



2018 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY FOR FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM

In 2018, APHL conducted an online survey to update their laboratory training offerings and to better understand the training needs of its public health laboratory (PHL) members and associates. The survey received 892 responses, 65% of which came from PHLs. In this training needs assessment (TNA), the laboratory supervisors were asked to select topics they felt were critical needs for their staff, and each individual respondent was asked to select their most desired training needs. The training topics categorized into four groups: Scientific/Technical, Technology, Management, and Leadership and Personal Development.

The analyzed data from the TNA outline three sets of the “top ten” selected critical training needs identified for the staff of PHLs. It presents the significant interest of respondents in receiving the training contents in forms of either workshops or webinars. This report has been customized to highlight the mentioned sets of critical training needs to which APHL’s Food Safety program can contribute.

Top 10 Trainings Selected by Supervisors for Themselves

Rank	Category	Selected Training
1	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Application in public health laboratory
2	Scientific/Technical	Molecular Diagnostics - Sequencing (NGS, WGS)
3	Technology	Molecular Diagnostics Instruments - Sequencing (NGS, WGS)
4	Leadership	Epidemiology for laboratory professionals
5	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Data analysis
6	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Basics
7	Scientific/Technical	Molecular Diagnostics - PCR/Real-time PCR
8	Technology	Molecular Diagnostics Instruments - PCR/Real-time PCR
9	Scientific/Technical	Information Systems - Electronic data exchange
10	Scientific/Technical	Information Systems - Laboratory informatics

Top 10 Trainings Selected by Supervisors for Their Staff

Rank	Category	Selected Training
1	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Application in public health laboratory
2	Technology	Molecular Diagnostics Instruments - Sequencing (NGS, WGS)
3	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Data analysis
4	Scientific/Technical	Molecular Diagnostics - Sequencing (NGS, WGS)
5	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Basics
6	Scientific/Technical	Molecular Diagnostics - PCR/Real-time PCR
7	Technology	Molecular Diagnostics - PCR/Real-time PCR
8	Leadership	Epidemiology for laboratory professionals
9	Scientific/Technical	Epidemiology - Epidemiology for laboratory professionals
10	Scientific/Technical	Information Systems - Laboratory informatics

Top 10 Trainings Selected by Non-Supervisors for Themselves

Rank	Category	Selected Training
1	Technology	Molecular Diagnostics Instruments - Sequencing (NGS, WGS)
2	Scientific/Technical	Molecular Diagnostics - Sequencing (NGS, WGS)
3	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Application in public health laboratory
4	Leadership	Epidemiology for laboratory professionals
5	Scientific/Technical	Molecular Diagnostics - PCR/Real-time PCR
6	Technology	Molecular Diagnostics Instruments - PCR/Real-time PCR
7	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Data analysis
8	Scientific/Technical	Epidemiology - Epidemiology for laboratory professionals
9	Scientific/Technical	Information Systems - Laboratory informatics
10	Scientific/Technical	Bioinformatics - Basics

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Association of Public Health Laboratories

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) works to strengthen laboratory systems serving the public's health in the US and globally. APHL's member laboratories protect the public's health by monitoring and detecting infectious and foodborne diseases, environmental contaminants, terrorist agents, genetic disorders in newborns and other diverse health threats.

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