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. The MCHES® is based on the Responsibilities and Competencies that have been verified by a practice analysis. Specifically, the MCHES® is hierarchical, meaning that MCHES® are competent in all entry-level skills, in addition to more advanced-level skills.

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

The MCHES® certification is a career ladder and focused on advanced-level skills to demonstrate leadership roles and helps to elevate the public’s confidence in your practice and delivery of health education and promotion.

What is a MCHES®?

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

1. Met required academic preparation qualifications and worked in the field for a minimum of five years.
2. Successfully passed a competency-based examination.
3. Satisfied the continuing education requirement to maintain the certification.

To order publications to assist in exam preparation, visit NCHEC.org

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.


A Competency-Based Framework for Health Education Specialist-2015

To order publications to assist in exam preparation, visit NCHEC.org

Publications

Standard of Professional Excellence

Become a
Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES®)

National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.
1541 Alta Drive, Suite 303
Whitehall, PA 18052
Phone: 888.624.3248
Fax: 800.813.0727

www.nchec.org
The Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES®) 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 advanced-level health education specialist. These Responsibilities were verified through a role delineation and practice analysis process.

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

### Seven Areas of Responsibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Assess Needs, Resources and Capacity for Health Education/Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Plan Health Education/Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Implement Health Education/Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Conduct Evaluation and Research Related to Health Education/Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Administer and Manage Health Education/Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Serve as a Health Education/Promotion Resource Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Communicate, Promote and Advocate for Health, and the Profession of Health Education/Promotion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Exam Eligibility

The MCHES® exam eligibility includes both academic and experience requirements.

**For CHES®:**

A minimum of the past five (5) continuous years in active status as a Certified Health Education Specialist. (No additional documentation is needed)

**For Non-CHES® or CHES® with fewer than 5 years active status AND five years experience:**

A Master’s degree or higher in Health Education, Public Health Education, School Health Education, Community Health Education, etc., **OR**

A Master’s degree or higher with an academic transcript reflecting at least 25 semester hours (37 quarter hours) of course work in which the Seven Areas of Responsibility of health education specialist were addressed. **AND**

Five (5) years of documented experience as a health education specialist.

To substantiate experience in the health education field, applicants must submit:

1. Two verification forms from a current or past manager/supervisor, and/or a leader in a health education professional organization
2. A current curriculum vitae/resume

### How to Apply

The MCHES® 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.

### MCHES® Fee Schedule and Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall MCHES® Exam</th>
<th>Non-CHES Fee</th>
<th>Current CHES Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early bird Deadline 5/1 – 5/31</td>
<td>$335</td>
<td>$285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Deadline 6/1 – 7/31</td>
<td>$385</td>
<td>$335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final (Late) Deadline 8/1 – 8/31</td>
<td>$435</td>
<td>$385</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring MCHES® Exam</th>
<th>Non-CHES Fee</th>
<th>Current CHES Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early bird Deadline 11/1 – 11/30</td>
<td>$335</td>
<td>$285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Deadline 12/1 – 1/31</td>
<td>$385</td>
<td>$335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final (Late) Deadline 2/1 – 2/28</td>
<td>$435</td>
<td>$385</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A prescreen service is offered to non-CHES® and should ONLY be used if you are not sure you meet the academic requirement for the MCHES® exam. The prescreen service will review the academic component of 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 qualification will be provided.

For more information on the MCHES® exam or eligibility requirements, please visit our Web site at www.nchec.org, or contact 888.624.3248 ext. 16.