

## The CHES Program

For those who wish to pursue a career in health promotion and education, passing the CHES (Certified Health Education Specialist) exam qualifies graduates for a nationally recognized certification program. Many CHS MPH graduates work in this field. Many employers now require CHES for health education positions.

For MPH students/graduates who wish to take the CHES exam, current requirements for qualification to take the CHES exam are that you:

- 1) Graduate from an accredited Health Promotion/Health Education program  
Or
- 2) Have 37.5 quarter units of course that will qualify as being related to HP/HE.

The Health Education Health Promotion cluster in the CHS department is a CEPH accredited program, so that taking courses recommended in that cluster will allow students to meet CHES exam requirements. The exam is typically administered twice a year. Doing an internship that falls in this area is also recommended. Students in the MPHHP program where the focus is Health Education & Health Promotion are automatically qualified.

### Schedule of courses to qualify for CHES exam

School core courses	16	
Departmental core courses	12	
Internship /practica	4	= 38 QUs
Courses that exemplify HP/HE	22	that count
Two electives	8	
Total credits to graduate	60	

The website address for The National Commission on Health Education Credentialing is <http://www.nchec.org>. This is the group that sponsors CHES (Certified Health Education Specialist) exam. Get information on competencies, required courses, dates, and sign up for the exam. The exam is given 2 times per year, once in the Fall and once in the Spring.