



# CERTIFIED IN PUBLIC HEALTH “CREDENTIALING PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS”

**CPH** Certified <sup>in</sup>  
Public Health  
by National Board of Public Health Examiners



# NBPHE Board of Directors



# Certified in Public Health

**14,155**

Examinees

**95**

Countries with  
CPH

**14**

Schools and  
programs require  
the CPH



# IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH CERTIFICATION



**Licensure/Certification**

**Accreditation**

**Degrees**



**Most fields have  
degrees and  
certifications**



**Accountants, CPA**



**Board Certified Physicians**



**Licensed Social Workers**



**Registered Nurses**

# Degrees, Certificates and Certifications

## Degree

Professional skills

Completion of  
significant  
coursework

Offered by institution  
of higher learning

## Certificate

Often used for  
Technical skills

Completion of  
focused training

Offered by academic  
or other entity

## Certification

Assessment of  
proficiency

Standardized process

Offered by third party,  
standard-setting  
body

Requires periodic  
renewal

# History

## ASPH and APHA form task force on credentialing workforce

### PROPOSED CREDENTIALING SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS: WHAT WOULD IT MEAN FOR SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH?

Prepared for  
The Association of Schools of Public Health

By  
Eugenia S. Carpenter, M.P.P.

Gini Associates  
P.O. Box 1884  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106  
April 16, 1990

## It's Time We Became a Profession

During their annual joint breakfast meeting last fall, the executive committees of the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) and the American Public Health Association (APHA) agreed that the public health workforce, and public health as an important societal endeavor, suffer from lack of definition, appreciation, and visibility. Despite the fact that public health can take credit for 80% of increased longevity and health, the story is simply not known; investments in public health have declined from a minuscule 3% of US health spending to a microscopic 0.9%; local

health budgets and staff are being slashed and their responsibilities transferred elsewhere, often to managed care and other clinical/treatment enterprises; and the public health workforce is traditionally undervalued and underpaid.

While these are the long-term results of numerous factors, the executive committees agreed that one important factor, which we can change, is the absence of discernible, visible, organized professionalism. William Henry Welch, founding dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health and arguably the most important

1980

2005

2008

2024

*The Feasibility and Desirability of Public Health Credentialing: A Survey of Public Health Leaders*  
William C. Livingood, Jr., PhD, Lynn D. Woodhouse, EdD,  
and Steven W. Godin, PhD

*The Public Health Workforce*  
Without a competent workforce, a public health agency is as useless as a new hospital with no health care workers.  
by Kristine Gebbie, Jacqueline Merrill, and Hugh H. Tilson

**ABSTRACT:** Defining the public health workforce and specifying its performance requirements present equal challenges as the nation anticipates public health needs for the twenty-first century. The core group of professionals employed by government public health agencies works in close partnership with a wide range of public, private, and voluntary orga-



# WHY SHOULD I GET CERTIFIED IN PUBLIC HEALTH

# Why Should I Get Certified in Public Health?

**Stay**

Stay current in best practices

**Meet**

Meet a national professional standard

**Invest in**

Invest in your career

**Increase**

Increase your potential for promotions and salary increases

**Distinguish**

Distinguish yourself from your peers

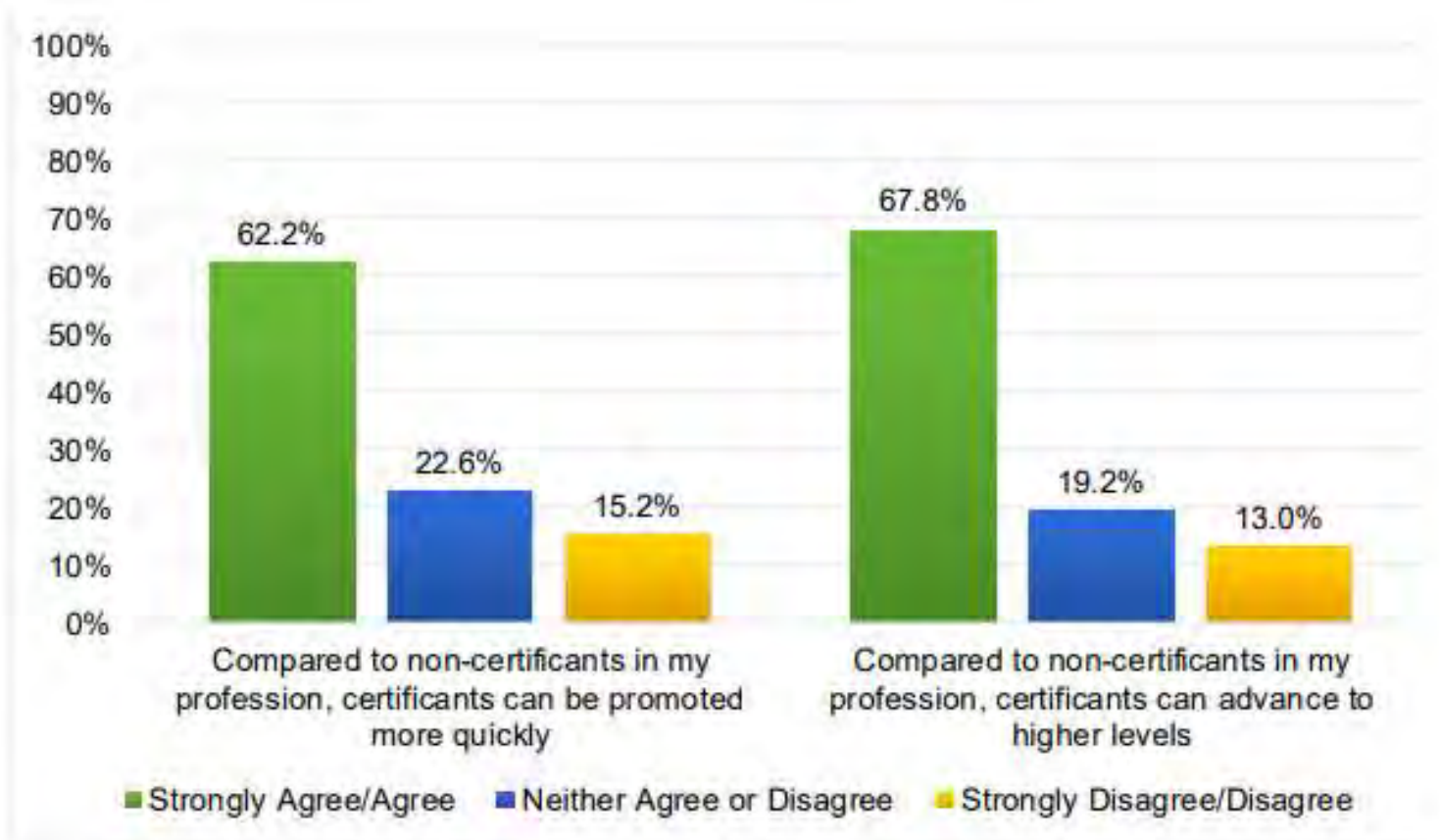
**Go**

Go beyond your education

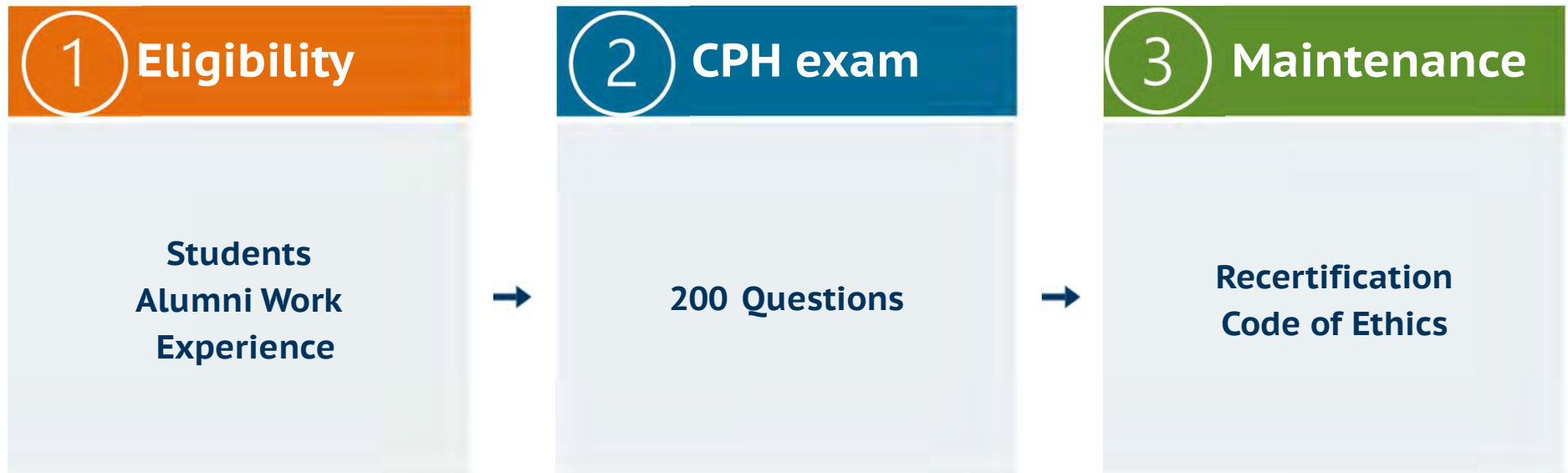
# Why Get Certified?



# Employers value certifications



# Certification Process



# ELIGIBILITY

# Exam Eligibility

Alumni

Student

Work  
Experience

Faculty

**Graduates of CEPH-accredited and  
CEPH-applicant schools and programs  
of public health**

# Exam Eligibility

Alumni

Student

Work  
Experience

Faculty

Graduate students of CEPH-accredited and CEPH-applicant schools and programs of public health

All graduates of CEPH-accredited and CEPH-applicant schools and programs of public health



# Exam Eligibility

Alumni

Student

Work  
Experience

Faculty

**Graduate-level degree related to public health and three years of public health experience**

**OR**

**Bachelor's degree (any area of study) and five years of public health experience**

# Exam Eligibility

Alumni

Student

Work  
Experience

Faculty

Faculty who have a graduate-level degree and at least three years of teaching and/or working in public health

# REGISTRATION AND TESTING PROCESS

# NBPHE Website



- [Get Certified](#)
- [Stay Certified](#)
- [Partner Resources](#)
- [Search for a CPH](#)
- [Merchandise](#)
- [About Us](#)



## Credentialing Public Health Leaders

The Certified in Public Health is the mark of a public health professional. Demonstrate your knowledge of key public health sciences and join the ranks of public health leaders by sitting for and successfully passing the CPH exam. Distinguish yourself from your peers by showing employers that you can meet and maintain a national standard in public health through continuing education focused on emerging and established public health issues.

**Be the public health professional that the public needs.  
Be CPH certified.**

[Why Get Certified? »](#)



## Registration Is Open



## New CPH Discounts



## CPH Credential Webinar



**All verified candidates approved  
within two weeks**



**Scheduling instructions sent immediately  
after approval**



**Exam can be scheduled as soon as 72 hours later**  
**No scheduling or testing deadline.**  
**Your eligibility is indefinite**

# Prices and Discounts

**Standard Fee**

**\$385**

**Discounts**



| Organization   | Discount Rate |
|--|---------------|
| Commissioned Officers Association Members  | \$315         |
| Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health  | \$315         |
| Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health | \$250         |
| Instituto Nacional de Salud Publica  | \$315         |
| Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health                                       | \$315         |
| Mississippi Public Health Association  | \$250         |
| Navy Nursing Corp Personnel  | \$315         |
| North Carolina Public Health Association   | \$250         |
| Northeastern University Department of Health Sciences  | \$315         |
| Oregon Health & Science University/Portland State University School of Public Health             | \$250         |

# Schools/Programs Requiring the CPH Exam



SCHOOL OF  
**PUBLIC HEALTH**



Northeastern University



**SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY**  
— EST. 1818 —



# Testing All Year Long







## Computer-Based Testing Centers

**1400 Testing Centers**  
(Monday-Saturday)



## Live-Online Proctor

**24 hours/day**  
**365 days/year**

# Search for a testing center

## Test Site Cities

Meazure Learning offers more than 1,400 test center locations in 110 countries that allow us to provide Internet-based and paper and pencil testing in proctored environment. Of the top 100 U.S. cities by population, 98% of candidates are within 15 miles of a Meazure Learning testing center. We pride ourselves on the consistency and quality of our testing facilities. Our attention to detail and advanced technology make our testing exceptional for our candidates. Our network is scalable to fit the needs of our clients; for programs researching a delivery partnership, Meazure Learning can provide an analysis of our sites in relation to your candidate population.

The list below includes both U.S. and international cities where Meazure Learning testing sites are located. Test sites and dates are reserved on a first come first served basis. Once a candidate is registered, his or her exam date and time is reserved and he or she will receive via email the address and driving directions to the chosen testing site as well as instructions regarding arrival time, what to bring, and a link to a generic sample test that demonstrates Meazure Learning's online testing software, PASS™.

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### US Locations

### International Locations

|                                      |                           |                               |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Alabama</a>              | <a href="#">Guam</a>      | <a href="#">Massachusetts</a> | <a href="#">New York</a>       | <a href="#">Tennessee</a>      |
| <a href="#">Alaska</a>               | <a href="#">Hawaii</a>    | <a href="#">Michigan</a>      | <a href="#">North Carolina</a> | <a href="#">Texas</a>          |
| <a href="#">Arizona</a>              | <a href="#">Idaho</a>     | <a href="#">Minnesota</a>     | <a href="#">North Dakota</a>   | <a href="#">Utah</a>           |
| <a href="#">Arkansas</a>             | <a href="#">Illinois</a>  | <a href="#">Mississippi</a>   | <a href="#">Ohio</a>           | <a href="#">Vermont</a>        |
| <a href="#">California</a>           | <a href="#">Indiana</a>   | <a href="#">Missouri</a>      | <a href="#">Oklahoma</a>       | <a href="#">Virgin Islands</a> |
| <a href="#">Colorado</a>             | <a href="#">Iowa</a>      | <a href="#">Montana</a>       | <a href="#">Oregon</a>         | <a href="#">Virginia</a>       |
| <a href="#">Connecticut</a>          | <a href="#">Kansas</a>    | <a href="#">Nebraska</a>      | <a href="#">Pennsylvania</a>   | <a href="#">Washington</a>     |
| <a href="#">Delaware</a>             | <a href="#">Kentucky</a>  | <a href="#">Nevada</a>        | <a href="#">Puerto Rico</a>    | <a href="#">West Virginia</a>  |
| <a href="#">District Of Columbia</a> | <a href="#">Louisiana</a> | <a href="#">New Hampshire</a> | <a href="#">Rhode Island</a>   | <a href="#">Wisconsin</a>      |



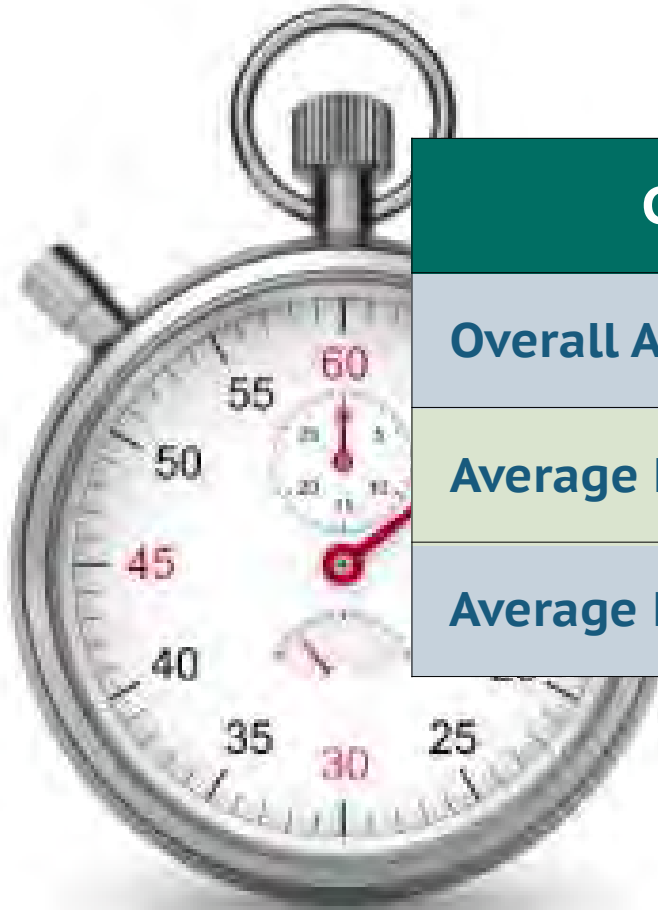
# CPH EXAMINATION

# CPH Exam



The CPH exam is 200 question exam with a 4 hour window  
All questions are multiple choice and single-best answer

# Average Exam Time (4 hour window)



| CATEGORY                  | AVERAGE EXAM TIME  |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall Average Exam Time | 2 hours 50 minutes |
| Average Exam Time for LOP | 2 hours 48 minutes |
| Average Exam Time for CBT | 2 hours 52 minutes |

# Who Will See My Scores?

## Students & Alumni Candidates

**The schools and programs** receive:

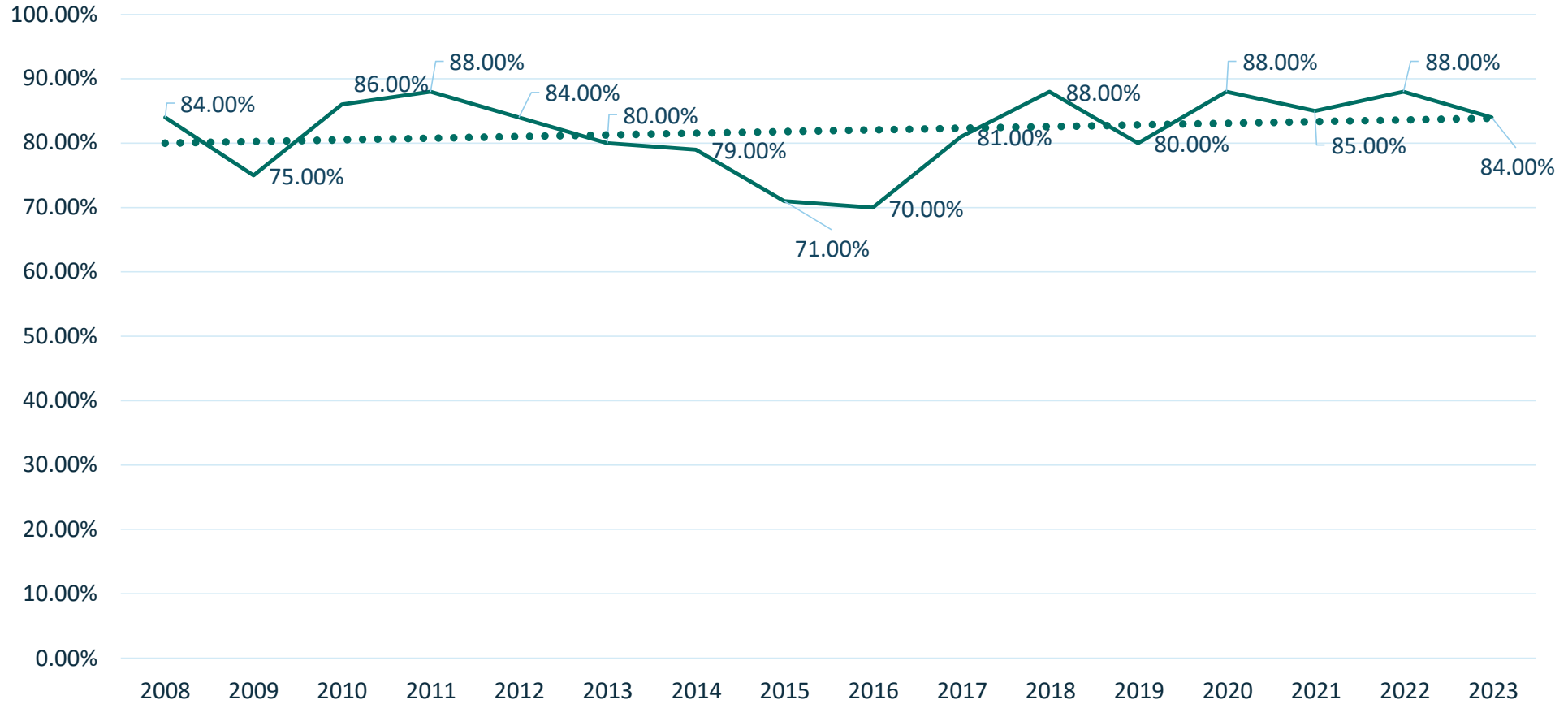
Scores by content area for each candidate

Comparison of performance of all  
candidate results compared with school  
candidates by content area

## Public Health Work Experience Candidates

**Only you**  
will have access to your scores in the  
CPH Recertification portal

# CPH Passing Rate (2008-2023)





# X Pass Rate

- **All candidates:** 85% pass rate
- **X:** x% pass rate
- **LOGO HERE**

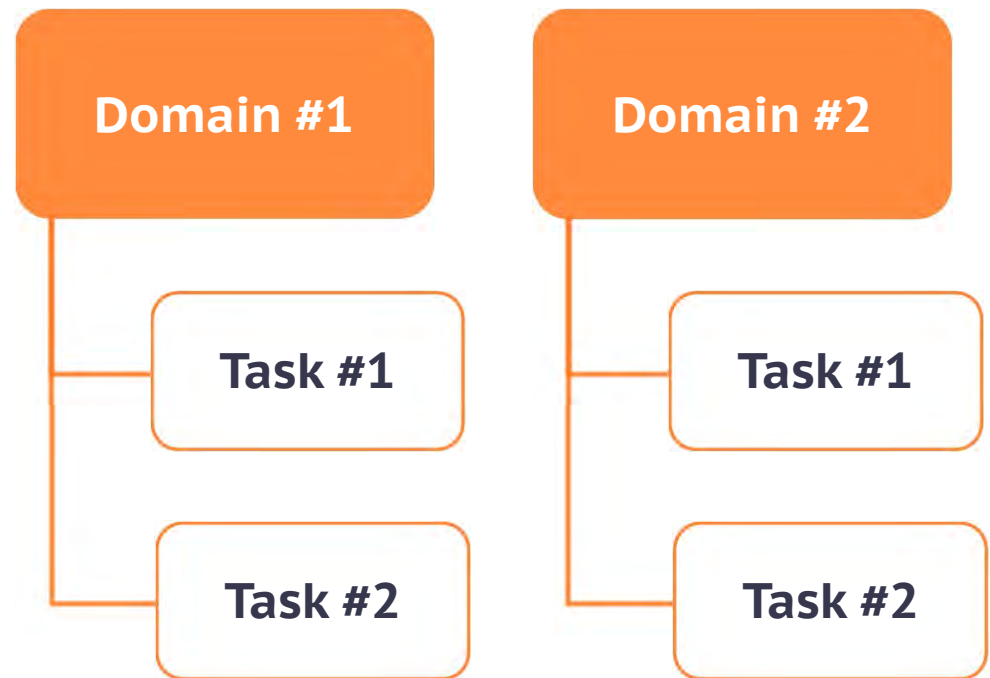
# Retaking the Exam

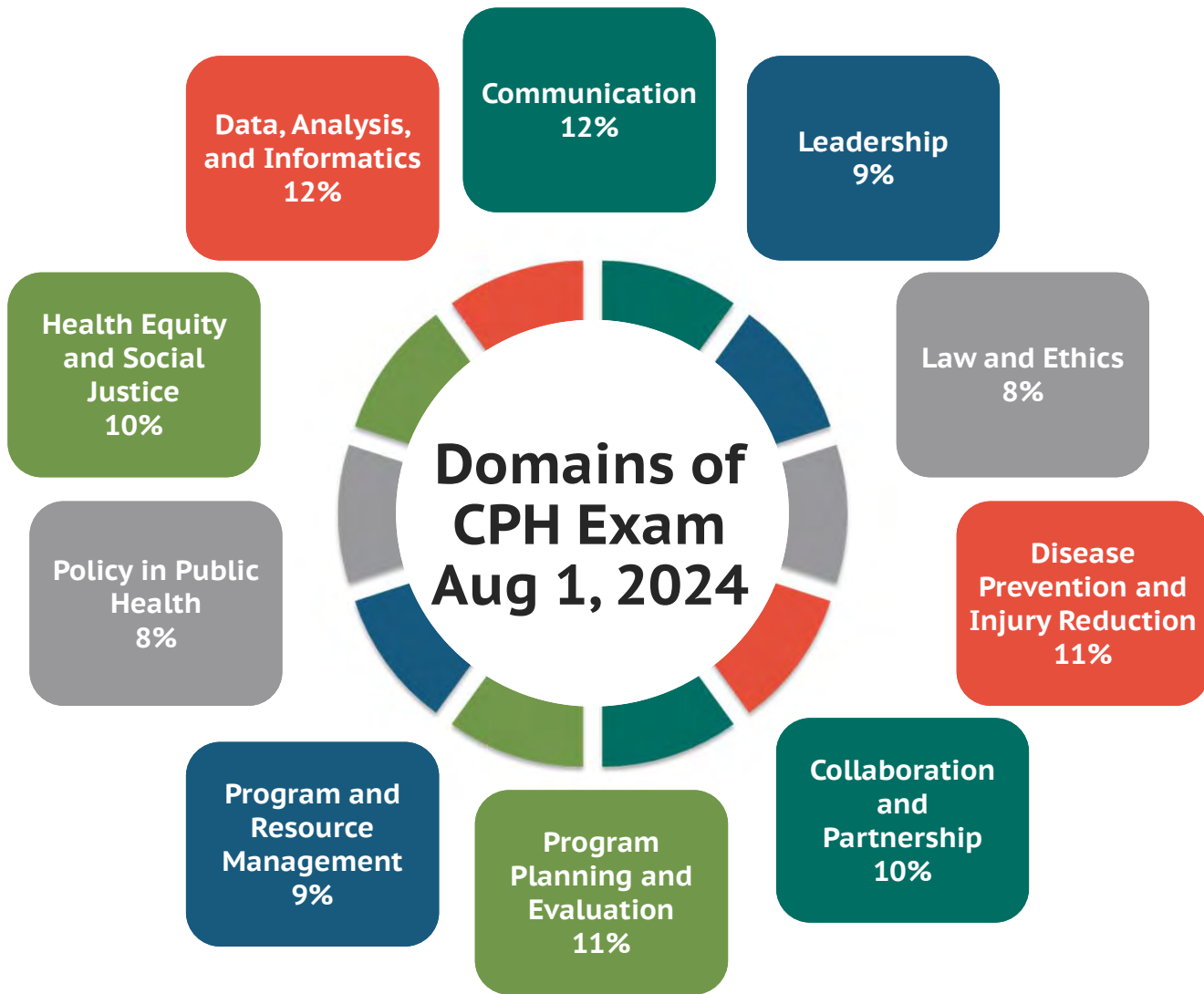
- **No limit on how often candidates can retest**
- **\$150 for each attempt**

**WHAT'S ON THE EXAM?**

# What is a Job Task Analysis?

Survey to define performance domains and tasks performed by a professional group, and the necessary knowledge and skills associated with these tasks.





# Passing Score



**Passing is based on overall scores, not each domain**

**No penalty for guessing.  
You are better off answering  
incorrectly than not answering.**

# PRACTICE QUESTIONS

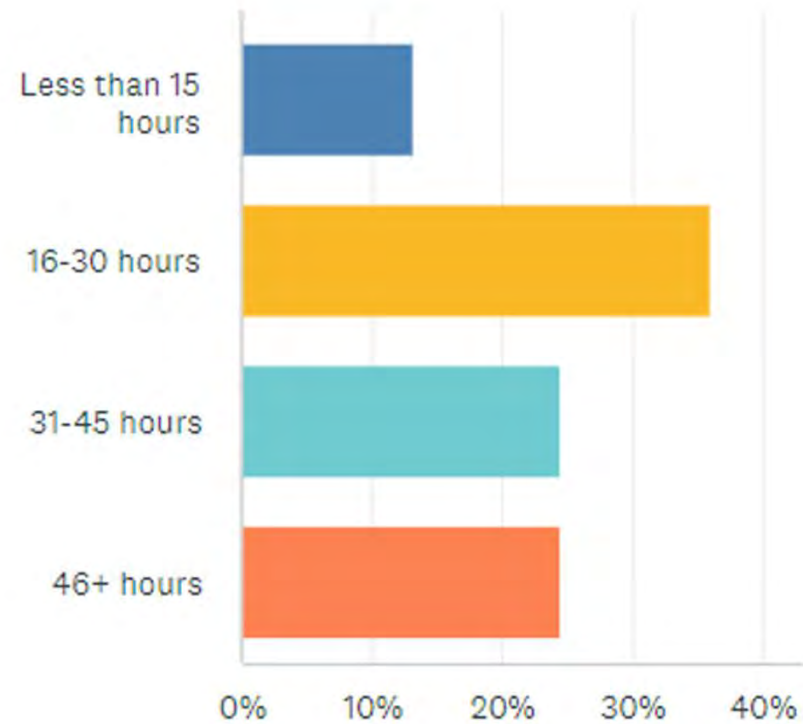
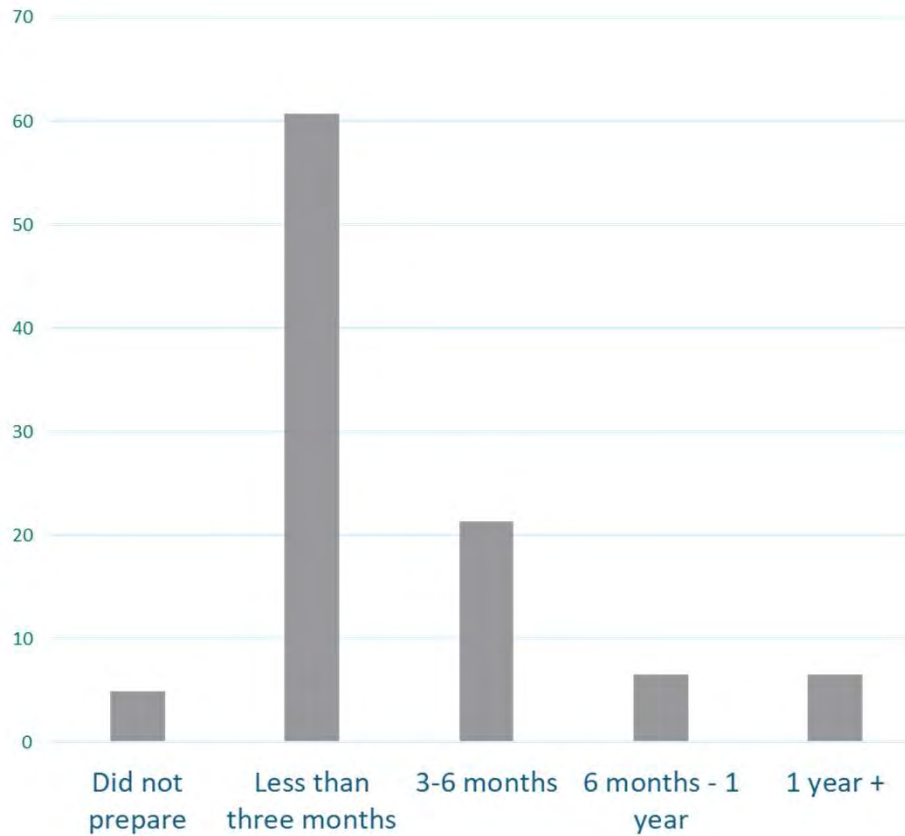
# PREPARING FOR THE EXAM



# Preparation Rubric



# Preparation time



# 8

## CPH Study Resources

1. Content Outline
2. Sample Exam Questions
3. Practice Exams
4. Archived Webinars
5. Study Guides
6. Exam Reviews





## CPH Study Resources

Use the following resources to prepare for the CPH exam. Print this [CPH Study Checklist](#) keep track of your progress.



## SELF-ASSESSMENT

Complete your self-assessment to discover which domain areas are your strongest and which you may need to focus on a bit more.

[Starting Tips for Studying](#)

[Content Outline](#)

[Sample Exam Questions](#)

[Practice Exam #1](#)

(Will be updated 8/1/2024)

[Practice Exam #2](#)

(Will be updated 8/1/2024)

[Personal Action Plan](#)

# 1. Content Outline

## Program Management (10%)

Develop, justify, and defend organizational budgets and respond to changes in financial resources. Secure, manage, and leverage financial resources through contracts and other agreements to assure program sustainability. Give constructive feedback on team performance. Develop and implement a community health plan.

1. Develop program or organizational budgets with justification
2. Defend a programmatic or organizational budget
3. Operate programs within current and forecasted budget constraints
4. Respond to changes in financial resources
5. Develop proposals to secure financial support
6. Participate in the development of contracts or other agreements for the provision of services
7. Ensure implementation of contracts or other agreements for the provision of services
8. Leverage existing resources for program management
9. Identify methods for assuring health program sustainability
10. Give constructive feedback to others about their performance on the team
11. Develop monitoring and evaluation frameworks to assess programs
12. Implement a community health plan
13. Implement programs to ensure community health



# Sample Exam Questions

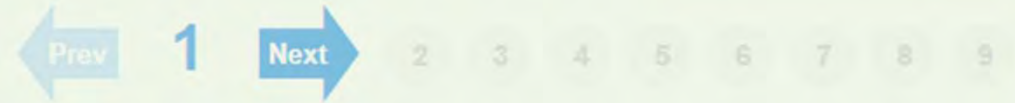


**Sample questions in the format of the CPH exam**

## 3. Practice Exams

A man with a beard, wearing an orange button-down shirt, is seated at a desk. He is looking down at a stack of papers on the desk. To his right is a laptop. The background shows a blurred interior with shelves and a window. A dark blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid at the bottom of the image.

**Two (2) online practice exams**



The theory of reasoned action is a model of health behavior targeted at which of the following levels?

- community
- global
- individual
- organizational

## Practice exam results by domain:

- Possible Strength
- Satisfactory
- Possible Weakness

50

Not Answered

0

Completed



0

Flagged Questions



Calculator



Help



Take a Break

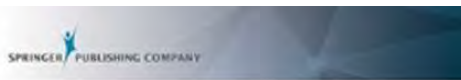


## 4. On Demand Webinars



- **Webinars on each domain**
- **Lecture and Q&A**

# 5. Study Guides



## CERTIFICATION IN PUBLIC HEALTH (CPH) Q&A EXAM REVIEW

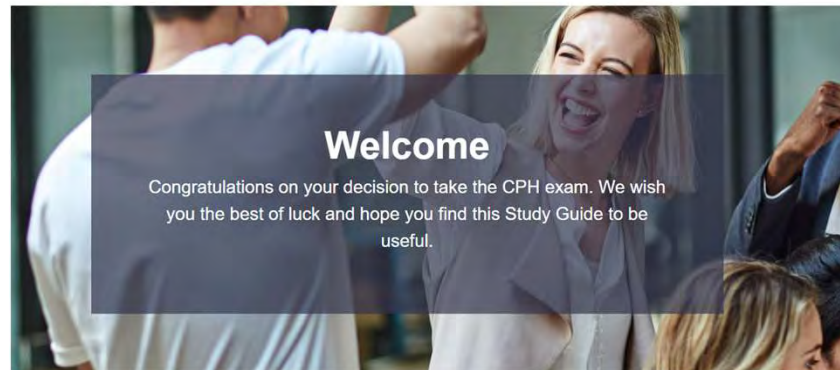
OLADELE A. OGUNSEITAN

- More than 600 Q&As with rationales
- Covers all 10 domain areas featured on the exam
- Written by a CPH certified and leading educator in public health



## CPH STUDY GUIDE

[Sign up](#) | [Log In](#)



Springer CPH Q&A Exam Review

CPH Study Guide

APHA Press  
CPH Exam Review Guide

## 6. In person CPH Exam Review Courses



NBPHE.org

CPH Certified<sup>in</sup>  
Public Health

# RECERTIFICATION PROCESS

## Bi-Annual Recertification Process (CEs)

**30**

CPH recert credits

**\$95**

every two years

**Online  
reporting  
portal**

# Recertification Activities Include:

**Webinars and Workshops**

**Conferences and Professional Events**

**Instruction and Professional Contributions**

**Volunteer and Leadership Service**

**CPH Item-Writer/PHAB or CEPH Site Visitor**

**Medical Residencies**

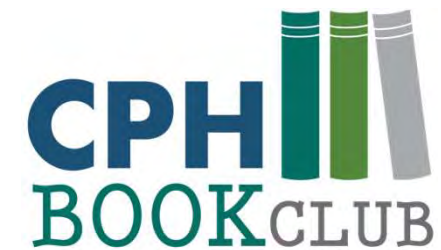
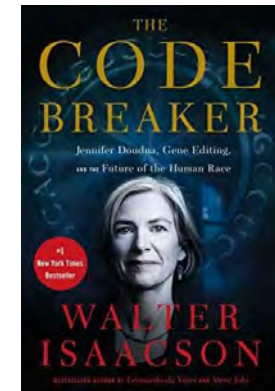
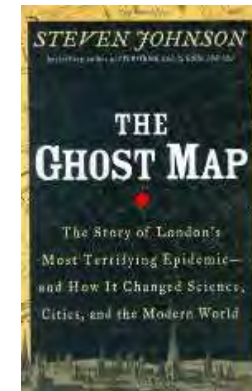
**No pre-approved provider process**

# CPH Book Club

Open to all CPH


Six books a year

Discussions lead by CPH



# Stay Connected

JOIN OUR GROUP  
**LinkedIn**

 **Earl Nupsius Benjamin...** • 2nd [+ Follow](#) ...  
 COE Practitioner | Health Equity ...  
 5mo

[Remote position] I am looking to hire an Analyst; they will participate in equity-centered evaluation and research, contributing to our understanding ...see more



Louisiana Public Health Institute - MEL Analyst I  
 recruiting.paylocity.com • 2 min read

9



 **CPH Certification** • 1st  
 governed by NBPHE  
 ★ Admin • Admin • 5mo

Are you a member of the US Public Health Service? NBPHE will be hosting a webinar for the Commissioned Officers Association on May 15 at 12 PM ET ...see more



6

1 repost



 **Bernard Toney Jr.** • 2nd [+ Follow](#) ...  
 U.S. Diplomat | Former White Ho...  
 8mo


Hello, Public Health Professionals! Thank you for adding me to the group, as I just passed the CPH exam.

...see more



15

6 comments

 **John Oliphant, PhD...** • 3rd+ [+ Follow](#) ...  
 Director, Global Public Health Pr...  
 3mo

I thought some in this group might be interested in this podcast I was a guest on regarding best practices for medical missions.



Add a comment...  

 **Cosme Harrison** • 3rd+ 3mo ...  
 Public Health Professional with a passion f...

Thank you for this. I enjoyed this video. Thank you for sharing your applied cultural sensitivity experiences. Although I ...see more

Like - 1 | Reply - 1 Reply



# Stay Informed

**CPH** Certified in  
Public Health

## Webinar Wednesday

featuring topics and case studies for professionals in  
the field of public health, arranged by NBPHE for CPH



# CPH Ambassadors



Each year, the NBPHE selects a class of CPH Ambassadors who help share the importance of certification in public health.

Ambassadors are formally recognized on the NBPHE website, receive tools for social media and resources for presenting and exhibiting.



# Questions?

Contact [info@nbphe.org](mailto:info@nbphe.org)

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