



Klickitat County Board of Health Position Description

CANDIDATE PREREQUISITES FOR BOARD OF HEALTH

Board of Health Members must be registered to vote in Klickitat County and spend at least 51% of their year living in Klickitat County;

Become acquainted with Public Records Act ([RCW 42.56](#)) and Open Public Meetings Act ([RCW 42.30](#)) particularly in relation to Public Health;

Understand what Public Health does and can do per the RCW's listed below;

[RCW 70](#) Public Health and Safety

[RCW 70.05.30](#) Local Health Board

[RCW 70.12](#) Public Health Funds

Follow Parliamentary Procedure, especially Robert's Rules of Order.

THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

(as defined in RCW [70.05.060](#))

Each local board of health shall have supervision over all matters pertaining to the preservation of the life and health of the people within its jurisdiction and shall:

- (1) Enforce through the local health officer or the administrative officer appointed under RCW [70.05.040](#), if any, the public health statutes of the state and rules promulgated by the state board of health and the secretary of health;
- (2) Supervise the maintenance of all health and sanitary measures for the protection of the public health within its jurisdiction;
- (3) Enact such local rules and regulations as are necessary in order to preserve, promote and improve the public health and provide for the enforcement thereof;
- (4) Provide for the control and prevention of any dangerous, contagious or infectious disease within the jurisdiction of the local health department;
- (5) Provide for the prevention, control and abatement of nuisances detrimental to the public health;
- (6) Make such reports to the state board of health through the local health officer or the administrative officer as the state board of health may require; and
- (7) Establish fee schedules for issuing or renewing licenses or permits or for such other services as are authorized by the law and the rules of the state board of health:
PROVIDED, That such fees for services shall not exceed the actual cost of providing any such services.

POSITION DESCRIPTION AND DUTIES OF A BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER

Local health jurisdictions in Washington state are governed by both local and state laws and rules. Local boards of health are the governing boards for local health jurisdictions. They establish the policy framework for the agency and other critical governance functions may include providing local public health vision, mission and advocacy, and encouraging community involvement in selecting public health priorities.

Duties of Klickitat County Board of Health Members

- Ability to serve a two year term
- Attend, prepare for, and participate in Board of Health meetings
- Become familiar with WA State Public Records Act ([RCW 42.56](#)) and Open Public Meetings Act ([RCW 42.30](#)) in relation to public health
- Become acquainted with Klickitat County Health Department (KCHD) programs and organization

Duties may include

- Participating in agency events/trainings as requested by the KCHD Director
- Referring public health concerns of Klickitat County residents to the Director and following up as indicated
- Advocating for KCHD programs in the best interests of our public's health
- Volunteering for agency events or programs

Selection of Board of Health Member

[RCW 70.05.035](#), effective July 1, 2022 dictates the following

- 1) Citizen board members must be persons who are not elated officials and must be selected from the following categories.
 - a) Public health, health care facilities and providers who are practicing or employed in the county who are further defined within the [RCW](#) Section i and include the following individuals
 - i) Medical ethicists
 - ii) Epidemiologists
 - iii) Experienced in environmental public health, such as a registered sanitarian
 - iv) Community health workers
 - v) Holders of a master's degrees or higher in public health or the equivalent

- vi) Employees of a hospital located in the county; or
- vii) Any of the following providers holding an active or retired license in good standing under Title 18 RCW:
 - (1) Physicians or osteopathic physicians
 - (2) Advanced registered nurse practitioners
 - (3) Physician assistants or osteopathic physician assistants
 - (4) Registered nurses
 - (5) Dentists
 - (6) Naturopaths; or
 - (7) Pharmacists

b) Consumer of Public Health - This category is defined in the [RCW](#) Section ii and consists of county residents who have self-identified as having faced significant health inequities or as having lived experiences with public health-related programs such as: The special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children; the supplemental nutrition program; home visiting; or treatment services. It is strongly encouraged that individuals from historically marginalized and underrepresented communities are given preference. These individuals may not be elected officials and may not have any fiduciary obligation to a health facility or other health agency, and may not have a material financial interest in the rendering of health services.

c) Other Community Stakeholders

- i) This individual shall represent a community organization or group as defined within the [RCW](#) section iii as the following individuals
 - (1) Community-based organizations or nonprofits that work with populations experiencing health inequities in the county.
 - (2) Active, reserve, or retired armed services members
 - (3) The business community
 - (4) The environmental public health regulated community

d) A tribal representative appointed by the [American Indian Health Commission of Washington State](#)

2) The Board will be made up of six members in accordance with Klickitat County Ordinance 0053122-1 effective 01JUL2022.

3) Selection of the Board of Health members shall be conducted in accordance with [RCW 43.20.300](#).

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

[Welcome to Public Health](#) - a guidebook for local board of health members

Klickitat County Health Department [website](#) to see business conducted and information about Public Health services in Klickitat County

Klickitat County Board of Health [website](#)

Anyone desiring to be a Board of Health Member may send questions to Public Health Director, Erinn Quinn at erinng@klickitatcounty.org

Applications to apply for the Board of Health using the Board of County Commissioners Application for Appointment to Klickitat County Boards, Committees & Commissions can be found [here](#)