

Professional Development Partnership (PDP) —Definitions—

Professional Development

The systematic process used to strengthen the professional knowledge, skills, and attitudes of those who serve youth to improve the health, education, and well-being of youth. Professional Development is consciously designed to actively engage learners and includes the planning, design, marketing, delivery, evaluation, and follow-up of professional development offerings (events, information sessions, and technical assistance).

- ***Professional Development Event***

A set of skill-building processes and activities designed to assist targeted groups of participants in mastering specific learning objectives. Such events are delivered in an adequate time span (at least 3 hours) and may include curriculum and other training, workshops, and on-line or distance learning courses.

- ***Information Session***

Workshop, presentation or other instructional activities delivered in a short period of time (at least 30 minutes and no more than 3 hours) that focus on a specific public health curricula or coordinated school health program topic. Presentations are tailored to specific audiences such as school administrators, faculty, education and health professionals, adolescents, parents, college students, legislators or community groups.

- ***Technical Assistance***

Tailored guidance to meet the specific needs of a site or sites through collaborative communication between a specialist and the site(s). Assistance takes into account site-specific circumstances and culture and can be provided through phone, mail, e-mail, Internet, or in-person meetings.