The NBPHE & the Certified in Public Health (CPH) Exam
Certified in Public Health Program

Board of Directors

- Eligibility
- Exam
- Code of Ethics
- Recertification
The NBPHE History

- Started a **joint initiative** to establish **task forces** on the **credentialing of public health workers** (1980)
- The **task force** reached out to other **stakeholders** in the credentialing process and the group evolved into the **Steering Committee on Public Health Workforce Credentialing** (1999)
- **ASPPH's Executive Committee** approved developing an independent Board of Public Health to issue examinations and provide those that pass the exam with a public health credential (2002)
- The **NBPHE** was established (2005)
- The **first CPH exam** was administered (2008)
NBPHE Board of Directors
Statistics

• Since 2008, the NBPHE has credentialed over 5,600+ CPH professionals
• 500 provisional CPH professionals, at any given time
• 2,000 applicants in the pipeline, at any given time
• 10 Schools and Programs Require the CPH exam
• 13 Schools and Programs who offer a discount for the CPH exam
• 6 Organizations strongly encourage who offer a discount for the CPH exam
NBPHE Statistics

• Since 2008, 3 alumni have sat for the CPH exam
  – 3 Alumni passed
  – 0 Students passed

C’mon, students!
Don’t let the alumni win!
ICE & NCCA Accreditation

The NBPHE is proud to be a member of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) in show of our support of the credentialing community and our commitment to strive for excellence in our certification CPH program.

We have plans to apply to the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) Accreditation Program to prove that the NBPHE has met and can maintain professional standards of excellence, with all of our processes:

- Ethics
- Governance
- Test Development
- Security
- Proper protocol in place
Why the CPH?
Created to Professionalize the Field of Public Health
CPH and Public Health Profession

- Increases professionalism and build your career
- Provides evidence of mastery of core skills and knowledge
- Potential Salary Increases and Promotions
- Assure the community which you serve and protect that you've met and maintain a national, professional standard
Evidence of Mastery in Core Skills and Knowledge

“Though I don’t hold an MPH, I bring many years of invaluable real world public health experience to the table. I reviewed the ASPPH CPH study guide, as well as the other study resources. Three months later, I successfully passed the first exam to be offered to candidates based solely on prior work experience. It has been one of my proudest professional accomplishments.”

Tonya Smith, CPH,
Lieutenant, United State Public Health Service & Member of CPH pilot cohort
Salary Increases & Promotions

“Once I received my passing notice of the CPH exam, I received a $80,000 incentive bonus, offered at that time, in 4 year increments and have continued to proudly serve my commission.”

Laura E. Ricardo, RN, MPH, CPH, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Nurse Corps, United States Army
Prove That You Have Met and Can Maintain the National Standard in Public Health

“My CPH affirms that I possess the means to positively change lives and it motivates me to remain dedicated to doing just that. I accept this challenge proudly in honor of my fellow CPH certified colleagues, my branch of service, and – most importantly – the Nation whose health I have sworn to protect, promote, and advance.”

Patrick C. Harper, Pharm.D., MPH, CPH
Lieutenant Commander, United States Public Health Service
I have my MPH, Why do I need CPH?

- 10 CEPH accredited schools and programs of public health are now requiring that you to pass the CPH exam to graduate with your MPH
  - Students and alumni will not earn their MPH, without achieving CPH certification first
  - This tells us that the CPH exam tests knowledge and competency that a graduate-level student or alumni should know to graduate with an MPH and work in public health
  - The CPH should be your next stop, after earning the MPH, in your achieving a leadership role in public health

- The CPH exam may be the culminating exam for all CEPH accredited schools and program of public health to graduate with your MPH
  - Important to recognize that they go hand-in-hand

- Employers are using the CPH as a hiring tool
- Distinguish yourself from thousands of resumes that simply say “MPH”, by adding the CPH

- The CPH says that you were willing to take time out of your busy schedule to:
  - Take the next step in your career
  - Show that you are dedicated and serious about the field of public health
  - Outshine your competitors in your profession
  - Prove that you have mastered all core and cross-cutting areas of key contemporary public health sciences
  - Go above and beyond your education
  - Prepare for and sit for a voluntary examination on your weekend off
  - Maintain the CPH credential with continuing education

National Board of Public Health Examiners
Why do employers care about the CPH?

As a public health administrator in both local and state health departments, I often was responsible for hiring decisions. I found a great deal of variability in the form and content of graduate degrees in public health.

The CPH is a credential recognizable by employers providing assurance that an applicant possesses a solid knowledge base in core public health content areas routinely used in practice in health departments. Diane L. Matuszak, MD, MPH
What do these organizations have in common?

They all want their employees to earn the CPH!

National Board of Public Health Examiners
Why Is this Important to Me?

• Since opening our eligibility to individuals currently working in the public health field, the CPH credential is **populating the public health workforce**
• More employers are acknowledging the credential and offering to **pay or reimburse** for exam and recertification fees
• More employers are offering **salary increases or promotions** to those that earn the credential
• Some organizations are **offering a discount for the CPH exam and free study materials** for their entire department, staff, or membership to sit for the exam
• Other organizations are setting up **learning courses to prepare** their employees for the exam
• Some CEPH accredited schools and programs are **putting a requirement to pass** the CPH exam **to graduate with your MPH**
• Other CEPH accredited schools and programs are **offering a discount for the CPH exam and free study materials** to their students and alumni for significant CPH participation to sit for the exam
• We are also seeing a trend of employers putting a **preference** or a **requirement for the CPH** in their job postings
Why Is this Important to Me?

• **Students**
  – Some students are required to earn the CPH to graduate with their MPH
  – When you graduate and enter the public health workforce, you are going to see your peers and/or competitors with the MPH & CPH behind their name
  – Don’t get left behind!
  – Whether your school or program extends a discount or requires the exam for graduation, you should sit for the CPH exam, while you are still in school
  – You are at a disadvantage against your MPH/CPH peers, if you do not

• **Alumni**
  – Whether you are already working, or you are searching for a job, you are going to see the CPH credential and you will be at a disadvantage if you do not achieve it
  – Students graduating coming up from under you are sitting for and earning the CPH credential
  – Professional colleagues are proudly boasting about passing the exam and framing their certificate
  – Don’t get left behind!
‘Public Health Jobs’ Gets A New Look!

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is proud to announce the Public Health Jobs redesign. Our goal for Public Health Jobs is to serve as the recommended search engine for public health job opportunities and to continue to highlight the field of public health.

New features!

**Job Seekers:**
- Create unique, online profile(s) with corresponding uploaded resumes targeted to specific job opportunities
- Bookmark job postings
- Refine job search by public health specializations
- Share job postings via social media

**Employers:**
- Search and bookmark job seekers’ resumes
- Manage and track applications
- Receive alerts when job seekers apply to your job posting
- Contact job seekers

**Job Seekers and Employers:**
- Streamlined experience for both employers and job seekers
- Public Health Jobs now integrates with Indeed to populate a wide spectrum of public health-related jobs.

www.publichealthjobs.org
PublicHealthJobs

- American College of Cardiology
- American Kidney Fund
- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Army Public Health Center
- Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- Behavioral Health System Baltimore
- Catholic Relief Services
- CDC National Center for Health Statistics
- Clinton Health Access Initiative
- County of Santa Cruz, CA
- Georgia Department of Public Health
- Health Research, Inc
- Idaho Dept. Health and Welfare
- International Society of Infectious Diseases
- Jefferson College of Population Health
- Lehigh University
- Lexington-Fayette County Health Department
- Minnesota Department of Health
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- National Health Promotion Associates
- Navy Nursing Corps
- NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Population Services International
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- San Francisco Department of Health
- San Joaquin County Public Health Administration
- Signature Science
- Skoll Global Threats Fund
- Tarleton State University
- Tulane
- Umass Medical School
- United States Public Health Services/Commissioned Officer Association (USPHS/COA)
- University of Chicago
- University of Illinois at Springfield
- University of Massachusetts Medical School
- University of Michigan Department of Health Behavior Health Education
- University of South Dakota, School of Health Sciences
- University of South Florida
- University of Texas at Austin
- UT Health Sciences Center at Houston School of Public Health
- Utica College
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington State Department of Health
- Yale University

www.publichealthjobs.org
CPH Process
Certification process

Eligibility
• CEPH students and alumni
• Public Health Work Experience

CPH exam
• 200 questions
• 12 domains

Maintenance
• Recertification
• Code of Ethics

National Board of Public Health Examiners
Exam Eligibility (Alumni)

All graduates of CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health
Exam Eligibility (Students)

Graduate students who have completed or are enrolled in the core coursework:

- biostatistics
- epidemiology
- environmental health
- health policy
- behavioral sciences
Exam Eligibility
(Public Health Work Experience)

Individuals who both:
• Minimum of five years of public health experience
• At least a bachelor’s degree
The CPH Exam
### Exam Coverage

#### General Principles (25 items)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core areas</th>
<th>Cross Cutting (25 items)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Biostatistics <em>(30 items)</em></td>
<td>- Communication &amp; Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Epidemiology <em>(30 items)</em></td>
<td>- Diversity &amp; Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Environmental Health Sciences <em>(30 items)</em></td>
<td>- Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Health Policy &amp; Management <em>(30 items)</em></td>
<td>- Professionalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Social and Behavioral Sciences <em>(30 items)</em></td>
<td>- Program Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Public Health Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Systems thinking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*General Principles and Core areas with 30 items each, Cross Cutting with 25 items.
CPH Exam

• The CPH exam is a timed exam
• 200 items and 4 hours
• No calculators or scratch paper
• All questions are multiple choice and single-best answer
• Exams offered all year round
Computer-based exams

- Testing Location near your home
- 72 hours to register or reschedule
Instant scoring for computer-based exams!
How is the CPH Exam Scored?

- Content–based analysis determines the minimum passing standard required to achieve certification.
- Each item is examined for its performance, discrimination and difficulty.
- Candidates who pass will receive a percentage of pass/fail.
- Candidates who do not pass will receive a scaled score report.

- Handled on Pass/Fail basis
- Pass rate is more than 75%
Test Development

- Passing Score is set
- Item bank analysis
- Training for volunteers
- Item writing assignments
- Item review committee
- Form review committee
- Post-test item analysis
Who Will See My Scores?

**Students & Alumni Candidates**
- The schools and programs receive:
  - Scaled scores by content area for each candidate
  - Comparison of performance of all candidate results compared with school candidates by content area

**Public Health Work Experience Candidates**
- CPH scores will be provided to the NBPHE through secure portal upload by testing vendor, PSI/AMP
- CPH scores are sent by USPS mail or they will live in your CPH Recertification portal
- Only you will have access to your scores in the CPH Recertification portal
Become CPH!

The Certified in Public Health (CPH) credential distinguishes public health professionals at the cutting edge of an ever-evolving field. The credential – the only one of its kind for public health – demonstrates knowledge of key public health sciences, but also a commitment to the field through continuing education focused on emerging and established public health issues.

Read More >

NBPHE Announces New CPH Eligibility Criteria

Registration is open

Individuals who have a bachelor’s degree and at least five subsequent years of public health work experience will be eligible to take the CPH exam. Confirmation of employment and education must be verified by the NBPHE before candidates may schedule their exam. Read More >
Register Now

Registration Center

In order to be eligible to sit for the National Board of Public Health Examiners Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam, all candidates must meet one of the following eligibility criteria: student or alumni of a school or program of public health accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), or professional experience eligibility.

See complete eligibility requirements and view the CPH Candidate Handbook.

Student and Alumni

If you are a current student or an alumni of a CEPH-accredited school or program of public health, click below to register.

Register Now

NEW: Public Health Work Experience

Individuals who have at least a bachelor's degree and at least five subsequent years' public health work experience will be eligible to take the CPH exam.

Read More >

Register Now

National Board of Public Health Examiners
Student and Alumni

• PSI is our testing vendor
• **Create account online**
• Verifying Information
  – Select your school or program in dropdown
  – Schools and Programs will verify student education and alumni graduation dates
• Pay online
  – *discounts are reflected at time of purchase
  – *Vouchers may be available
• Schedule your Exam
Public Health Work Experience

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Read More >

Register Now

National Board of Public Health Examiners
Public Health Work Experience

• Enter your public health work experience into the online application
• Upload your transcripts and resume
• Pay online
  – **Discounts are available
  – **Pay full price and after you sit for CPH exam, you are mailed a reimbursement check for the difference

• Your application will be reviewed
  – If you are approved, PSI will contact you to schedule your exam
  – If you are not approved, you will be refunded in full
Reschedule:
1\textsuperscript{st} time free
2\textsuperscript{nd} time $125.00
Scheduling, Rescheduling & Deferring

- You have two years eligibility from your application start date
- All scheduling, rescheduling or deferrals must go through PSI
  
  **Reschedule: 1st time free, 2nd time $125.00**

- No limit on retaking the exam

- PSI’s Telephone: 1-888-519-9901
Study Resources

- Content Outline
- Sample Exam Questions
- Practice Exam
- Webinars
The CPH Content Outline is your Map to prepare for the CPH exam.

Use the CPH Content Outline while you study the ASPPH CPH Study Guide.

If it’s on the CPH Content Outline, it is on the CPH exam!
CPH Sample Questions

- There are 13 sample questions
- In the format of the CPH exam
- Best single answer
To take the practice exams, at no additional cost, visit https://nbphe.org/CPHstudyResources.cfm
Welcome to the ASPPH CPH Study Guide

Congratulations on your decision to take the CPH exam.
We wish you the best of luck and hope you find this Study Guide to be useful.

The ASPPH CPH study guide provides:
- Information about the CPH exam
- Strategies and tips to assist you in performing your best on the exam
- Chapters on each of the five core areas of public health. The majority of the CPH exam is based on this core areas.
- A chapter reviewing the seven cross-cutting competency areas: some content related to the cross-cutting competencies may be included in the exam.
- Three practice tests, which we suggest you take as a form of self-assessment to identify your areas of strength and weakness.
- Terminology and definitions for each core area and the cross-cutting competencies.

The study guide is in an online-only, printer-friendly format.
The cost for one-year access to the online study guide is $39.99.

To purchase online access, first Create a New Account, then log in to place your order.

CPH Study Guide Discounts

- CPH Exam Group Discounts
- American Public Health Association members
- APHC
- Army Public Health Center members

https://cphstudyguide.aspph.org/
How do I Access the ASPPH CPH Study Guide:

To access the guide:
Go to https://cphstudyguide.aspph.org/
CPH Webinars

- 3-hour long webinars
- Each webinar covers one of the core cross-cutting areas of public health
- Recorded every January
- Free to listen!
- Earn CPH Recertification Credits listening as a refresher
If you are interested in taking the CPH exam for the first time, NBPHE recommends this focused two-day learning institute to strengthen your knowledge, boost your testing confidence and prepare you for the CPH exam.

The CPH Learning Institute will be held CPH LI will be held Saturday, November 4 from 9:00am-5:00pm – Sunday, November 5 from 8:30am-5:30pm

The fee is $350.00.

The CPH exam will be offered on Monday, November 6

Stay tuned for more information!
Requiring or Strongly Encouraging the CPH Exam
Using and Requiring the Exam
Schools/Programs Requiring the CPH Exam

- Brigham Young University
- Oregon MPH OHSU/PSU
- Touro University
- University of California, Irvine
- University of Utah
- University of North Florida
- University of North Texas
- University of Oklahoma
- Saint Louis University
- University of South Florida
Schools/ Programs Significant CPH Participation

- Columbia University
- CUNY
- Drexel University
- EVMS
- New York University
- University of Florida
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Pittsburgh
- California State University, Northridge
- St. Georges University
- Indiana University
- University of Maryland
- University of Texas at El Paso
Organizations with Significant CPH participation

ASPPH Fellows

Army Nurse Corps

Army Public Health Center

American Public Health Association (APHA)

Navy Nursing Corps

Commissioned Officers Association / United States Public Health Service

National Board of Public Health Examiners
Prices and Discounts

$385
- Standard Fee

$315
- At least 20%-30% of graduating class taking the exam, or large organizational group

$250
- Requiring the CPH exam
CPH Recertification Process
Bi-Annual Recertification Process (CEs)

- 50 CPH recert credits
- $95 fee every two years
- Online reporting portal
Recertification Activities Include:

- College courses
- Conferences and professional events
- Instruction and Professional Contributions
- Volunteer and Leadership Service
- CPH Item-Writer/PHAB or CEPH Accreditation Site Visitor
- Medical Residencies
Find Credits & Providers

Welcome to the CPH Recertification & Reporting System

The CPH recertification process fosters life-long learning, professional development, and promotion of the public health profession. CPH professionals must earn 50 recertification credits every two years to maintain their CPH status.

Log in under “CPH Log In” to search for opportunities to earn CPH recertification credits, track your progress towards recertification, report recertification activity and pay a $95.00 recertification application fee.

To view recertification requirements, click here.

Find Credits & Providers

Search for credit offerings from pre-approved providers.
# CPH Digital Badging

## CPH Digital Badges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Badge Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Superstar Attendee</td>
<td>Conference or Seminar Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coursework Champ</td>
<td>Course work, coursework at CPH accredited school or program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Presenter</td>
<td>Created and Multi-day course or workshop or Seminar, Public Presentation, Guest Lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Master</td>
<td>Grant Application (Approved), grant review (technical)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Learner</td>
<td>Online training course, webinar participation, Podcast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wise Scholar</td>
<td>Dissertation, Publication (Peer-reviewed), Manuscript review (technical)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathmaker</td>
<td>Leadership, service, volunteer service, Leadership Institute membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifelong Learner</td>
<td>Fellowship, (non-certificate), Summer programs, Mentoring Program, Medical residency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item Writer</td>
<td>For CPH Exam or Study Guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Visitor</td>
<td>CPH, CAMM, PHBB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

badges = visual representations of a skill or achievement
Virtual CPH Certificates

National Board of Public Health Examiners

Attests that

[recipient_name]

On this day of [issue_date], has successfully completed the educational and examination requirements to demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills relevant to contemporary public health, and is therefore,

Certified in Public Health.

[Signature]
Richard Kurz, PhD
Chair of the National Board

NBPHE Number [certificate_id]

National Board of Public Health Examiners

Attests that

[recipient_name]

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[Signature]
Richard Kurz, PhD
Chair of the National Board

NBPHE Number [certificate_id]
National Board of Public Health Examiners

Attest that

EXAMPLE

On this day of June 30, 2016, has successfully completed the educational and examination requirements to demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills relevant to contemporary public health, and is therefore, Certified in Public Health.

Richard Kurz, PhD
Chair of the National Board

NBPHE Number
12119

National Board of Public Health Examiners
Search for a CPH Registry

Employers can verify your active CPH status by keying in your last name into the Search for a CPH registry.

Your NBPHE number & status will display, along with your digital badges earned for CPH recertification.

Employers can print your certificate cover letter that explains your cycle dates and date of expiration.
CPH Merchandise: CafePress

www.cafepress.com/cph
Stay Connected

https://www.facebook.com/CertifiedPublicHealth/
https://www.linkedin.com/groups/789787
Questions?