CHES® and MCHES® Certification
The Gold Standard
Health Education and Wellness: A Profession on the Rise

• The US Bureau of Labor and Statistics has projected health educators to have faster than average job growth through 2026: 16%

• NCHEC has seen an average 10% increase in the number of certificants since 2005 = total certified in 2018 is 13,700+

NCHEC’s certification programs will reinforce and validate your professional skills in this high-demand profession.
CHES® and MCHES®: The Right Step for Your Career

Certification:

- Enhances your professional credibility
- Gets recognition from peers and employers
- Expands your professional opportunities
- Provides you with a personal and professional accomplishment
“A CHES® understands the skill and knowledge necessary to our line of work and I have found they are better prepared for the job, can work independently, can focus on what is important, and can represent our agency well in the community.”

Sue Beatty
Health Education and Training Manager– City of El Paso
Certified health education specialists agree—certification is valuable.

- 90% say certification helps them feel a sense of personal accomplishment
- 87% say certification gives them a sense of personal satisfaction
- 82% say they are more confident in their professional interactions
- 75% say the CHES® or MCHES® enhance their personal confidence

*NCHEC Value of the CHES and MCHES Certification Study: A Cross-Sectional Examination of Current CHES/MCHES perspectives.*
“My employer refers to me as the expert in developing needs assessments, program planning, as well as administrator and manager of the many health-related efforts I have initiated and implemented – all due to my CHES® certification.”

Ana McMurry, CHES® Education Coordinator
Trident Medical Center, South Carolina
Visit our YouTube channel for recent interviews with industry professionals with advice on why you should get certified, and how to begin the process.
“Montefiore has required the CHES® credential for its health education positions since 2006. The credential has served as a means of highlighting talented individuals with a broad understanding of the health education profession and its application within the diverse communities that we serve as an academic medical center.”

Dr. Nicole Harris-Hollingsworth, EdD, MCHES®
Assistant Vice President, Community & Population Health – Montefiore Health System
We are the only accredited organization certifying health education specialists.

3rd-Party accreditation verifies validity
NCHEC’s Mission

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
- Strengthens professional preparation and practice
## History of NCHEC: Highlights

| 1970’s                      | National Task Force Developed  
|                            | Role Verification Competencies established |
| 1980’s                      | NCHEC Incorporated  
|                            | Charter Certification |
| 2000’s                      | 2005: CUP results released  
|                            | 2007: CHES® Exam revised based on New Framework |
| 2010’s                      | 2010 Health Educator Job Analysis (HEJA) released  
|                            | 2011: MCHES® Exam launched for advanced practitioners |
## NCHEC’s Recent Accomplishments

### 2013
- CHES® and MCHES® exams receive “Gold Standard” NCCA Accreditation

### 2015
- The Health Education Specialist Practice Analysis 2014 (HESPA) Project results are released by SOPE and NCHEC
- NCHEC’s new publications released

### 2015-2016
- Released new versions of exams (MCHES® April 2016/CHES® October 2016)
- ISO 17024 Accreditation as a Personnel Certifying Body Achieved

### 2017
- CHES® and MCHES® credentials are trademarked with the United States Patent and Trademark Office

### 2018
- New HESPA II Practice Analysis Study launched
- CHES® and MCHES® exams transition to computer-based format
- NCCA Reaccreditation for CHES® and MCHES® certifications
Our organization has been committed to quality standards, best practices, and competence in the health education profession since 1989.
What is Credentialing?

Individuals
- Licensing
- Registration
- Certification

Academic Institutions
- Accreditation
Quality Assurance Mechanisms

- Certification (Professional)
- Accreditation (Program)
- Licensure (Government)
- Registration (State & Local)
CHES® Certification

- Health education profession
- Mastery of the fundamental skills
- Across all practice settings
- Voluntary credential
What is a CHES ®?

A CHES® is an individual that has:

- Met academic eligibility
- Passed a written examination
- Has an ongoing commitment to continuing education and professional development
The Framework for Health Education Specialists -2015

- Broad practice standards
- Measurable performance
- Used for curriculum development
- Used to evaluate continuing education programs
The Health Education Specialist Companion Guide for Professional Excellence

• Study Guide format
• Full-length practice examinations
• For use with both CHES® and MCHES® exams
• ONLY available for purchase on nchec.org
Health Education Specialists: Seven Areas of Responsibilities

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, Health Education/Promotion, and the Profession
An eligible individual has:

- A Bachelor’s, Master’s, or Doctoral Degree from an accredited institution, **AND**

- A **major** in: health education, community health education, public health education, school health education, **OR**

- 25 semester hours (37 quarter hours) specific to course work related to areas of responsibility and competencies
Unsure of Eligibility?

Use the Optional Prescreen Service:

- Transcript Review
- Identify needed coursework
- Fee ($25)
- If you are eligible, the $25 is subtracted from the exam fee
- Questions, contact admin@nchec.org

www.nchec.org/eligibility
The CHES® Exam

At a Glance:

- Computer-based test (CBT) exam
- 165 multiple-choice questions
- Identifies each Area of Responsibility and is competency-based
- Offered at Prometric Test Centers nationally, and some international locales
- Study Companion available
- 10 day test window in April and October
- 3 timed hours to complete
Computer-based Testing (CBT)

Advantages:

- 10 Day Test Window to fit your busy schedule
- Instant Past/Fail Result for CHES® only
- More Locations including international
- Easy Test Date Scheduling through Prometric website 24/7
- Computerized format complete with easy tutorials and point-and-click navigation

Detailed FAQs on www.nchec.org/cbt
Prometric State-of-the-Art Test Center Locations

Locate by Zip Code at: www.Prometric.com/nchec
# The CHES® Examination Content

Examination Specifications based on HESPA-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Area of Responsibility</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Assess Needs, Assets, and Capacity for Health Education/Promotion</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Plan Health Education/Promotion</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Implement Health Education/Promotion</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Conduct Evaluation and Research Related to Health Education/Promotion</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Administer and Manage Health Education/Promotion</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<td>VI</td>
<td>Serve as a Health Education/Promotion Resource Person</td>
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<td>Communicate, Promote, and Advocate for Health, Health Education/Promotion, and the Profession</td>
<td>12%</td>
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</table>
# Current CHES® Exam Registration Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April Exam</th>
<th>October Exam</th>
<th>Non-Student Fee</th>
<th>Student Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Bird Registration: Nov 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; – Nov 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Early Bird Registration: May 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; – May 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>$270</td>
<td>$220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Registration: Dec 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; – Jan 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Regular Registration: June 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; – July 31&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>$320</td>
<td>$270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final (Late) Registration: Feb 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; – Feb 28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Final (Late) Registration: Aug 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; – Aug 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>$370</td>
<td>$320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exam Registration Opens on May 1<sup>st</sup> and Nov 1<sup>st</sup> each year**
Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES®) Credential

**Current CHES®**

- Minimum of the past 5 continuous years active status

**NON-CHES / CHES® < 5YRS ACTIVE STATUS**

- Master’s degree or higher in Health Education OR Master’s degree or higher with transcript reflecting 25 semester hours addressing the Seven Areas of Responsibility
- 5 years experience as a health education specialist
- CV/Resumé
- 2 letters of recommendation
Why MCHES®?

• The MCHES® credential is designed for experienced and knowledgeable leaders in the field.

• MCHES® is the only advanced credential for health education specialists.

• In a health system focused on prevention, your role as a leader/expert is crucial.
# Current MCHES® Exam Registration Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April Exam</th>
<th>October Exam</th>
<th>5-Year CHES®</th>
<th>Non-CHES® or CHES &lt; 5 yrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Bird</td>
<td>Early Bird</td>
<td>$285</td>
<td>$335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration:</td>
<td>Registration:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1st – Nov 30th</td>
<td>May 1st – May 31st</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>$335</td>
<td>$385</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Final (Late)</td>
<td>$385</td>
<td>$435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration:</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Aug 1st – Aug 31st</td>
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**Exam Registration Opens on May 1st and Nov 1st each year**
The MCHES® Exam

At a Glance:

• Provided at Prometric Test Centers
• 3 timed hours to complete
• 165 multiple choice questions; 150 scored, 15 pilot
• Stand alone & scenario-based multiple choice items
• Covers all 7 Areas of Responsibility; there are 117 advanced-level only Sub-competencies
The MCHES® Examination Content

Examination Specifications based on HESPA-2015

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<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Plan Health Education/Promotion</td>
<td>16%</td>
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CHES® /MCHES® Exam Schedule

Twice each year

April (10-day window)

October (10-day window)

Register during the early-bird period to receive the greatest discount on fees
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Pass written examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Annual $55.00 renewal fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 75 hours of continuing education with a five-year cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recertify at the fifth year if renewal fees are paid and continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>education requirements have been met</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Complete a measurement/evaluation of Continuing Competency (beginning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in April 2019)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuing Education Contact Hours (CECH): 75 hours are required for the five-year recertification

- Continuing Competence Assessment for Recertification for new certificants beginning in April 2019 and existing CHES®/MCHES® for their next recertification cycle after 2019
- Easy assessment process available – no retest necessary
CECH Categories

Types of continuing education contact hours:

- **Category I**
  - Events offered by providers
  - Pre-approved by NCHEC
  - Minimum 45 CECH

- **Category II**
  - Events offered by providers
  - Maximum 30 CECH
  - Not pre-approved by NCHEC

- **MCHES® advanced**
  - MCHES® must earn 30 CECH directly related to the advanced-level Sub-competencies from Category I and/or II

- **Continuing Competency (CC)**
  - A demonstration of Continuing Competency during a 5-year recertification cycle will include either 1) an assessment (Cat I CECH) **OR** 2) an evaluation of job duties by a supervisor (Cat II CECH).
Continuing Competency Requirements:

During a 5-year recertification cycle, a CHES® or MCHES® must complete a measurement of Continuing Competence.

Certificant must complete an:

1) Assessment Quiz (Category I CECH) OR
2) Assessment of Practice (Category II CECH)
Chadwick Bedel, CHES®, WebMD Health Services

“I definitely feel like having the CHES® certification benefitted me in landing my job with WebMD, and getting the certification during my undergrad was probably one of the smartest decisions I have ever made.”

Check out Job Postings on NCHEC’s Web site at www.nchec.org
Start your certification journey today!

Join in the conversation with over 13,000 followers!

The Official NCHEC CHES/MCHES Group
ches.mches
@NCHEC_updates

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888-NCHEC4U (888-624-3248)
http://www.nchec.org | admin@nchec.org