

**641—77.2(137) Definitions.** For the purpose of these rules, the following definitions apply:

“*Core public health functions*” means the functions of assessment, policy development, and assurance.

1. **Assessment:** Regular collection, analysis, interpretation, and communication of information about health conditions, risks, and assets in a community.

2. **Policy development:** Development, implementation, and evaluation of plans and policies, for public health in general and priority health needs in particular, in a manner that incorporates scientific information and community values and in accordance with state public health policy.

3. **Assurance:** Ensuring by encouragement, regulation, or direct action that programs and interventions that maintain and improve health are carried out.

“*County health department*” refers to the personnel and property under the jurisdiction of a county board.

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

“*District*” means any two or more geographically contiguous counties.

“*District board*” means a board of health representing at least two geographically contiguous counties formed with the approval of the department in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 137, or any district board of health in existence prior to July 1, 2010.

“*District health department*” refers to the personnel and property under the jurisdiction of a district board.

“*Environmental health services*” means services focused on the environment to support population-based health services.

“*Essential public health services*” means those activities carried out by public health that fulfill the core functions.

“*Local board of health*” means a city, county, or district board of health.

“*Personal health services*” means services focused on the care of individuals.

“*Population-based health services*” means services focused on the health status of population groups and their environments.

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