

Program Information	Contact Information	Date Updated
Community Health Worker HEA-3121	John Sherman Director, Continuing Education - HSD jsherman@forsythtech.edu	June 2025

This document is designed to assist in understanding the varying educational and credentialing requirements for Community Health Workers (CHWs) on a state-by-state basis, encompassing the United States territories as well.

Educational Preparation: The Community Health Worker program at Forsyth Technical Community College equips students with the foundational knowledge and interpersonal skills necessary to provide frontline support in healthcare settings, public health agencies, and community-based organizations. The course is designed to provide individuals with the tools and resources required to become recognized as a certified CHW in North Carolina. Instruction covers nine core competencies essential to the role, including communication, capacity building, service coordination, interpersonal skills, advocacy, outreach, and professionalism. Students also gain knowledge of social and health issues such as chronic diseases (e.g., diabetes, asthma, cancer), safety, emergency preparedness, social isolation, and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). In addition, students are introduced to the changing healthcare landscape in North Carolina and how to connect clients to resources through systems like NCCARES 360.

Certification and State Recognition: Certification requirements for CHWs vary widely by state. Some states maintain voluntary registries or require certification through a state agency, while others allow employers to set credentialing standards. In North Carolina, successful completion of Forsyth Tech's program makes students eligible for listing as a NC Certified Community Health Worker. Individuals in other states should consult their Department of Health or CHW Advisory Board for specific guidance.

[Forsyth Tech Website](#)

[Additional Resource - 1](#)

[Additional Resource - 2](#)

Disclaimer: It is crucial to acknowledge that laws and regulations in the field of Community Health Worker are subject to constant change. For the most current information and requirements, we strongly advise you to consult the specific state board or agency responsible for Community Health Worker licensure/certification.

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Alabama		X
Alaska		X
American Samoa		X

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Arizona		X
Arkansas		X
California		X
Colorado		X
Connecticut		X
Delaware		X
District of Columbia		X
Florida		X
Georgia		X
Guam		X
Hawaii		X
Idaho		X
Illinois		X
Indiana		X
Iowa		X
Kansas		X
Kentucky		X
Louisiana		X
Maine		X
Maryland		X
Massachusetts		X
Michigan		X
Minnesota		X
Mississippi		X

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Missouri		X
Montana		X
Nebraska		X
Nevada		X
New Hampshire		X
New Jersey		X
New Mexico		X
New York		X
North Carolina	✓	
North Dakota		X
Northern Mariana Islands		X
Ohio		X
Oklahoma		X
Oregon		X
Pennsylvania		X
Puerto Rico		X
Rhode Island		X
South Carolina		X
South Dakota		X
Tennessee		X
Texas		X
US Virgin Islands		X
Utah		X
Vermont		X

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Virginia		X
Washington		X
West Virginia		X
Wisconsin		X
Wyoming		X