

NATIONAL TRANSITION TASK FORCE ON ACCREDITATION IN HEALTH EDUCATION

*Sponsored by the Society for Public Health Education
And the American Association for Health Education*

What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is the status of public recognition that an accrediting agency grants to an education institution or program that meets the agency's standards of requirements.

What are the Benefits of Accreditation?

- ✓ Accreditation demonstrates the institution's commitment to achieving and maintaining quality.
- ✓ Accreditation provides an external evaluation that publicly attests to the quality of the program.
- ✓ Accreditation already establishes eligibility to become CHES certified and may eventually be required.
- ✓ Accreditation establishes eligibility for graduates to qualify for selected jobs.
- ✓ Accreditation establishes eligibility for graduates to qualify for selected doctoral fellowships.
- ✓ Accreditation enhances graduates' ability to apply for and be accepted into doctoral training programs.
- ✓ Accreditation establishes eligibility for students to qualify for federal public health traineeships.
- ✓ Graduation from an accredited program enhances the geographic mobility of graduates.
- ✓ Accreditation frequently establishes institutional eligibility for federal funds.
- ✓ Accreditation enhances ability of program to seek external funding.
- ✓ Accreditation establishes clear expectations about skills and competencies that the employer should expect.
- ✓ Accreditation positions programs within their universities and makes them more competitive for resources.
- ✓ Accreditation status enhances the ability to recruit well-qualified students.
- ✓ Accreditation status enhances the ability of universities to recruit and appoint top faculty.
- ✓ Widespread use of accreditation aligns health education with the practices of other health professions.
- ✓ Widespread use of accreditation helps establish programmatic relevance.
- ✓ Accreditation facilitates building bridges and networks with similar preparation programs.
- ✓ Widespread use of accreditation addresses the fragmentation concern expressed by practitioners.
- ✓ Accreditation places health education on equal footing with other units in the health sciences.
- ✓ Accreditation can be an effective leverage to bring about change in a program.
- ✓ Accreditation conveys a certain status and societal recognition.