Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)



Community Health Worker Instructor Online Services Support Guide Application Based on Experience



January 21, 2025



DSHS Online License Services

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This Guide represents the web pages present in the system at the time the Guide was developed. The program areas and boards have the ability to configure the web page contents and the text contained on the web pages. The views of the web pages in this Guide may not be the exact representation of the current system.



Introduction

This guide provides instructions for initial Community Health Worker (CHW) Instructor certification application based on completion of at least 1,000 hours of community health work services in the previous three years. The VO (Versa:Online) License Service website gives easy access for users to perform a number of tasks directly from the online portal.

In these instructions License and Certification are the same.

Review requirements for initial CHW Instructor certification located at:

http://www.dshs.texas.gov/mch/chw/CHW-Instructor-doc.aspx

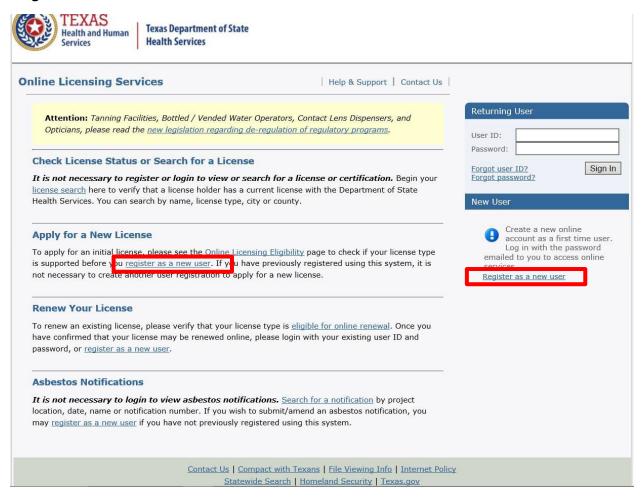
Online Licensing Application and Help Center

The website is available on the Texas.Gov Home page and Online Services button. The web address is: https://vo.ras.dshs.state.tx.us/



Welcome Page

The first page of the Versa Online License Service allows the user to Log On if they are a returning user or enter a new registration by selecting the Register as a First Time User link.

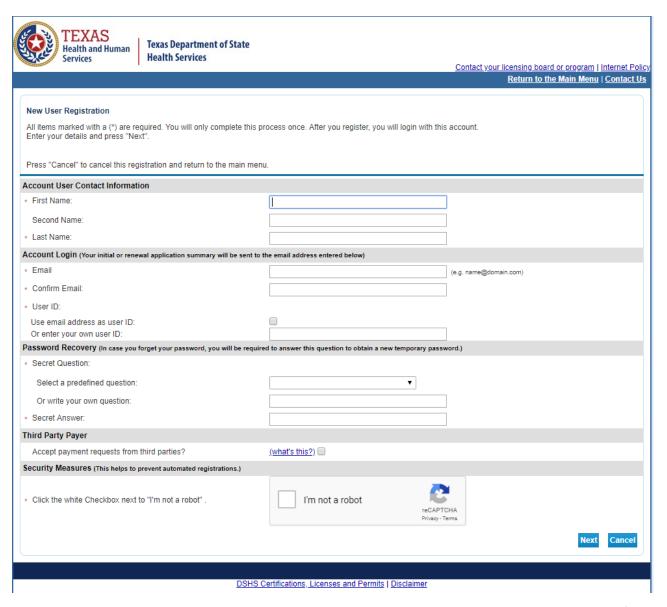




New User Registration

To establish a registration, fill in the requested information and click the Next button to proceed. Enter your full legal name, do not use nicknames. This is the name that will appear on your CHW Instructor ID badge and certificate if your application is approved.

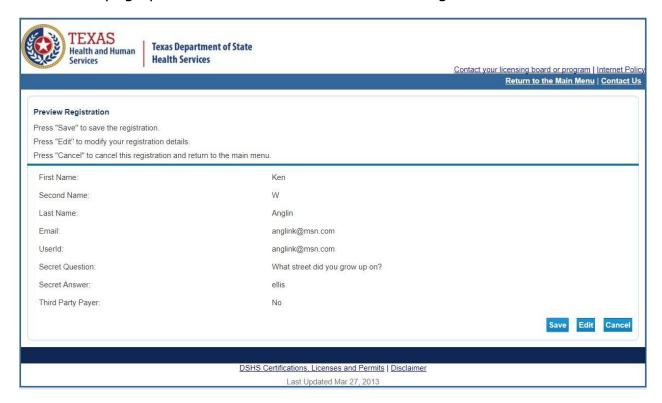
If you are having trouble seeing or selecting the "I'm not a robot" check box refresh the page and try again or use a different web browser.





Preview Registration

This page presents the data entered for the registered user.



The system will send a message to the listed email address that contains the User ID that and a temporary password.





Temporary Password Email – Example

Hello Monica,

Thank you for registering for an online account. Please complete your registration by logging on to your account at:

https://vo.ras.dshs.state.tx.us/

Your online userid is your complete e-mail address and your temporary password is provided below.

Please note that your online password is case sensitive.

USERID: monica.maldonado@dshs.texas.gov

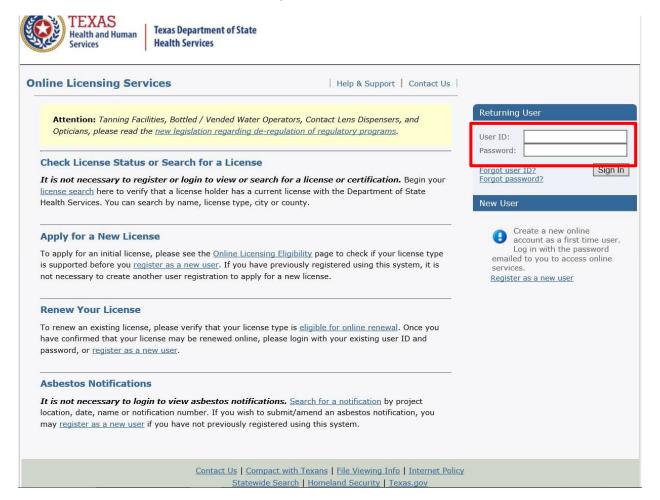
PASSWORD: XvkBWyR2

*** Note: This is an automated email. Do NOT reply to this message.



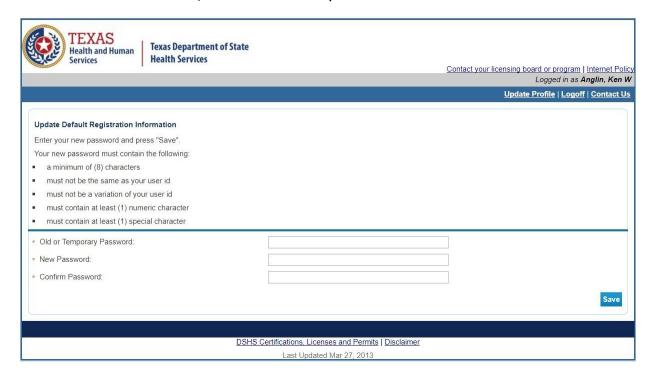
First Log On After Registering

Enter the User ID and Password provided in the email.





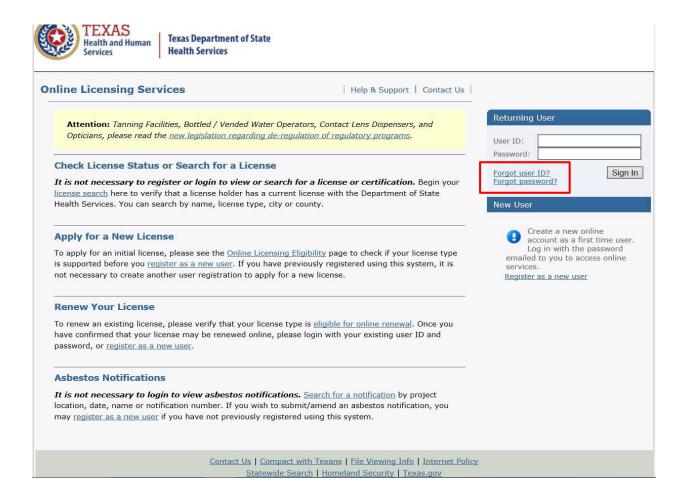
You will be asked to change your Password. Enter the Password provided in the email and your new Password. Your new Password must contain upper and lower case letters, numbers and special characters.





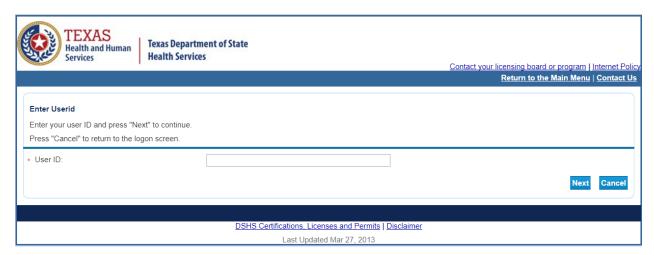
Forgot Password Process

If you forget your password, then click the "Forgot password?" link.





The resulting page will ask for your User ID.

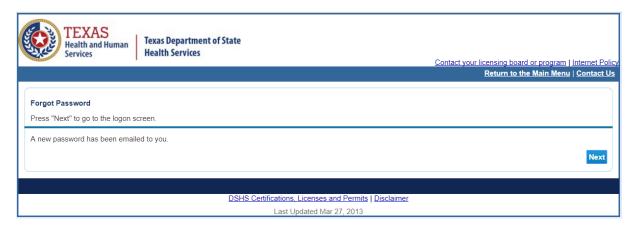


The security question page will be presented.





A new password will be emailed to the address in your registration profile.





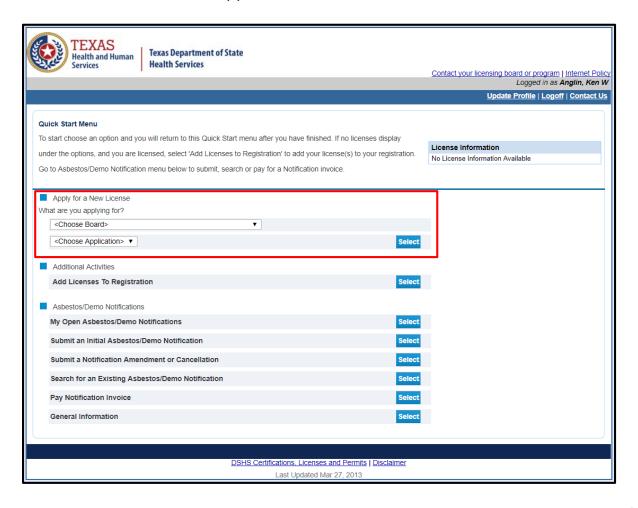
Main Menu - Application Selection

Apply for Community Health Worker (CHW) Instructor certification - Initial Online Application based on Experience

The Main Menu page allows you to apply for a new license, edit your user profile, and add licenses to your registration. Look for "Apply for a New License."

Under "What are you applying for?" select **Community Health Worker Training and Certification Program** from the "Choose Board" drop down menu. From the "Choose Application" drop down menu, select **Initial CHW Instructor - Experience**.

This page also allows you to check on the status of an application previously submitted. Select "View Application Status".





Requirements

The opening page of the initial application process provides an introduction to the application requirements and review process. Before beginning the application, review the requirements on the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) CHW website. Save all necessary documents in PDF form for submission.

Initial CHW Instructor - Experience - Introduction

Thank you for using the online system to apply for certification as Community Health Worker Instructor in Texas.

The online system is available only in English at this time. Please go to the CHW website http://www.dshs.texas.gov/mch/chw/CHW-Instructor-doc.aspx to download and complete and mail an application in Spanish.

Before beginning the CHW Instructor application, review the requirements on the CHW website http://www.dshs.texas.gov/mch/chw/CHW-Instructor-doc.aspx

You will need the following items to complete the online application:

- 1. Be 18 years or older.
- 2. Currently live in Texas
- Date range of teaching experience where you performed at least 1,000 hours within the last three (3) years. (Experience will be verified with the supervisor(s) noted on the application.)
- 4. Two examples of teaching/training CHW, health care professional or paraprofessionals.
- 5. Saved photo in PDF format.
- 6. Signed employment/volunteer history form in PDF format. Download form.
- 7. Resume in PDF format.
- 8. Download from the website http://www.dshs.texas.gov/mch/chw/chwdocs.aspx

For questions: Contact the CHW Program by email at chw@dshs.texas.gov or call (512) 776-2208 or (512) 776-3860.

Your records: Keep a copy of all materials submitted for your records.

Timelines: DSHS will let you know if your application for certification is approved, denied, or incomplete within 90 days.

Denial of Certification: DSHS may deny your application for certification for any of these reasons:

- It is incomplete
- . You do not meet the requirements for certification listed in the rules
- You have provided false information on the application.

Renewal of certification: If your application is approved, DSHS will send you a certificate, which is valid for two (2) years. You must complete 20 hours of continuing education (CEUs) and apply to renew your certificate before it expires.

Keep your contact information current: Send any changes to your mailing address or contact information to chw@dshs.texas.gov to ensure that you receive CHW Program Information. DSHS mails notices of certification to the mailing address listed on your application.

Save your user ID and password, you will need it to renew in two years.

Press "Next" to continue

Press "Cancel" to cancel this application and return to the main menu.

PRIVACY NOTIFICATION: With few exceptions, you have the right to request and be informed about information that the State of Texas collects about you. You are entitled to receive and review the information upon request. You also have the right to ask the state agency to correct any information that is determined to be incorrect. See www.dshs.texas.gov for more information on Privacy Notification. (Reference: Government Code, Section 522.021, 522.023, 559.003, and 559.004)



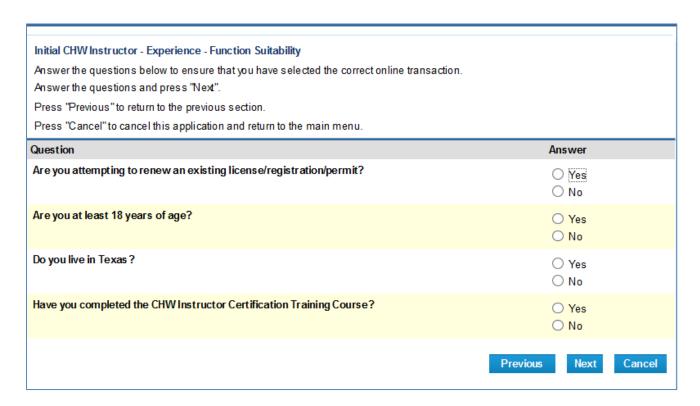




Function Suitability

This page has a series of questions to determine if you meet the requirements to apply online.

In this section, "license/registration/permit" is equal to CHW instructor certification.

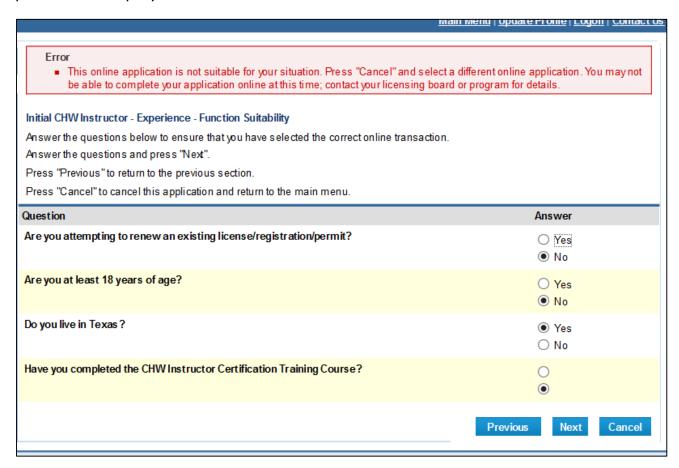


You will have to answer the questions above every time you sign in to view or update your application online.

Some applicants may experience a problem with the "Yes" and "No" disappearing. The top radio button will always be "Yes" and the bottom "No".



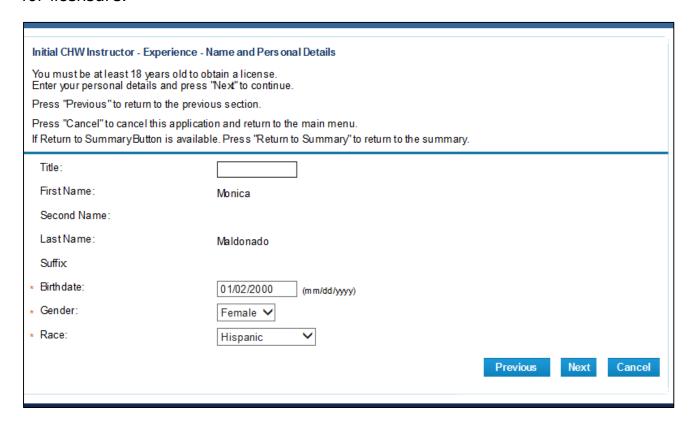
An error generated by an answer that does not allow the application to proceed is displayed in red text.





Personal Information

Name and Personal Details page asks for information about you. Information that is required is marked with an asterisk (*). Certification as a CHW Instructor requires that a person has reached 18 years of age to apply for licensure.



Contact Information

This page lists the mailing, home and work addresses associated with this license. The Main address is your street address. Both the Main address and Mailing address are required.

DSHS will mail your notice of certification and any correspondence to the Mailing address listed in your application.

You can enter your current work or volunteer address information in the "Add





Another Contact" section at the bottom of the screen.

	MID MINI BOM	Opdate Tollie Lodgii Corkavi O		
Initia I CHW Instructor -	- Experience - Contact Information			
Initial CHW Instructor - Experience - Contact Information Press "Previous" to return to previous page.				
Press "Next" to go to ne				
Press "Cancel" to Canc	cel application and go back to Quick Start Menu.			
	Button is available. Press "Return to Summary" to return to the summary.			
	lable. Press "Delete" to delete the address.			
	ble. Press "Copy" to copya previouslyentered address.			
Main address is the sa	and press "Add" to add a new address. ame as your mailing address. Address if you are currently employed or volunteering.			
⊡ Mailing Address				
CopyFrom:	Copy			
Street Number:	4545			
- Address:	Steed Drive			
* Zin Codo: 🚳	78758			
* Zip Code: City:	AUSTIN			
* State: (i)	Texas V			
- County	TRAVIS			
- Country	United States			
Phone Number:	512-778-2570 (999-9999)			
Extension:				
E-mail:	monica.maldonado@dshs.texas.gov			
⊟ Home Address				
CopyFrom:	Copy			
Street Number:				
 Address: 				
* Zip Code: 🕡				
- City:				
* State: 😡	Texas V			
- County	$\overline{}$			
- Country	United States			
Phone Number:	(999-499-999)			
Extension:				
E-mail:				
Add Another Contact				
Contact Type:	✓ Add			
	Previous	Next Cancel		
	Trevious	Tame Canada		



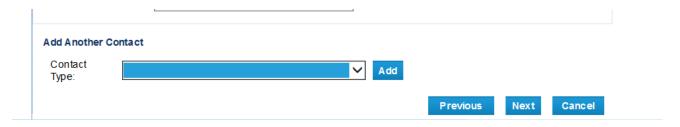
The city, state and county will be automatically filled in after you enter the zip code and click the Zip Lookup button. In some cases, the zip code may be located in more than one county, you may be asked to select the correct county from the dropdown menu.

Initial CHW Instructor -	Experience - Contact Information		
Press "Previous" to retu	rn to previous page.		
Press "Next" to go to ne	xt page.		
Press "Cancel" to Canc	el application and go back to Quick Start Menu.		
IfRetum to Summary B	utton is a vailable. Press "Return to Summary" to return to the summary.		
IfD elete Button is a vaila	able. Press "Delete" to delete the address.		
IfC opyButton is a vailab	ole. Press "Copy" to copya previously entered address.		
Select an address type and press "Add" to add a new address. Main address is the same as your mailing address. You must add a Work Address if you are currently employed or volunteering.			
- □ Mailing Address -			
CopyFrom:	Сору		
Street Number:			
* Address:			
* Zip Code: 🔞	78758 x Zip Lookup		
City:	AUSTIN		
* State: 😡	Texas		
± County:	TRAVIS		
Country: ■	United States		
Phone Number.	512-776-2570 (999-999-9999)		
Extension:			
E-mail:	m onica.m aldo nad o@dsh s.te xas.g ov		

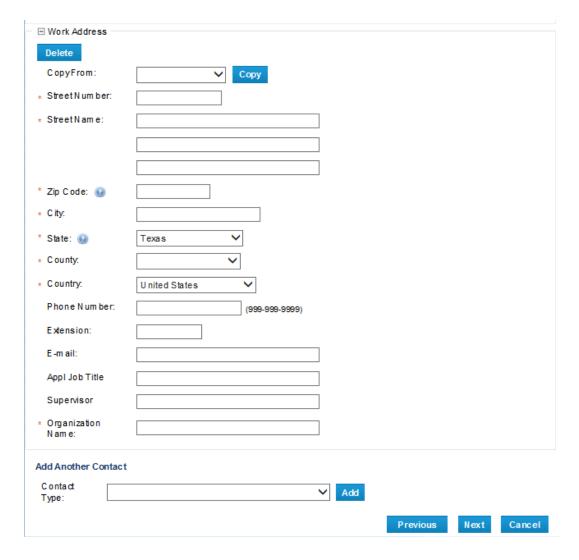


Add Another Contact

Enter your current work or volunteer information by selecting "Work Address 1 – CHW Instructor" the drop down menu and pressing the "Add" button. You may have to scroll down to see the new fields.



Screen shot below shows where the work or volunteer information will be entered.





General Questions

Complete the information requested below

The General Questions page allows you to answer questions concerning education, language preference and other information. These questions are required where indicated, but will not stop the application process.

- Under "Highest Level of Care" select your highest Level of education, only select one.
- Under "Category" select your language preference for correspondence.
- Under "Type of Business" select the type of organization where you currently work or volunteer.
- Under "Additional Attributes" select all that apply.

Click Next to proceed to the next set of questions. The general questions page is displayed below:



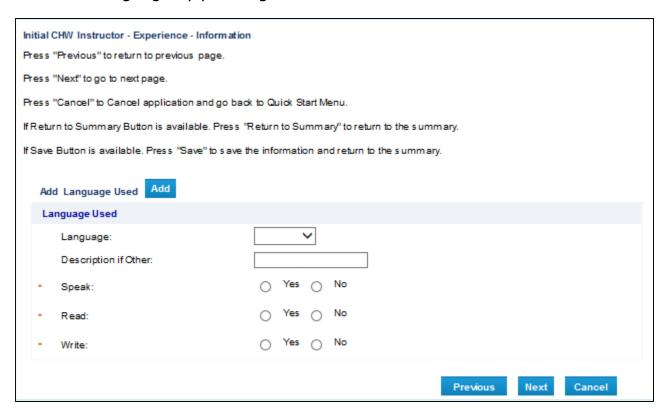
DSHS Online License Services

Initial CHW Instructor - Experience	- Complete the information requested below.			
Select your highest level of education, your preferred language to receive communication, the type of organization you work for and whether you work full time or part time and if paid or volunteer. Also, select your pay range.				
Complete the information below un	der each category.			
Complete the information below an	d Press "Next."			
Press "Previous" to return to the pre	evious section.			
Press "Cancel" to cancel this applic	eation and return to the main menu.			
If Return to Summary Button is ave	ailable. Press "Return to Summary" to return to the summary.			
Attributes	Highest Level of Care Offered			
Please make your selection	Advanced Degree			
	☐ College/University Degree			
	☐ High School/GED			
	☐ Junior College/Technical School			
	☐ Kinder to 12th			
	Some College			
Attributes	Fee Level			
* Please make your selection	O 1-<=\$9.00			
	O 2-\$9.01 - \$15.00			
	O 3-\$15.01 - \$25.00			
	O 4-> \$25.00			
	○ 5-No Pay			
	○ 6-Unknown			
Attributes	Category			
* Please make your selection	☐ Englis h			
Land Andrews	☐ Spanis h			
Attributes	Type of Business (pleases elect only one)			
▶ Please make your selection	○ Clinio/Hos pital			
	O College/University/School			
	O Community-Bas ed Organization (CBO)			
	O Faith Based			
	O Home Health/Long Term Care Facility			
	O Insurer/Health Plan			
	O Local Health Department			
	O Non-profit Organization			
	Other/None			
	O Retail/Manufacturing			
	O State Agency			
Attributes	Additional Attributes (please check all that apply)			
* Please make your selection	Full Time			
	Paid			
	Part Time			
	Unemployed			
	☐ Volunteer			
	William International Programme Control of the Cont			
	Previous Next Cancel			



Language Used

On this screen, indicate the languages you use. Add other language by pressing the "Add" button.





Work Experience / Work Duties Teaching Experience (Part 1)

Complete this section with the date range of your experience in the past three (3) years. At least 1,000 hours of teaching or training CHWs or other health care (para)professionals in the eight (8) core CHW competencies is required. Include the supervisor's information who can verify this experience.

You can enter additional experience information by clicking the "Add" button.

Press "Previous" to return to previous page.							
Pre	SS "	Next" to go to next page.					
Pre	SS "	Cancel" to Cancel application and go back t	o Quick Start Menu.				
fR	etur	n to Summary Button is available. Press "R	eturn to Summary" to	return to the summary.			
f S	ave	Button is available. Press "Save" to save th	e information and ret	turn to the summary.			
	Add	I Teaching Experience (Part 1) Add					
	Tea	ching Experience (Part 1)					
	Add	each experience reference in this section (I	Part 1).				
	List reference information for your experience of at least 1,000 hours of teaching/training promotores, CHWs, or other health care professionals or paraprofessionals within the last three (3) years.				ealth care		
	*	Beginning Date of Experience:	01/21/2022	(mm/dd/yyyy)			
	*	End Date of Experience:	01/21/2025	(mm/dd/yyyy)			
	*	Total Service Hour of Instruction/Training:	1,000				
	*	Agency Name:	Agency Name				
	*	Agency Address:			li		
	*	Agency City:	Austin				
	*	Agency State:	Тх				
	*	Agency Zip:	78749				
	*	Job Title:	Job Title				
	*	Supervisor Title:	Supervisor Title				
	*	Supervisor Name:	Mr. Supervisor				
	*	Supervisor Phone:	512-776-2570				
					Previous	Next	Cancel



Teaching Experience Verification (Part 2) Instructor Application Core Competencies/Work Duties (Part2)

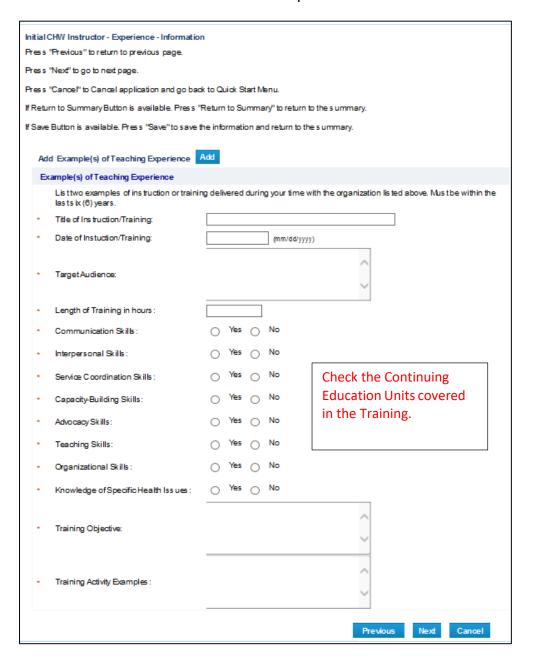
The eight (8) core competencies for CHWs are listed on this page. Select "Yes" or "No" next to each of the core competencies to indicate if you have experience training or teaching CHWs, community health service providers or other health care professionals in the skill areas related to each core competency.

•			
Initial CHW Instructor - Experience - Information			
Press "Previous" to return to previous page.			
Press "Next" to go to next page.			
Press "Cancel" to Cancel application and go back to Quick Start Menu.			
of Return to Summary Button is available. Press "Return to Summary" to return to the summary.			
if Save Button is available. Press "Save" to save the information and return to the summary.			
Add Instructor Application Core Competencies Work Duties (Part 2)			
Instructor Application Core Competencies/Work Duties (Part 2)			
Verify below, if you have any experience in teaching CHWs how to perform the following work duties.			
Communication Skills: Yes No			
 Listen actively, communicate with empathy and gather information in a res pectful manner Speak and write in plain language and at an appropriate literacy level Document activities and services Ensure language interpretation or access to translation services 			
Interpersonal Skills: Yes No			
Es tablis h relations hips, work as a team member, and assist in individual and group conflict resolution Recognize and appropriately respond to cultural differences of the population served Provide informal counseling Maintain confidentiality of client information and act within Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements			
Service Coordination Skills: Yes No			
Identify and access resources Help others navigates envices and resources Coordinate referrals and follow-up and track care and referral outcomes Assess dient needs us ing strength-based approaches			
Capacity-Building Skills: Yes No			
Identify problems and resources to encourage and help clients solve problems thems elves Collaborate with local partnerships to improve services, network and build community connections Assess the strengths and needs of the community Build leaders hip skills for yourself and others in the community			
Advocacy Skills: Yes No			
 Use existing resources and current data to help others promote a cause Identify and work with advocacy groups Stay informed on changes in the Health and Human Services systems and community leaders hip Speak up for individuals or communities to overcome intimidation and other barriers 			
Teaching Skills: Yes No			
 Use methods that promote learning and positive behavior change Use a variety of teaching and coaching methods for different learning styles and ages Plan and lead classes Evaluate the success of an educational program and measure the progress of individual learners 			
Organizational Skills: Yes No			
 Plan and set individual and organizational goals Plan and set up presentations, educational/training sessions, works hops, and other activities Effectively manage time and prioritize activities, yets tay flexible Gather, document, and report on activities within legal and organization guidelines 			
Knowledge Base on Specific Health Yes No			
 Gain and share basic knowledge of the community, health and social services, specific health is sues, healthy life style and health disparities Understand social determinants of health Stay current on health is sues affecting clients and know where to find answers to difficult questions 	5,		
Use and apply public health concepts			
Previous Next Canoel			



CHW Instructor Teaching Experience Examples(s) of Teaching Experience

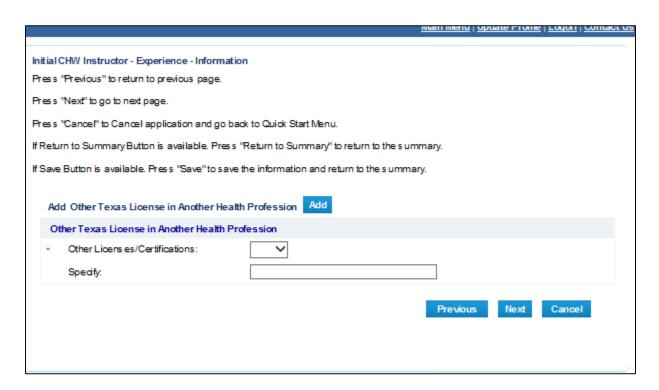
List two (2) examples of instruction or training you delivered to individuals providing community health work services, including promotores, CHWs, and other health care paraprofessionals and professionals during your time with the organization/agency listed in the previous page. Examples must be within the last three (3) years. Click "Add" to add the second example.





Other Licenses / Certifications

Add other current Texas Professional licenses or certifications in another Health Profession.



Network and Association relationship Affiliation with DSHS-Certified Training Program and Network and Association Relationship

Once certified, an instructor must be affiliated with one or more training programs for CHWs or Instructors approved by DSHS in order to provide DSHS-certified training. Enter the name of the DSHS-approved training program(s) with whom you want to be affiliated in the assigned box.

A list of training programs approved by DSHS to deliver certified training to CHWs or instructors is located at http://www.dshs.texas.gov/mch/chw/training.aspx.

If you are a member of a CHW network or association, enter the name of the CHW association in the assigned box.

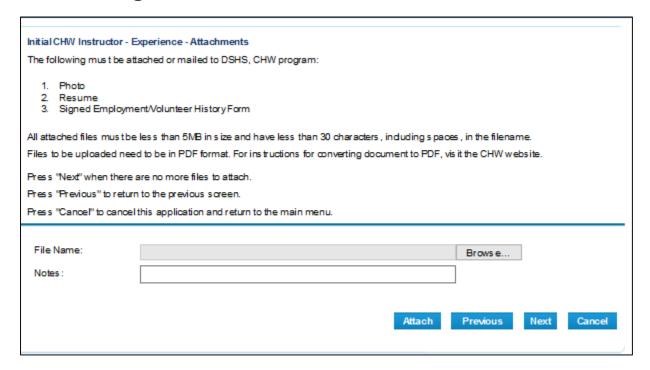
Go to http://www.dshs.texas.gov/mch/chw/resources for a list of CHW Networks/Associations.



Initial CHW Instructor - Experience - Information			
Press "Previous" to return to previous page.			
Press "Next" to go to next page.			
Press "Cancel" to Cancel application and go bad	k to Quick Start Menu.		
If Return to Summary Button is available. Press "F	Return to Summary" to return to the summ	ary.	
If Save Button is available. Press "Save" to save the information and return to the summary.			
Related Licenses			
Once certified, an instructor may provide training for community health workers or instructors through one or more training programs is ponsioning organization approved by DSHS. List any DSHS-approved training program(s) with whom you want to be affiliated, as well as networks or associations, if your application is approved. A list of training programs is ponsoring organizations approved by DSHS to deliver certified training for promotores/community health workers (CHWs) or instructors is located at http://www.ds.hs.texas.gov/mch/chw/training.aspx . Go to http://www.ds.hs.texas.gov/mch/chw/training.aspx .			
Training Programs:		^ ~	
Networks or Associations:		^ ~	
		Previous Next Cancel	



Attaching Documents



All attachments must be in PDF format, including your photo.

Instructions for attaching documents:

- Click "Browse".
- From your computer files, find the file you will be attaching.
- Select/click on the file you will be attaching.
- Click on Open.
- In "Notes" write a brief description of the attachment (this is optional) Click "Attach" to attach file to your online application.

To attach your photo, follow the same steps. Include your name in the notes section.



Application Summary

The Summary page provides the complete information for this initial license/CHW Instructor certification application. If data needs to be corrected, then click the "Edit" button to make corrections. If information is correct, click "Submit" to submit the initial CHW Instructor application based on experience.

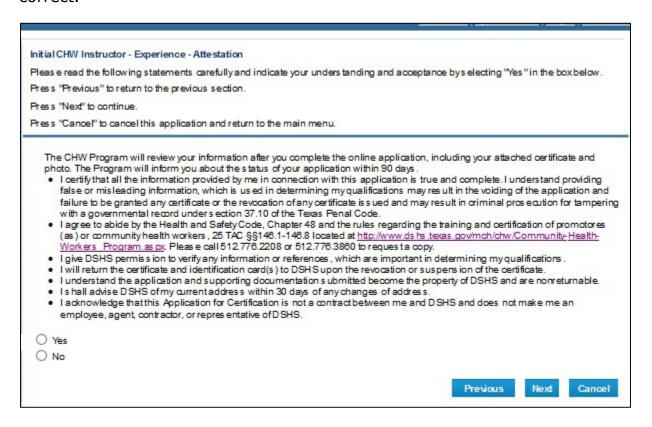
Initial CHW Instructor - Experience - Application Summary Below is a summary of the information you have provided. Please review the information and press "Submit" if all the information is correct. Review the data and press "Submit" to submit this application. Press "Previous" to return to the previous section. Press "Cancel" to cancel this application and return to the main menu. Application License Type: Inst-Exper Application Date: 05/08/2018

Edit Personal Details Full Name: Monica Maldonado 01/07/1989 Gender: White Birthdate: Female Race: Edit General Addresses Main Address 4508 Summer Street AUSTIN, Texas TRAVIS 78758 US Phone Number. 555-555-5568 E-mail: Home Address 4508 Summer Street AUSTIN, Texas TRAMS 78758 Phone Number. 555-555-5568 E-mail:



Attestation Question

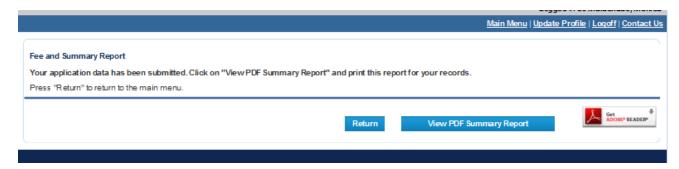
This question declares that all information you have entered is true and correct.





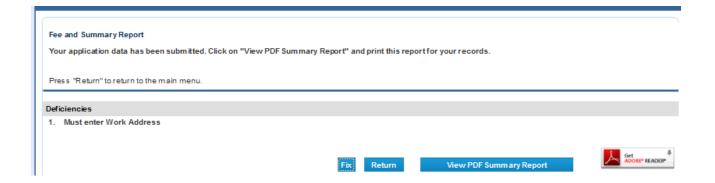
Summary of application report

The "View PDF Summary Report" produces a PDF file that lists the application summary information and can be saved to your computer. Click on the blue "View PDF Summary Report" button to access your PDF application summary.



Deficiencies

Deficiencies are errors. Correct a "Deficiency" by clicking on "Fix". In the example below, if you selected, Paid and Employed, then you must enter a work address.



Cancel:

If you choose to cancel your application your application will be temporarily saved. Your user name and password will remain the same and can be used to update/edit or reapply for certification.

Payment - There are no fees for applying for CHW Instructor certification.