

Health Education Specialist, Certificate

NHHEDSCERT

Do you want to reduce health disparities and help people improve their lives? Develop the skills it takes to become a certified health education specialist and protect the health of individuals and communities.

Description

Health education and health promotion professionals fill a critical role as they teach individuals how to stay well by living healthy lifestyles. They also help mobilize communities to advocate for and create healthy environments, and they champion health equity through policy, advocacy and environmental change.

In this certificate program, students learn how to plan, implement, manage and evaluate health promotion programs that improve health outcomes and prevent chronic and infectious disease.

This certificate enables students to sit for the certified health education specialist exam through the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (<https://www.nchec.org/>). CHES is a globally recognized credential for health professionals. Having CHES certification provides graduates with a competitive edge in the job market, and individuals who have earned the CHES credential can identify themselves as a certified health education specialist.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [College of Health Solutions](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#)

Program requirements

[2024 - 2025 Certificate Map](#)
[Certificate Map \(Archives\)](#)

The certificate requires a total of 25 credit hours. A minimum grade of "C" (2.00 on a 4.00 scale) is required for each course.

In order to receive the certificate, students must complete their bachelor's degree at ASU along with all certificate requirements.

Required Courses -- 25 credit hours

CHS 340: Health Theory (3)

HEP 102: Foundations of Health Education and Health Promotion (3)

HEP 241: Health Education Methods for Injury Prevention and Preparedness (3)

HEP 251: Preventing HIV and Substance Misuse (3)

HEP 361: Digital Health Communication and Education (3)

HEP 452: Health Advocacy in Health Education (3)

HEP 454: Health Promotion Program Planning and Implementation (L) (3)

HEP 466: Health Promotion Program Management and Administration (3)

HEP 490: CHES Exam Preparation (1)

Prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this certificate.

Enrollment requirements

GPA Requirement: 2.00

A student pursuing an undergraduate certificate must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at ASU. Undergraduate certificates are not awarded prior to the award of an undergraduate degree. A student already holding an undergraduate degree may pursue an undergraduate certificate as a nondegree-seeking graduate student.

Career opportunities

Employment of health educators is expected to grow much faster than the average for all professions, with the U.S. Department of Labor predicting a 17% increase in the field between 2020 and 2030. The need for quality health education specialists has never been more critical than it is today.

Health education specialists, also known as health educators, can work with:

- businesses
- government
- health departments
- hospitals and clinics
- nonprofit organizations
- schools
- tribal nations

Health education specialists work at organizations such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Heart Association, Army Wellness Centers and the American Red Cross, and some join the Peace Corps.

Graduates of this program have varied opportunities, including the following positions:

- cancer information specialist
- community health educator
- community outreach coordinator
- diabetes educator
- grant writer
- lactation consultant
- prevention specialist
- wellness coordinator

Professional licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the [ASU professional licensure](#) webpage.

Contact information

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