

New York



National CLAS Standards Planning, Policies, and Collaboration

The New York State Department of Health included implementation of the National CLAS Standards as part of its long-range planning in [Prevention Agenda 2013-2017: New York State's Health Improvement Plan](#).¹ In the area of HIV/STDs, vaccine-preventable disease, and health care-associated infections, the Department of Health [plans](#)² to ensure cultural competency training for providers, including gender identity and disability issues, in line with the National CLAS Standards. In the area of women, infants, and children, the department's [action plan](#)³ includes promoting adoption and integration of the National CLAS Standards in clinical practices and other community service organizations to increase accessibility and effectiveness.

New York also has integrated the National CLAS Standards into its assessment and planning of managed long-term care plans. According to an [interim report](#)⁴ to the governor and legislature, managed long-term care plans are required to develop a cultural competency plan that meets the National CLAS Standards.

With funding from the Department of Health, a team led by researchers from the University at Albany, State University of New York, surveyed interpreters about [core competencies in interpretation](#)⁵ that training should cover. The survey

included items assessing the importance of National CLAS Standards awareness and understanding the enforcement of mandatory standards. The results showed that many respondents felt that National CLAS Standards awareness was a critical competency for beginner interpreters.

National CLAS Standards Training and Technical Assistance

The New York State Cancer Services Program [reported](#)⁶ offering full-day training on cultural competency for contractors throughout the state. Between 2009 and 2011, 235 individuals received the training, which included a videoconference on the National CLAS Standards.

The New York State Department of Health has provided grant funding that can be used for National CLAS Standards implementation activities. The Division of Health Facilities Planning funded the [2014–2015 Health Workforce Retraining Initiative](#)⁷ to support projects that enhance the public health workforce's ability to meet all National CLAS Standards. The Bureau of Maternal and Child Health provided funding for [Comprehensive Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care Services](#)⁸ to support services that strengthen cultural competency through training and technical assistance, using the National CLAS Standards as a framework.

Endnotes

1 New York State Department of Health. (n.d.). *Prevention Agenda 2013–2017: New York State's Health Improvement Plan*. Retrieved January 13, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2013-2017.

2 New York State Department of Health. (n.d.). *Prevention Agenda 2013–2017: Prevent HIV/STDs, Vaccine-Preventable Disease and Healthcare-Associated Infections Action Plan—Recommended Evidence-based programs, policies and practices*. Retrieved January 13, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2013-2017/plan/stds/ebi.

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- 3 New York State Department of Health. (n.d.). *Prevention Agenda 2013-2017: Promoting Healthy Women, Infants and Children Action Plan—Recommended Evidence-based Programs, Policies and Practices*. Retrieved January 13, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2013-2017/plan/wic/ebi/index.htm.
- 4 New York State Department of Health. (n.d.). *New York State Managed Long-Term Care: Interim Report*. Retrieved January 13, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/managed_care/mltc/pdf/mltc_inter_rep.pdf.
- 5 Refki, D., Avery, M. & Dalton, A. (n.d.). *Core Competencies for Health Care Interpreters Research Report*. Retrieved January 13, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/-/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/cfhs/family%20planning%20-%20-%20title%20v/culturalcompetency.ashx>.
- 6 New York State Department of Health, Cancer Services Program (n.d.). *Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program Report: Program Years 2009–2010 2010–2011*. Retrieved January 14, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/cancer/cervical/resources/docs/2009-2011_cervical_cancer_prevention_report.pdf.
- 7 New York State Department of Health, Division of Health Facilities Planning. (2013, September). *Request for Applications: Health Workforce Retraining Initiative 2014–2015*. Retrieved January 14, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: <http://www.health.ny.gov/funding/rfa/inactive/1308090430/1308090430.pdf>.
- 8 New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health. (2010, September). *Request for Applications: Comprehensive Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care Services*. Retrieved January 14, 2015 from New York State Department of Health: <http://www.health.ny.gov/funding/rfa/inactive/0909151050/0909151050.pdf>.