

BERKSHIRE PUBLIC HEALTH ALLIANCE ADVANTAGES / INCENTIVES

- Entirely Voluntary to Join
- Provides Options but not Obligations to Provide Public Health Services
- No Mandatory Financial Commitment Simply from Joining
- Easy to Withdraw from
- Harder to Join Later – IMA must be Amended by All Municipalities
- Provides a “Ready-Made” Option to Provide Services should an Unforeseen Circumstance Arise
- Opportunity to Gain Access to Shared Services
- Provides Options to Obtain Services, i.e. Block of Time, Block of Inspections, Single Inspection Services, Specialize Services
- Greater Access to Grants

KEY ELEMENTS OF INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT

- Establishes Governing Board
 - Board of Health representative – full voting member
 - Associate member – Acts in absence of BoH representative
- Uses a Host Agency – the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission – for administration services
- Host Agency may: Apply for and Manage Grants, Enter into Contracts, Receive Gifts and Donations, Maintain Records, Perform Audits, Hires Staff or Contractors
- Allows the Municipality to Choose the Service(s) Desired
- Establishes a Consistent Fee Schedule for those Services in Advance
- Any Expenditure of Funds must be Approved by the Legislative Body in Town / City (Town Meeting)
- Municipality may Withdraw after One Year’s Notice