards Committee. Staff participation in these committees allows for continuing education and growth in their scientific fields, as well as provides networking opportunities with fellow committee members.
6. Are training or educational/ research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.

Answer: Yes. APHL provides educational webinars at no additional cost to members and supports travel, hotels and all training costs associated with technical laboratory-specific educational trainings and with in-person APHL committee meetings.

7. Is the membership required in order to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.

Answer: No.

8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.

Answer: No, there is no travel included with the membership fee. APHL provides separate funding for travel costs related to in-person meetings.

9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.)

Answer:

- a. Fengxiang Gao, Administrator; Voting Member
 - b. Michael Stevenson, Administrator; Biosafety and Biosecurity Committee Member
 - c. Lucio Barinelli, Water Analysis Laboratory Program Manager; APHL Member
 - d. Melissa Josefiak; Biomonitoring Epidemiologist; APHL Member
 - e. Christopher Benton; Microbiology Program Manager; APHL Member
 - f. Michelle Day; Environmental Quality Manager; APHL Member
 - g. Wendy Lamothe; IT Administrator; APHL Member
 - h. Madhumita Chatterjee; Chemistry Program Manager; APHL Member
 - i. Maureen Collopy; Microbiologist VI; APHL Member
10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.

Should this request not be authorized, the Department's access to resources provided through the APHL would be reduced, limiting involvement with other public health laboratories at the national level. The Department would not have access to APHL's technical trainings and would be less prepared for emergency response to disease outbreaks, pandemics and environmental contamination events. The APHL trainings, webinars, and exercises are critical to keeping laboratory staff up to date on new methods and techniques in the field of laboratory science.

Respectfully submitted,



 Lori A. Weaver
Interim Commissioner



Association of Public Health Laboratories
 8515 Georgia Ave
 Suite 700
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Invoice
 456843

Invoice Date: 04/01/2023
 Member ID: 102
 Invoice Due: 07/01/2023

Dr. Fengxiang Gao
 New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories
 State Division of Public Health Services
 29 Hazen Drive
 Concord, NH 03301

| Description | Quantity | Rate | Amount |
|---|----------|------------|------------|
| State Institutional Member Dues: 1-2M (7/1/2023 to 6/30/2024) - Your laboratory is currently using 8 out of 9 complimentary Member-Associate positions. To view or make changes to your laboratory's Member-Associates, please visit the Profile Update feature available at https://web.aphl.org/portal . | 1 | \$9,261.00 | \$9,261.00 |
| Additional Member-Associates (7/1/2023 to 6/30/2024) - \$125 per additional Member-Associate position beyond the complimentary positions that your laboratory receives with base dues costs. | 1 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |

You can renew your APHL membership online, by mail or EFT/ACH. Please choose one of the following options:

- Renew online by credit card at <https://web.aphl.org/portal>
- EFT/ACH banking information: https://www.aphl.org/Materials/APHL_Wire-Information.pdf
- Remit check payment using the cut-off section below

Total: \$9,261.00
Amount Paid: \$0.00
Balance Due: \$9,261.00

If you have any questions or need assistance with renewing your membership, please contact:

- Drew Gaskins, sr. specialist, membership at 240.485.2733 or drew.gaskins@aphl.org
- Kristy Albrecht, sr. specialist, membership & marketing at 240.485.2787 or

| Member ID | Invoice | Date Due | Balance Due | Total Payment Enclosed |
|-----------|---------|------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 102 | 456843 | 07/01/2023 | \$9,261.00 | \$ |

Please verify address and provide corrections:

Dr. Fengxiang Gao
 New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories
 State Division of Public Health Services
 29 Hazen Drive
 Concord, NH 03301

Correct Address

Make checks payable to:
 Association of Public Health Laboratories
 Attn: Membership
 8515 Georgia Ave
 Suite 700
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Convenient online payment option at: <https://web.aphl.org/portal>