

What are Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS)?

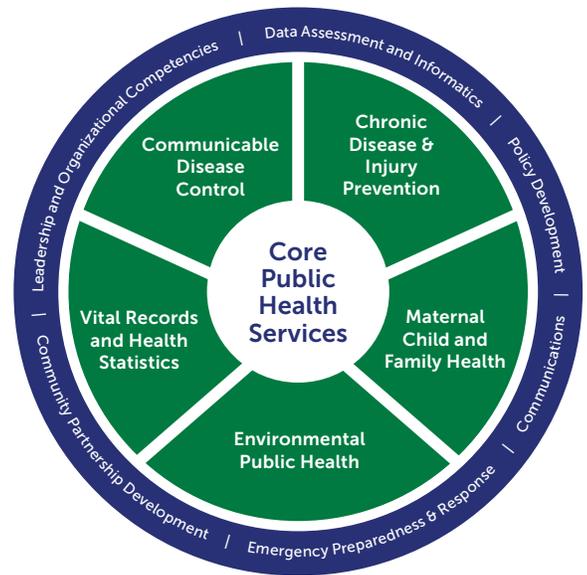
Foundational Public Health Services – or FPHS for short – are the core set of public health capabilities and programs that every resident of Snohomish County and Washington State counts on to help ensure communities are safe and healthy, FPHS is defined as a core set of services that protects residents, similar to police and fire services or roads and sewers. The FPHS infrastructure – and the state funding that supports the delivery of these core services – ensures that essential capabilities and protections are available in every Washington community, regardless of local resources.

FPHS are defined in Washington law (RCW 43.70.512) and delivered through a collaboration among local health jurisdictions, the Washington State Department of Health, the State Board of Health, and Tribal governments/Indian health sectors.

Foundational Programs

FPHS funds these programs and services:

- Identifying, tracking and mitigating disease outbreaks
- Addressing chronic disease through screening, referral and prevention efforts
- Optimizing maternal, child and family health
- Protecting the public from foodborne outbreaks, leaky septic systems and other environmental hazards
- Providing vital records and health statistics



Why FPHS Matters for Snohomish County

In 2025, FPHS funding represented nearly one-fourth of the funding (\$7 million) received by the Snohomish County Health Department. The funding is currently used to support:

- Disease monitoring, investigations and reporting by epidemiologists and disease investigators
- Permitting and inspections of restaurants and other food-related facilities to prevent disease outbreaks
- Land-use permitting to protect the public from environmental hazards
- Planning and preparation for public health emergency responses ranging from disease outbreaks to natural or man-made disasters
- Outreach efforts to identify and refer individuals with hepatitis C to treatment to achieve better health outcomes and avoid costly health consequences
- Screening for sexually transmitted infections and referral to treatment

FPHS make Snohomish County residents safer and healthier

Foundational public health services are the backbone that allows the Snohomish County Health Department to protect the health of Snohomish County residents – everyone, everywhere, every day.

For more information, go to www.snohd.org/fphs.