

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER: CERTIFICATE

The Community Health Worker (CHW) Certificate Program is designed to prepare individuals to be effective advocates and resources for their communities. CHWs play a vital role in educating the community about health issues, connecting individuals and families to essential health services, and advocating for improved health resources. Through this program, students gain the skills to discuss health concerns with community members, provide information on available health services, and support preventive health measures. Graduates are equipped to promote wellness, reduce health disparities, and serve as trusted voices within their communities.

The 24-credit Community Health Worker Certificate offers a flexible pathway into the health and human services workforce. Community Health Worker is an approved Registered Apprenticeship occupation through the New York State Department of Labor, and students may be eligible to receive Credit for Prior Learning based on relevant college-level learning gained through work experience. Certificate credits can also build toward related bachelor's degree pathways at Empire State University, including Public Health and Community and Human Services.

Program Details

Code	Title	Credits
HSCI 1200	Medical Terminology	4
BIOL 2002	Populations & Diseases	4
COMW 2030	Communication for Professionals	4
HUSV 2025	Helping & Counseling Skills	4
HLAD 3005	Community Health	4
HLAD 3040	Health Disparities	4
Total Credits		24

Learning Outcomes

- Explain and apply the roles and responsibilities of Community Health Workers (CHWs) in promoting health, wellness, and equity across diverse communities.
- Demonstrate effective communication and relationship-building skills to engage with diverse populations, establish trust, and provide culturally responsive support.
- Deliver culturally competent health education and outreach interventions that promote preventive care, including screenings, vaccinations, and healthy lifestyle practices.
- Identify and address social determinants of health (SDOH) by assessing community needs and connecting clients to appropriate health, housing, and social-service resources.
- Collaborate as part of an interdisciplinary care team to coordinate services, advocate for clients, and support community capacity-building initiatives.