

Washington State Community Health Worker Training
Frequently Asked Questions

When is the CHW training offered in my area?

Trainings are offered quarterly regionally across the state. Follow this link to the training schedule. <http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/140-036-TrainingSchedule.pdf>

Do I have to attend the training in my region?

You may attend the training in any region as long as you can attend both in-person days. Please note that in order to receive the Certificate of Completion you must attend both in-person days.

Who can attend this training?

This training is appropriate for you to attend if: you help connect clients/patients to health and social services, you do outreach work, peer counseling, health education, patient navigation, case management, or another similar task.

Is there a cost for the CHW Core Competency training?

There is no charge for this class.

Can I enroll in the training if I live outside of Washington State?

You do not have to live in Washington State but you must attend both in-person training days to complete the training and receive a certificate of completion. All travel expenses are the responsibility of the participant.

What is the curriculum for the CHW Core Competency class?

The curriculum is based on strengthening common skills and knowledge the community health worker uses including: roles and boundaries, communication skills, documentation skills, assessment skills, care coordination skills, and case study development and presentation.

If I complete the CHW Core Competency training, will I be a certified Community Health Worker?

No, this is not an accredited certification course as there is no certification specific to CHWs in Washington State at this time. However, if you complete the training, you will receive a Certificate of Completion that will document 30 hours of training has been completed in the field of community health work.

What is the difference between the Core Competencies and the Health Specific Modules?

Participants must complete the CHW Core Competency training prior to enrolling in any Health Specific Modules (HSMs). The CHW Core Competency training requires two in-person days (one at the beginning and one at the end of the training) with six weeks

For people with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY call 711).

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of online learning between the in-person days. The HSMs occur at the end of each quarter and are divided in three sections that span 10 days each (Health Screenings, Knowledge & Capacity Building, and Chronic Disease). The HSMs are all online and do not require any in-person days.

What do I need in order to complete the training outside of the in-person days and what is the time commitment for the training?

You need to have access to a computer and be able to access the internet. You can expect to spend at least two to four hours each week to complete the online training.

What happens if I cannot complete the training?

If a participant is unable to finish the class, then the participant may join another class in a future quarter at any location and make up the work they are unable to complete.

Do I need to provide my own lunch at the in-person training?

Lunch and snacks are on your own.

Can high school students take the training?

If you are a high school senior you may take the training. In limited circumstances, younger students can participate with advance permission from the instructor.

Does this course count for continuing education?

Possibly. Your certificate of completion will document that you completed 30 hours of training in the field of community health work. However, you will need to check with your accreditation agency that dictates the rules of your profession. Be sure to secure the certificate of completion for your records as you may need it for future reference. If you work in Aging & Long Term Care, DSHS recognizes this class as one option to fulfill the required yearly hours of CE.

Can I use this training as a pre-requisite for other educational opportunities?

Possibly. Some community colleges in Washington State are now offering CHW training graduates up to 5 credits towards select training programs at both the associate and baccalaureate level. Talk with your CHW training instructor to learn more.