

2020 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list identifies gaps where APHA either does not have relevant policy statements or the existing policy statements are outdated.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 2020 and 2021. 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
20001	Expanded Family and Medical Leave	2020
20002	Reducing the Incidence of Blindness, Lower Extremity Amputation, and Oral Health Complications in Minority Populations Due to Diabetes	2020
20003PP	Preserving Consumer Choice in an Era of Religious/Secular Health Industry Merger	2020
20004PP	Supporting Access to Midwifery Services in the United States	2020
20007	Support for a New Campaign for Universal Health Care	2020
20008	Affirming the Importance of Regulating Pesticide Exposures to Protect Public Health	2020
20009	Support for International Action to Eliminate Persistent Organic Pollutants	2020
200011	The Precautionary Principle and Children's Health	2020
200012	Reducing the Rising Rates of Asthma	2020
200013	Maximizing Public Health Protection with Integrated Vector Control	2020
200014	Protecting OSHA's Jurisdiction over Home Workplaces	2020
200022	Joint Resolution in Support of National Public Health Performance Standards	2020

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

	Program	
200023	The Need for Continued and Strengthened Support for Immunization Programs	2020
200025	Eliminating Access Barriers in Public Health Meetings	2020
200026	International Multilateral and Bilateral Debt Relief	2020
200027	Encourage Healthy Behavior by Adolescents	2020
200028	Ensuring Optimal Vision Performance in Visually At Risk Drivers	2020
200029	The Need for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services for the Incarcerated Mentally Ill	2020
200030	Preventing Genocide	2020
200031	Criteria for Assessing the Quality of Health Information on the Internet	2020
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 Equity: The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)	2021
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	2021

	Adolescent Workers	
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