

**University of Arizona**  
**Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health**

**Academy without Walls Public Health Training Program**

The **Academy without Walls** is a public health training program for professionals in public health, community health, health care delivery, behavioral health, social services and others who work to improve the health of a community.

**The goals of the Academy without Walls are to:**

1. Build competencies (knowledge, skills and abilities) of public health professionals in the workforce, targeting front line public health workers and others responsible for addressing community health concerns.
2. Strengthen public health organizations and systems so they are better able to respond to community health concerns.



Trainings address **three core public health areas:**

1. **Basic Public Health Sciences**

Explores: What is public health? History and background of the field, an overview of major accomplishments in the field, essential services and core functions using practical examples, assessing health concerns, working with communities and partners to develop effective interventions and programs.

2. **Community Dimensions of Public Health Practice**

Explores: Assessing community and program assets/needs/resources, models for community assessment, the importance and fundamentals of collaboration with program and community partners and the role of advocacy (program improvement and policy development) in public health.

3. **Cultural Competency for Public Health Professionals**

Explores: Importance for public health professionals to work effectively with diverse communities and populations to achieve goals, in addition to working across disciplines within a local system/agency, understanding cultural contexts and perspectives, barriers to working effectively, strategies for removing barriers.

Each session has been developed as a **four-hour module** using **onsite, face-to-face instruction** with **team-based learning** activities. Modules may be taken separately or as a series and have been adapted to both the **tribal and non-tribal** health contexts.

Curricula may be further tailored on request to address specific local, community health issues.

**For more information please contact:**  
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