

A.S. in Community Health

Description of the Community Health Program:

The A.S. degree program in Community Health produces graduates who can provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services to the most vulnerable populations in NYC. Graduates of the program will make significant contributions toward reducing the many barriers that Hispanics and African Americans confront while negotiating services with health and human services agencies. Hostos Community College is in a unique position to train community health workers given that the majority of students are racial and ethnic minority residents from the surrounding communities, our students would match the demographics of the communities that they will serve.

For more information, see link below

<http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Hostos/media/Pathways/Community-Health-AS.pdf>

Skills:

Instructional skills. Community health workers should be comfortable with public speaking so that they can lead programs, teach classes, and facilitate discussion with clients and families.

Interpersonal skills. Community health workers interact with many people from a variety of backgrounds. These workers must be good listeners and be culturally sensitive to respond to the needs of the people they serve.

Problem-solving skills. Community health workers must think creatively about how to improve the health of their audience through health education programs. In addition, health educators and community health workers may need to solve problems that arise in planning programs, such as changes to their budget or resistance from the community they are serving.

Writing skills. Community health workers develop written materials to convey health-related information.

Employment Opportunities:

Community Health Worker, Peer Educator, Facilitator, Advocate, Referral Professional, Community Health Advisor, Family Advocate, Liaison, Health Promoter, Outreach Worker, Peer Counselor, Patient Navigator, Health Interpreter, and Public Health Aide

Employment Outlook:

Employment in clinics and health centers across NY are in demand for **Community Health Workers** with an Associate degree. As poor health in communities across NY is rising there is a high demand for educated health employees. Health educators need a bachelor's degree. Many employers require the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) credential. Requirements for community health workers vary, although they typically have at least a high school diploma and must complete a brief period of on-the-job training. Some states have certification programs for community health workers.

Career Path: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/health-educators.htm>

The median annual wage for community health workers was \$53,070 in May 2016.

Career Coach – Search career information and current local wage data

<https://hostos-cuny.emsicc.com/careers/community-health-worker/about>