

**135A.2 Definitions.**

As used in [this chapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions apply:

1. “*Academic institution*” means an institution of higher education in the state which grants degrees in public health or another health-related field and is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency as determined by the United States secretary of education. For purposes of this definition, “*accredited*” means a certification of the quality of an institution of higher education.

2. “*Department*” means the department of public health.

3. “*Designated local public health agency*” means an entity that is either governed by or contractually responsible to a local board of health and designated by the local board.

4. “*Governmental public health system*” means local boards of health, the state board of health, designated local public health agencies, the state hygienic laboratory, and the department.

5. “*Local board of health*” means the same as defined in [section 137.102](#).

6. “*Organizational capacity*” means the governmental public health infrastructure that must be in place in order to deliver public health services.

7. “*Public health system*” means all public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of public health services within a jurisdiction.

[2009 Acts, ch 182, §116, 126; 2016 Acts, ch 1026, §1; 2017 Acts, ch 148, §25; 2019 Acts, ch 85, §72](#)

Subsection 2 stricken and former subsections 3 – 8 renumbered as 2 – 7