

Community Health Education Emphasis

(includes Worksite Wellness track)

About the major

Today's world needs educated graduates to advocate for the health and well-being of communities. The Health & Kinesiology degree with the Community Health Education emphasis is a career-training program that will prepare you for health education roles in:

- public, non-profit, and private health organizations including government agencies such as local and state health departments
- corporate wellness facilities
- clinical education programs

The curriculum is based upon the core competencies of the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) national certification. The CHES national certification certifies skills in planning, implementing, administering, and evaluating programs to promote healthy living. You will graduate from the program prepared to work as a community health educator.

Students who successfully complete the necessary coursework are eligible to sit for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam. Students who complete the Worksite Wellness track are eligible to sit for the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) exam. Both these certifications are the gold standard in health education and exercise.

What is Community Health Education?

The U.S. Department of Labor- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has a classification of health educator and defines health educators (SOC 21-1091) as those that provide and manage health education programs that help individuals, families, and their communities maximize and maintain healthy lifestyles. Health Educators collect and analyze data to identify community needs prior to planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating programs designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, policies, and environments. They may serve as resource to assist individuals, other health professionals, or the community, and may administer fiscal resources for health education programs.

Community Health Education is a branch of public health that focuses on studying, protecting, or improving health within a community. Community health covers a wide range of healthcare interventions, including health promotion, disease prevention, and treatment. It also involves management and administration of care.

Admissions

We accept a total of 35 Community Health Education students (includes Worksite Wellness track) per academic year.

Requirements

1. Strong interest in educating communities about health.
2. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 (if your GPA is below 2.8, your application will still be considered)
3. Have completed all prerequisite classes by the end of summer semester 2020
 - a. Statistics course (MATH 1040 **or** MATH 1070 **or** PSY 3000 **or** FCS 3210 **or** SOC 3112)
 - b. H EDU 4650 (Anatomy & Physiology for Health) **or** BIOL 2420 (Human Physiology)
 - c. H EDU 1010 (Healthy Lifestyles)
 - d. H EDU 3050 (Community Health Issues)
 - e. Writing 2010 (Intermediate Writing)
4. Write a 300-500 word essay:
 - What are your professional career goals?
 - Describe at least two life and educational experiences that have led you to pursue the community health emphasis in Health Promotion and Education.

Application Materials

Download the application: https://health.utah.edu/health-kinesiology-recreation/health/docs/comm_hlth_workwellness_application11320.pdf

Application Submission

Submit application materials by July 31, 2021 by one of the following methods:

1. In person:
 - a. Health Promotion and Education office- William Stewart Building 102b
 - b. Academic Advising office, Center for Student Success- HPR N 221
2. Email to either:
 - a. Joanna.mcminn@hsc.utah.edu
 - b. Elirissa.Hui@health.utah.edu