

What Programs Are Eligible To Seek SABPAC Approval?

A department or program preparing baccalaureate community health educators that::

- ◆ Is an integral part of a college or university recognized by national or regional accrediting bodies;
- ◆ Does not discriminate in any regard to age, race, sex, religion or national origin;
- ◆ Offers a baccalaureate degree with a major or option in community health education with a field experience or internship of a minimum of 320 experiential hours supervised by a health educator holding a degree in health education, and
- ◆ Will conduct a Self-Study consistent with the “*Manual on Baccalaureate Health Education Program Approval: Criteria and Guidelines for Self-Study*”

Ellen Capwell, PhD, CHES
Otterbein College, Dept of HPE
160 Center Street, Rike Center
Otterbein, OH 43081
(P) (614)823-3535
ecapwell@otterbein.edu

James McKenzie, PhD, MPH, CHES
Ball State University
2000 University Avenue
Muncie, IN 43706
(P) (765)285-8345
jmckenzie@bsu.edu

What is the Cost of SABPAC Approval?

- ◆ Application fee of \$1000.00 covers the initial years as an Approved Program.
- ◆ Site Visit Team expenses range from \$2000.00 to \$2500.00 depending upon travel expenses such as airfares, local lodging and meals for a three-person team for a three-day visit to the institution.
- ◆ Future fee structure will be determined by the Accreditation Agency to replace the SABPAC Approval Credential.

How do we begin the Approval Process?

- ◆ Order the *SOPHE/AAHE Baccalaureate Approval Committee Manual: Criteria, Process & Procedures for Quality Assurance in Community Health Education—2007* from:

Society for Public Health Education
10 G Street, NE, Suite 605
Washington DC 20002
Phone: 202-408-9804
Fax 202-408-9815
www.sophe.org

- ◆ Assess your program’s eligibility to seek SABPAC Approval. Send verification that your program meets criteria as described in the Manual. Following formal acknowledgement of your program’s eligibility, send the \$1000.00 application fee to SABPAC.

SOPHE/ AAHE Baccalaureate Program Approval

SABPAC

Quality Assurance for Baccalaureate Programs in Community Health Education



WHAT IS SABPAC?

SABPAC Program Approval is a credential for undergraduate professional programs in community health education.

Approval is a designation awarded by the Joint Committee of the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) and the American Association for Health Education (AAHE). SABPAC Approval is recognized by the profession as a standard for baccalaureate health education preparation programs.

Institutions seeking SABPAC Approval agree to conduct a Self-Study following the procedures outlined in the *Committee Manual: Criteria, Process & Procedures for Quality Assurance in Community Health Education—2007*. The Self-Study assists in documenting that graduates are able to demonstrate the competencies and sub-competencies for baccalaureate level community health educators. The competencies are described in the document *A Competency-Based Framework for Health Educators—2006*, published by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.

Following completion of the Self-Study, a Site Visit Review Team will visit the institution and conduct a program review to determine if it meets SABPAC Criteria

Why Seek SABPAC Approval?

There are more than 300 programs that grant baccalaureate degrees in health education. Students considering a professional preparation program in community health education need to have a way of identifying those programs which meet established quality standards for preparing baccalaureate-level health educators. Therefore recognition that a program meets profession-endorsed standards becomes increasingly important.

- ◆ Institutions voluntarily pursue **SABPAC Program Approval**. That pursuit requires serious self-analysis based on approved benchmarks developed by the profession. The review process enables institutions to make qualitative assessments of their programs.
- ◆ **SABPAC Approval** of a professional preparation program helps insure that its graduates have the skills and knowledge to practice health education.
- ◆ Students are encouraged to seek out **SABPAC Approved Programs**.
- ◆ Employers are becoming more aware of the benefits of employing graduates of **SABPAC Approved Programs**.

SABPAC Approval verifies that a baccalaureate community health education program meets quality standards established by the profession.

- ◆ **SABPAC Approval** assures that the curriculum of the Program encompasses all of the newly updated (2006) Areas of Responsibilities, Competencies and Sub-Competencies delineated for entry-level health educators.
- ◆ **SABPAC Approval** provides incentives for baccalaureate preparation programs to meet minimum standards and to upgrade the curriculum as necessary to insure that graduates meet basic Competencies.
- ◆ **SABPAC Approval** provides a strong professional identity with subsequent rewards and professional recognition.

