

## KDHE Conference Consolidation Committee Final Report

### To

Board of Directors, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments  
Randy Bowman, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments

### From

KDHE Conference Consolidation Committee

**August 26, 2025**

Based on a letter received from the Board of Directors, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD), KDHE created an internal Conference Consolidation Committee (“Committee”) to review and evaluate the number of KDHE-led public health conferences that are offered across the state.

The Committee, which consisted of bureau and program leadership, determined that KDHE leads nine total conferences. Out of these nine, three of them contain attendance requirements in some form. However, it should be noted that these three are specific to requirements for grantees – Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Summit, WIC Conference (held bi-annually) and the Reproductive Health Summit. The nine conferences contain crossover but are largely specific to their topic areas and consist of external attendees that span both public and private providers, health care organizations, clinicians, administrators, students and more.

After careful consideration and approval from KDHE Executive Leadership, KDHE will institute the following:

1. Governor’s Public Health Conference (GPHC) and the Immunization Conference will remain the two main KDHE-led conferences. **There are no attendance requirements for either.**
  - a. KDHE will evaluate for GPHC focus track expansions. Relevant and timely information will be shared at GPHC.
2. Immunization Conference will remain as a standalone conference but will be held at an alternative time that does not conflict with GPHC.
3. KDHE will maintain the WIC Conference, Kansas Coroners and Medicolegal Death Investigators Conference, Kansas Opioid and Stimulant Conference and the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Summit.
  - a. These conferences are either held on alternate years or are specific to the service provided by programs and practitioners.
4. KDHE will continue publishing conference dates as far in advance as possible, utilizing the local public health calendar online.
5. KDHE will institute internal controls and reviews to ensure all conferences are approved appropriately.

KDHE continues to support local health departments utilizing appropriate grants to pay for travel. Please contact your state contacts with questions and budget inquiries.