

BECOME A CERTIFIED HEALTH EDUCATION SPECIALIST (CHES®)

Why Certify

The National Commission for Health Education Credentialing's, Inc. (NCHEC) voluntary professional certification program establishes a national standard for individual health education practitioners. It is based on Responsibilities and Competencies that have been verified by a practice analysis. It differs from state and local certifications and registries in that the requirements do not vary from one locale to another. National certification benefits practitioners and the public by:

- Establishing a national standard
- Attesting to individuals' knowledge and skills
- Assisting employers in identifying qualified health education practitioners
- Promoting continued professional development

What is a CHES®?

A Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES®) is an individual that has:

1. Met required academic preparation guidelines
2. Successfully passed a competency-based examination
3. Satisfied the continuing education requirement necessary to maintain the national credential

Publications to Assist Preparation

A Competency-Based Framework for Health Education Specialist – 2015

Presents a hierarchical model for health education practice and serves as the basis of the CHES® exam. Includes a detailed comparison between the current and former set of Responsibilities and a summary of the research from the Practice Analysis on the Health Education Competencies.

The Health Education Specialist: A Companion Guide for Professional Excellence – 7th Edition

Provides in-depth analysis of each Area of Responsibility relative to the various roles and settings of health education practice. Includes a self-assessment to measure competence as a health education professional and includes 165 practice questions.

❖ ***To order, visit www.nche.org***
click on Publications



Credentialing Excellence in Health Education

To enhance the professional practice of health education by promoting and sustaining a credentialed body of health education specialists. To meet this mission, NCHEC certifies health education specialists, promotes professional development, and strengthens professional preparation and practice.

National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.

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Standard of Professional Excellence

www.nche.org



The Exam

The Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES®) exam is a competency-based test that measures the possession, application and interpretation of knowledge related to the Seven Areas of Responsibility; a comprehensive set of Competencies and Sub-competencies defining the role of an entry-level health education specialist. These Responsibilities were verified through a role delineation and a practice analysis process.



The CHES® exam has met national and international standards in credentialing through both the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the International Accreditation Service (IAS).



The CHES® exam consists of 165 multiple-choice scored questions (15 pilot tested) and is administered in a computer-based format at Prometric Test Centers nationally and internationally.

Seven Areas of Responsibility

- Area I** Assess Needs, Resources and Capacity for Health Education/Promotion
- Area II** Plan Health Education/Promotion
- Area III** Implement Health Education/Promotion
- Area IV** Conduct Evaluation and Research Related to Health Education/Promotion
- Area V** Administer and Manage Health Education/Promotion
- Area VI** Serve as a Health Education/Promotion Resource Person
- Area VII** Communicate, Promote and Advocate for Health, and the Profession of Health Education/Promotion

For more information specific to the Seven Areas of Responsibility, or to order A Competency-Based Framework for Health Educations Specialist, 2015, visit www.nchec.org.

Exam Eligibility

Eligibility for the CHES® exam is based exclusively on academic qualifications. Applicants must possess a bachelor's, master's or doctorate's degree from an accredited institution of higher education, and either of the following:

An official academic transcript clearly depicting a major and/or degree in Health Education, Community Health Education, Public Health Education, School Health Education, etc. The degree and/or major must explicitly be in a discipline of health education.

OR

An official academic transcript reflecting at least 25 semester hours (37 quarter hours) of course work addressing the Seven Areas of Responsibility of health education specialists.

90-Day Eligibility

This eligibility option is available to students graduating within 90 days of a CHES® exam date. To qualify, official transcripts and written verification from a faculty adviser confirming scheduled graduation must be submitted. Transcripts must depict a minimum of 25 semester hours (37 quarter hours) addressing the Seven Areas of Responsibility of health education specialists.

Unsure of Eligibility

A **prescreen** service is available to those who are unsure of exam eligibility. For a \$25 nonrefundable fee, NCHEC will determine eligibility through review of official academic transcripts.

Prescreen applicants are notified in writing of the review's outcome. If deemed eligible, the fee is then applied toward the exam cost. If deemed ineligible, course deficiencies will be identified and guidance for future qualification will be provided.

A Prescreen Application can be completed online at nchec.org/ches.



For more information on the CHES® exam or eligibility requirements, please visit our Web site at www.nchec.org, or contact the Exam Coordinator at (888)624-3248 ext. 12.

How To Apply

The CHES® exam is offered at professional technology-enabled global Prometric Testing Centers at a wide range of locations across the country and internationally. To locate a testing center near you, visit www.prometric.com/nchec. Applications can be submitted online at www.nchec.org/exams. Paper applications are available.

Remember to apply early to secure the lowest fees for your examination, and to ensure a convenient test time at your preferred location. Time slots may fill rapidly at some locations.

CHES® Fee Schedule and Deadlines

The CHES® exam is offered twice a year (April & October) for a 10-day window

SAVE \$50 with early bird registration.

Fall CHES® Exam			
		Non-Student	Student
Early bird	Deadline 5/1 – 5/31	\$270	\$220
2nd Deadline	6/1 – 7/31	\$320	\$270
Final (Late)	Deadline 8/1 – 8/31	\$370	\$320
Spring CHES® Exam			
Early bird	Deadline 11/1 – 11/30	\$270	\$220
2nd Deadline	12/1 – 1/31	\$320	\$270
Final (Late)	Deadline 2/1 – 2/28	\$370	\$320

*The student fee is available for applicants enrolled full-time (minimum nine credits) in a university level program at the time of registration.

*Student rates also apply with documentation of your full-time status as detailed by your institution.