

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION



NORTH
CAROLINA
CENTRAL
UNIVERSITY
FOUNDED 1910

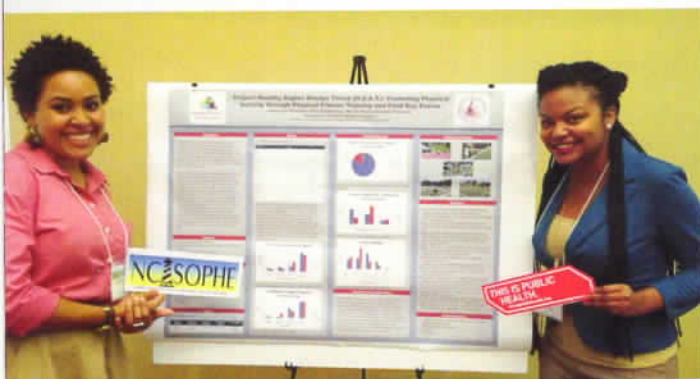
DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC HEALTH
EDUCATION

HELPING COMMUNITIES BE WELL,
STAY WELL, FARE WELL



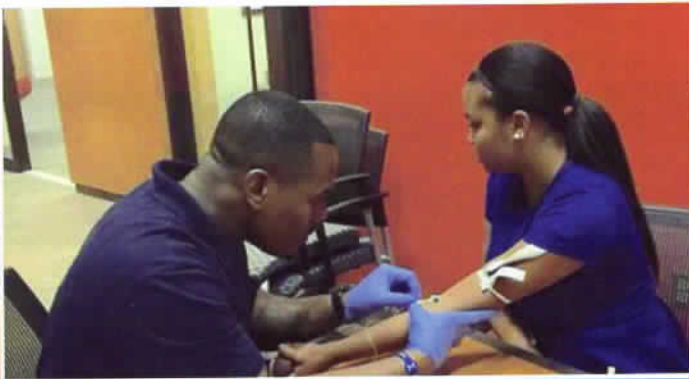
WHAT IS HEALTH EDUCATION?

Health education is a combination of learning experiences to help individuals and communities improve their health by increasing their knowledge or influencing their attitudes and changing their behaviors.



WHAT DO HEALTH EDUCATORS DO?

Health educators plan and implement strategies to help people adopt healthier lifestyles and make better use of health services. They also promote improvements in personal and community health practices. The profession encompasses a continuum, from disease prevention to attaining optimum health.



WHERE DO HEALTH EDUCATORS WORK?

Health educators work in a variety of settings, including public and private schools, college and university campuses, community-based organizations, hospitals and other medical facilities, international health organizations, nonprofit agencies, public health departments and in private business.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

At North Carolina Central University, the Department of Public Health Education in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences offers professional preparation leading to the Bachelor of Science degree. This includes study in the biological and social sciences, psychology, education, and health education. Students also learn skills related to needs assessments, communications, computer applications, and program planning, implementation and evaluation.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

In addition to coursework, the health education major must complete an internship lasting at least eight weeks in an approved public health agency or related setting. A minimum grade of "C" in the internship is required for graduation.

Advisors in the department assist students in selecting academic program options. To enhance their competencies, students may choose to take additional coursework and add supplementary experiences through involvement in local health interest groups or professional health organizations. Paid internships often are available through grant and research programs.

CERTIFICATION

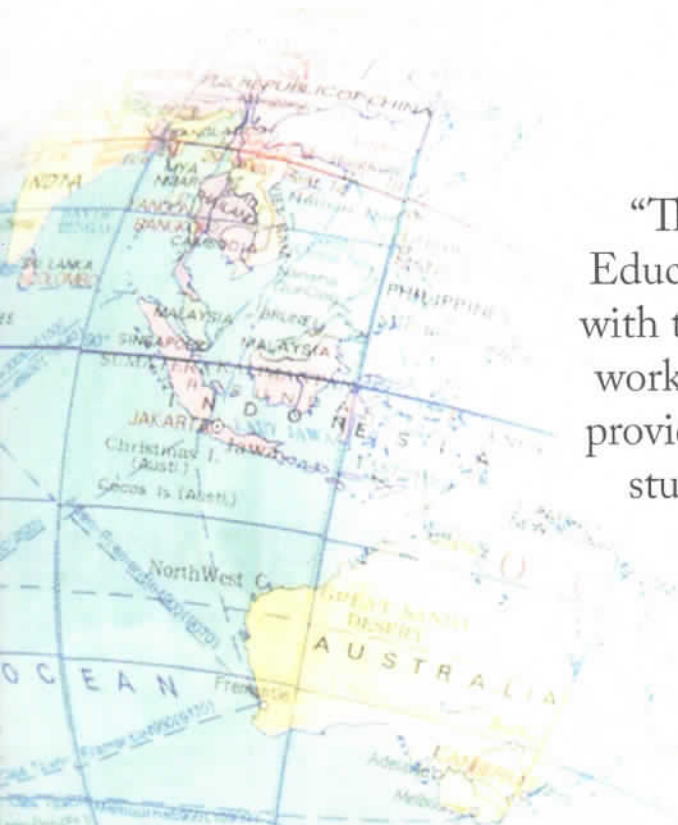
Graduates of the program are eligible to take the examination to become a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES). The examination is given twice each year and is based on the areas of responsibility and competencies of the entry-level health educator. The CHES designation after a health educator's name is an indication of professional competency and commitment to continued professional development.





“The Department of Public Health Education curriculum provides students with the necessary skills to emerge in the workforce as leaders, and the professors provide outstanding guidance in helping students to fulfill their passions and reach their full potential.”

NIA SUTTON '15



OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH EDUCATION PRACTICE

Public health education is a practical discipline, so we provide students with many opportunities to apply their new knowledge and skills in real-world settings.

THESE INCLUDE:

- ❑ An eight-week **FULL-TIME INTERNSHIP** in a public health agency during the last semester of the program
- ❑ **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS**, such as the Eagle Pride Blood Drive and two HIV/STD peer education programs, Status Matters and Project SAFE
- ❑ **RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS** working with faculty on a variety of public health research projects
- ❑ **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** through organization membership in Eta Sigma Gamma, the Society for Public Health Education, and NCCU's Society for Future Health Educators
- ❑ Numerous **SUMMER EXPERIENCES**, internships and fellowships

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Career opportunities in public health education are numerous and diverse. Many of our graduates find work in local health departments, small community-based organizations and large non-profits (e.g., the American Cancer Society and the American Lung Association). Some have been hired as full-time research assistants in university-sponsored research projects testing the effectiveness of new health promotion strategies. There is a growing need for culturally competent and culturally diverse public health professionals to educate and empower at-risk populations. That is true here in North Carolina, throughout the United States and in countries around the world.



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www.nccu.edu/healtheducation

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North Carolina Central University
Department of Public Health Education

ACCREDITATION: The NCCU health education program is nationally credentialed by the Society for Public Health Education/American Association for Health Education Baccalaureate Program Approval Committee (SABPAC).

NCCU is a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina. At a cost of \$.20 each, 4,000 copies of this public document was printed for a total of \$800 in Spring 2015.

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