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

Lori A. Weaver
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May 8, 2024

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., 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 \$9,724 for annual membership dues effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval, for the membership period of one year, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. 100% General Funds.

Funding is available as follows:

05-95-90-903010-79660000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HHS: PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION, BUREAU OF LABORATORY SERVICES, PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

State Fiscal Year	Class / Account	Job Number	Class Title	Total Amount
2025	026-500251	90059000	Memberships	\$9,724
			Total	\$9,724

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 to improve the quality and efficiency of laboratory practices and health outcomes. APHL Membership dues cover ten (10) staff memberships, 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.

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?

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?

No, the 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?

All other states are members of this organization. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) Public Health Laboratories is the only New Hampshire state agency that is a member.

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

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?

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.
 - 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.

Yes, the APHL provides educational webinars at no additional cost to members and supports all travel and 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.

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.

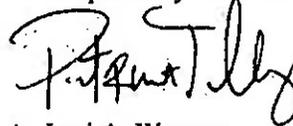
No, there is no travel included with the membership fee. APHL provides separate funding for travel costs related to in-person meetings.

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.)
- a. Fengxiang Gao, Administrator; Voting Member
 - b. Michael Stevenson, Administrator; APHL Laboratory Systems and Standards Committee
 - c. Lucio Barinelli, Water Analysis Laboratory Program Manager; APHL Member
 - d. Melissa Josefiak; Biomonitoring Epidemiologist; APHL Member
 - e. Christopher Benton; Virology Program Manager; APHL Member
 - f. Michelle Day; Environmental Quality Manager; APHL Member
 - g. Mamta Dua; LIMS Administrator; APHL Member
 - h. Madhumita Chatterjee; Chemistry Program Manager; APHL Member
 - i. Maureen Collopy; Microbiologist VI; APHL Member
 - j. Kimberly Aviado; Toxicology IV; Environmental Health Committee 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 would not have access to resources provided through the APHL; 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
Commissioner



Amy Bergquist
Finance Administrator
Division of Public Health Services – Public Health Laboratories
NH Department of Health and Human Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

RE: APHL Membership Dues Quote

Dear Amy,

New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories' membership dues for the upcoming membership year is listed below, considering the annual 5% dues increase. Please be advised that per APHL's Bylaws, the membership dues for July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 are subject to change, and any discrepancies in the invoiced amounts may result in additional charges or credits depending on the final membership dues.

2024-2025: \$9,724.00

Please direct any questions to membership@aphl.org or 240.485.2733.

Thanks,

X Drew Gaskins

Drew Gaskins

Drew Gaskins
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