Community, Health, and Wellness Advocate

Certificate of Completion (COC)

The Community, Health, and Wellness Advocate (CHWA) is a multi-skilled care manager who helps the patient navigate the complex maze of health and social service providers to find appropriate care. The CHWA educates patients and family members about healthy behaviors, monitors compliance with care management plans, and can accompany a patient on healthcare appointments. The advocate fosters mutual trust with a patient to develop an on-going professional relationship. Health and Wellness Advocates are required to have a wide-ranging skill set and knowledge base. Through a solid foundation in medical ethics and cultural awareness, the CHWA addresses the physical health, mental health, drug use, and social factors affecting a patient's health and wellness. The advocate must be familiar with the appropriate local, state, regional, and national agencies available to assist the patient, including familiarity with health information systems and healthcare funding.

For a roadmap that identifies the preferred sequencing of courses and other specific recommendations from faculty, please see the corresponding program map(s):

- Community, Health, and Wellness Advocate Certificate of Completion (COC) (lowercolumbia.edu/program-maps/business/COC-Community-Health-and-Wellness-Advocate)

Certificate Requirements

Total credits required to earn this certificate: 18 and pass each course listed in the program requirements with a C or better.

LCC students must meet distribution requirements for bachelor degrees, associate degrees, and specific certificates. See Diversity and Distribution Lists (lowercolumbia.edu/publications/catalog/distribution-lists/) for more information.

Program Requirements

Course Code	Course Title	Number of Credits
AH 166	Mental Health First Aid for Adults	1
CS 110	Intro to Microcomputer Applications	3
BTEC 165	Cultural Awareness for Care Professionals: DIV	5
BTEC 170	Community Health Advocacy	5
BTEC 181 ***OR*** MEDA 101	Medical Terminology I ***OR*** Medical Vocabulary I	3
HLTH 105	First Aid, CPR and Bloodborne Pathogens	1

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Program Outcomes

Students completing this program should acquire the following skills and abilities:

- Utilize a clinical decision support tool and electronic health records to view cross-system health and social service utilization to identify care opportunities
- Provide in-person client health assessments
- Accompany the client to critical appointments
- Engage the client in developing a health action plan
- Coordinate and mobilize treating/authorizing entities as necessary to reinforce and support the client's health action goals
- Deliver culturally appropriate interventions, educational and informational materials

Notes

Revised August 2022 (effective Summer 2023)

Consult an advisor if you have any questions.

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