



# COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

## WHAT COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS DO

A Community Health Worker (CHW) is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has a close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the CHW to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community.

- Work in health departments, medical clinics, and social service agencies
- Home visits
- Patient education
- Community Advocacy
- Case Management - assist patients with accessing community resources

After successful completion of this 120-hour training, approved by the Oregon Health Authority, students may become **certified by the state of Oregon as a Community Health Worker**. In Oregon, CHWs are eligible for Medicaid reimbursement.

## WAGES

### Average wages in Central Oregon

- Hourly: \$18.26

*Oregon Employment Department, Central Oregon Wages, 2020*

## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- Navigating the health care system
- Ethics and documentation
- Social determinants of health
- Disease prevention
- Health across the lifespan
- Cultural competency
- Relationship building
- Behavior change
- Trauma informed care
- Self-care
- Health education principles and health literacy
- Community organizing, engagement and advocacy
- Community needs assessment
- Case management and working with agencies
- Group facilitation skills
- Recovery, resilience and wellness models

## CAREER ADVANCEMENT

Working as a Community Health Worker is an excellent way to enter into the field of health care and social services. With additional education, you may advance your career:

- Public health
- Medical practitioner (nurse, doctor, and more)
- Social work
- Counseling
- Clinic manager





# COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

## HHP 299 COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER 6 CREDITS

### Class Schedule:

- Course offered fall term 2021
- Course length: 11 weeks
- Hybrid class:
  - Students will meet on the Redmond campus for in-person classes for 6 Fridays during the term (12pm to 5pm): 9/24; 10/8; 10/29; 11/5; 11/19; 12/3
  - Students will engage in weekly online learning modules

### To register for the course:

- Must complete COCC admissions process before registration: Priority registration for class (first come, first-served).
- There are no academic pre-requisites for the course.
- Students need to have reliable access to the internet and a computer (computer labs are available for student use on all COCC campuses)
- A high school diploma or GED are not required to receive the training. They may be a requirement from the potential employer.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER CERTIFICATION

### Oregon Health Authority Certification Requirements:

- Completion of the *OHA-approved* COCC CHW training course
- Must be 18 years old
- Criminal background check required
- Government issued identification required (state IDs, Driver License, or passport)
- Certification is valid for 3 years. To renew certification, 20 hours of continuing education is required.

### TUITION\*

- **HHP 299 Community Health Worker class:** approximately \$755 (scholarships available)
- **Textbook:** no textbook costs
- **Certification:** no cost

*\*Assumes in-district tuition. Tuition is an estimate and subject to change.*

## COURSE SCHOLARSHIPS

Students may apply for a scholarship sponsored by PacificSource Community Solutions to cover course tuition. Scholarship application deadline: July 1st, 2021.

[Click Here for link to scholarship application](#)

## FINANCIAL AID

COCC Financial Aid Office provides assistance for students to access financial aid to reach their educational goals: FAFSA/ORSA, grants, scholarships, Oregon Promise, work study, loans, etc.

