## A Competency-Based Framework for Health Education Specialists - 2010

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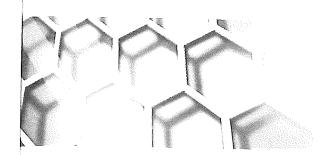


Credentialing Excellence in Health Education





American Association for Health Education



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The National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. Society for Public Health Education American Association for Health Education



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#### Acknowledgements

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Optimal health is essential to quality of life. Health education specialists can significantly impact health and wellbeing when the Competencies they need to support individual and population health are clearly delineated and effectively developed. The National Health Educator Job Analysis 2010 (HEJA 2010) is the latest in the evolution of health education Competencies, which underlie the profession's commitment to excellence in health education teaching, research and practice.

The National Commission for Health Education Credentialing Inc. (NCHEC), the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE), and the American Association for Health Education (AAHE), are joint copyright holders of this document, the HEJA 2010 Technical Report, and the project data. As such, the leaders of these three organizations wish to express their deep appreciation to several key individuals. First, our thanks goes to Eva Doyle, PhD, MSEd, CHES, who chaired the HEJA 2010 Task Force and devoted thousands of hours to guiding its conceptualization, implementation, data analysis and interpretation. Without Eva's insights, leadership and attention to detail, a project of this magnitude would not have been completed in such a timely and efficient fashion. We also wish to express our sincere thanks to Carla M. Caro, MA, and Patricia M. Muenzen, MA, of the Professional Examination Service (PES) of New York, a nonprofit credentialing and competency assurance organization contracted to assist with the project. Their expertise, professionalism, and dedication to this initiative are deeply appreciated.

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#### Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to communicate the Responsibilities, Competencies and Sub-competencies that are essential to health education practice. This document contains descriptions of the processes, outcomes, and related materials of the most recent update project known as the National Health Educator Job Analysis 2010 (HEJA 2010). It is designed for use by the health education profession as a framework for professional preparation, credentialing, and professional development.

Section I contains a brief overview of historical perspectives related to the growth and evolution of the health education profession. In Section II, the processes and outcomes of HEJA 2010 are described. The resulting HEJA 2010 model containing the updated Areas of Responsibility, Competencies, and Sub-competencies for a health education specialist is presented in Section III. Section IV contains recommended uses of the HEJA 2010 Model for various stakeholders and a set of six specific recommendations for the profession. Section V contains a comparison of the HEJA 2010 Model with the former model produced in the Competencies Update Project (CUP). Section VI contains a set of knowledge items validated in the HEJA 2010 analysis as useful in the practice of health education. Additional materials that can be used to master professional terminology and adapt professional preparation and development efforts to the HEJA 2010 Model are included in the appendices. •