

In-Demand Skills

Skills Recommended for Community Health Students

✓ **Health Literacy and Health Communication**

Develop the ability to convey health information clearly and accessibly to diverse audiences through volunteer health education activities, community outreach, or health fairs.

✓ **Cultural Competency and Health Equity Advocacy**

Build cultural humility and awareness through engagement with community-based organizations serving diverse populations, particularly those addressing health disparities in NYC communities and other communities/populations in the U.S. and around the world.

✓ **Motivational Interviewing and Patient Engagement**

Practice patient-centered communication techniques through volunteer work in clinical or community health settings, peer health education, or health coaching practice.

✓ **Data Literacy and Public Health Research**

Strengthen skills in interpreting epidemiological data, navigating public health databases (e.g., CDC WONDER, NYC EpiQuery), and using data to support community health assessments through practice. Begin to learn the specific “query logic” for these tools.

✓ **Community Health Assessment and Program Planning**

Gain experience in needs assessment, program development, and evaluation by participating in community health initiatives or student-led health campaigns through the COH Club.

✓ **Leadership and Professional Networking**

Develop leadership skills through the COH Club, Student Government Association (SGA), and/or professional organization membership. Examples of this are the APHA Student Assembly, SOPHE and Collegiate Champions.

✓ **Digital Health Tools and Technology Proficiency**

Build competency in electronic health records (EHR), telehealth platforms, health information systems, and digital collaboration tools through coursework, internships, and/or self-directed learning. Check out Open-Source electronic health record platforms. Read the [Center for Connected Health Policy \(CCHO\)](#) reports to understand telehealth policy.

✓ **Basic Life Support (BLS) and First Aid Skills**

Obtain BLS for Healthcare Provider and Heartsaver First Aid certifications from the American Heart Association upon completion of HE 2200 in semester 3 or 4.

✓ **Portfolio Development**

Create a professional portfolio documenting coursework, community engagement, certifications, and fieldwork experiences to present to prospective employers and/or transfer institutions. This usually occurs in Semester 4, but some students may be able to complete this in Semester 3 if most requirements of major are completed by then.