

Ohio



National CLAS Standards Planning, Policies, and Collaboration

The Ohio Department of Health, Division of Family and Community Health Services, Bureau of Child and Family Health Services, Child and Family Health Services Program requires all funded agencies to complete and submit a [CLAS Strategic Plan](#)¹ and annual report. The plan and report should describe the agency's overall progress toward cultural competency, including results to date and comparison of actual accomplishments with proposed goals, any problems or favorable or unusual developments, and future work to be performed. In addition to developing a strategic plan, all staff funded through the Child and Family Health Services Program must receive ongoing training in cultural competency; an agency must have mechanisms in place to review and address cultural competency issues that arise while working with clients; and local agencies should have the capacity to provide services to persons with limited English proficiency.

In the [Sickle Cell Services Program Standards and Criteria](#),² the Department of Health outlines requirements for facilities that are requesting consideration by the Sickle Cell Services Program to become a state-funded Regional Sickle Cell Project, including implementation of the National CLAS Standards.

The Dayton Council on Health Equity, a division of Public Health Dayton and the local Office of Minority Health, developed the [Dayton/Montgomery County Health Disparity Reduction Plan](#)³ in 2011. The council provides

strategies to examine how health programs provide health education, health promotion, or health care to the minority community. An action step involves determining whether programs are culturally competent and ensuring that they use the National CLAS Standards.

In its [Goals and Strategies for Fiscal Years 2012-2015](#),⁴ the Ohio Commission on Minority Health outlines plans to promote the use of the National CLAS Standards in health care delivery.

National CLAS Standards Training and Technical Assistance

The Ohio Department of Health created a [Self-Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services](#)⁵ based on the National CLAS Standards. The tool provides a description of each Standard and a series of questions that organizations can use to assess compliance. The tool also includes tips for improving the caregiver/patient relationship across cultures, and a list of resources and references.

National CLAS Standards Dissemination

The Ohio Department of Health created a [Cultural Competency](#)⁶ factsheet to educate health care professionals on cultural and linguistic competency. The handout provides definitions of cultural and linguistic competency, descriptions of each National CLAS Standard, and information on the Cultural Competency Program for Oral Health Professionals at the federal Think Cultural Health website.

Endnotes

1 Ohio Department of Health, Child and Family Health Services Program. (2014, February). *Administrative Program Standards*. Retrieved December 16, 2014, from Ohio Department of Health: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/-/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/cfhs/child%20and%20family%20health%20services/2014/standards/admin/Administration.ashx>.

2 Ohio Department of Health. (2011, February). *Sickle Cell Services Program Standards and Criteria*. Retrieved December 16, 2014, from Ohio Department of Health: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/-/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/cmh/sickle%20cell/sicklecellstandardsandcriteria.ashx>.

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- 3 Dayton Council on Health Equity. (2011). *Local Conversations on Minority Health—Report to the Community*. Retrieved December 16, 2014, from Ohio Commission on Minority Health: http://www.mih.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Local%20Conversations/Dayton%20booklet%20Final%20high%20res%20pdf%203_16_12.pdf.
- 4 Ohio Commission on Minority Health. (2011, July 15). *Goals and Strategies Fiscal Years 2012–2015*. Retrieved December 16, 2014, from Ohio Commission on Minority Health: <http://www.mih.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Documents/Strategic%20Plan%20OCMH%20edited%2012-13-12.pdf>.
- 5 Ohio Department of Health. (2014). *The Need for Culturally Competent Health Care Providers*. Retrieved December 16, 2014, from Ohio Department of Health: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/-/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/cfhs/family%20planning%20-%20title%20v/culturalcompetency.ashx>.
- 6 Ohio Department of Health. (2014). *Cultural Competency*. Retrieved December 16, 2014, from Ohio Department of Health: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/-/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/ohs/oral%20health/Handout%20on%20Cultural%20Competency.ashx>.