

2021 Policy Statement Gaps

This list identifies gaps where APHA either does not have relevant policy statements or the existing policy statements are outdated. APHA aims to adopt policy statements with an evergreen approach, avoiding tying proposals to specific legislation or finite timeframes that could quickly outdate a policy statement. Any APHA member or APHA component considering submitting a policy statement proposal is strongly encouraged to review this list and collaborate with other APHA components in developing proposals, so that new proposed policy statements fill identified gaps.

- Update and expand current policy statements on firearm/gun violence prevention into a single comprehensive policy statement (archived [policy statements 9818](#) and [policy statement 200320](#))
- Update public health impact of U.S. immigration policies and needed reforms (update and combine archived [policy statements LB-10-02](#) and [200123](#))
- Update U.S. food policy/Farm Bill/food insecurity programs (update [policy statement 200712](#) or develop new proposals addressing key food policy issues)

Policy statements identified for updating through archiving process

As of 2019, all active policy statements 20 years or older will be automatically archived following the Annual Meeting and beginning in 2024 all active policy statements 10 years or older will be automatically archived following the Annual Meeting unless deemed current after a thorough review by the Science Board and approved to remain as active by the Governing Council (see Scenario 3 below). In order to remain active, the science, references and action steps in the policy statement must be current.

The following policy statements will be automatically archived in 2021 and 2022. APHA members are asked to review the statements relevant to their constituencies and consider three potential options for each policy statement of interest:

- Scenario 1: Allow the policy statement to be archived. Any policy statements that do not fall under scenario 2 or 3 will be automatically archived following the Annual Meeting.
- Scenario 2: Update a policy statement scheduled for archiving. Policy statements submitted to update an existing policy statement scheduled to be archived will follow the regular policy statement development [guidelines](#) and [process](#). Once archived, policy statements may still be updated at any time via the regular [Policy Statement Development Process](#).
- Scenario 3: Request to keep active a policy statement proposed for archiving. If an APHA member believes that a policy statement scheduled for archiving is still current, they can submit a special request to the Science Board via governance@apha.org for review of the science, references and action steps of the policy statement set to be archived. A rationale for keeping the policy statement active and removing it from the consent agenda for archiving must accompany the request. Request must be submitted by June 1 of the year when the policy statement is scheduled to be archiving. Further details on the archiving review process and Science Board review criteria can be found on pg. 10 of the [Policy Statement Development Process](#) guidelines

#	Title	Update by ¹
20012	Reducing Maternal-Fetal HIV Transmission with Rapid HIV Tests	2021
20018	Establishment of a Medicare Prescription Drug Benefits	2021
200110	Support for National Nutrition Monitoring and Continuation of CSFII Food and Health Behavioral Data	2021
200125	Participation of Health Professionals in Capital Punishment	2021
200111	Support of the Labeling of Genetically Modified Foods	2021
200116	Global Campaign to Eliminate Avoidable Blindness	2021
200117	Research and Intervention on Racism as a Fundamental Cause of Ethnic Disparities in Health	2021
200126	Condemnation of Pharmaceutical Companies Retaliatory Tactics	2021
200119	Opposition to National Missile Defense and the Militarization of Space	2021
200122	Opposition to Coercion in Family Planning Decision Making	2021
200120	Support for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Mental Health Care	2021
200121	Threats to Global Health and	2021

¹ The proposed update must be submitted by the February proposed policy statement deadline in [2020](#) or [2021](#) depending on when the policy statement is scheduled to be archiving

	Equity: The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)	
200114	APHA Supports the Health and Human Services Blueprint for Action on Breastfeeding	2021
20013	APHA Resolution on Overweight in Childhood	2021
200116	Recognizing The Role Of Veterinarians In The Public Health Workforce	2021
200118	Support for Curricula in Firearm Related Violence Prevention	2021
200117	Support the Framework for Action on Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General	2021
20019	Protection of Child and Adolescent Workers	2021
200112	Discontinuing the Use of Fluoroquinolone Antibiotics in Agriculture	2021
20011	Improving Early Childhood Eyecare	2021
20014	Hospital Emergency Department Closures	2021
20013	Increasing Access to Out-of-Hospital Maternity Care Services through State-Regulated and Nationally-Certified Direct-Entry Midwives	2021
20015	APHA Position Paper on the Health Status of American Indians and Alaska Natives	2021
20021	The Role of Genomics in Public Health	2022

20022	Endorsing Caring for our Children National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out of Home Child Care Programs	2022
20023	Support of Healthy Aging Through Health Promotion and Prevention of Disease and Injury	2022
20024	Reducing Sodium Content in the American Diet	2022
20025	Preserving Right to Know Info and Encouraging Hazard Reduction to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Toxic Substances	2022
20026	Access to Safe Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Promotion in Developing Countries	2022
20027	Protecting the Health and Safety of Workers Who Respond to Disasters	2022
20028	Alert on the Use of Tobacco Settlement Funds (2002)	2022
20029	Promoting Evidence Based Smoking Cessation Interventions for Women Before, During, and After Pregnancy	2022
200210	Maternal and Child Health Data Capacity through the National Action Agenda	2022
200211	Opposing War in Central Asia and the Persian Gulf	2022
200212	Syringe Prescription to Reduce Disease Related to Injection Drug Use	2022
200213	Call for United States to Support of Strengthened Biological Weapons Convention	2022