WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN … HEALTH EDUCATION

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

The University of New Mexico, Health Education program states: “Graduates of our program gain proficiency in working with culturally diverse communities. They develop, implement, and evaluate health education and promotion interventions and initiatives that reduce risky behaviors and related morbidity and mortality. Students work actively with communities, hospitals, agencies, and schools to design and conduct culturally appropriate health behavior enhancement programs. They develop and implement research and evaluation protocols relevant to the needs, strengths, and desires identified by communities” (The University of New Mexico, Health Education program website on the internet, visited September 25, 2013).

GENERAL WORK ACTIVITIES:
• Analyzing Details
• Classroom Management
• Communication (verbal and nonverbal) skills
• Creativity and Design
• Curriculum Management
• Decision-Making Abilities
• Knowledge of educational theory and techniques
• Performance and Evaluation Management
• Problem Solving
• Report writing and gather information
• Strategic Planning
• Teaching and Instruction Methodology
• Training

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:
All states require teachers to be licensed. Licensure granted by the State Board of Education for that state. See desired requirements for each state. Consult O*Net for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are needed for education careers.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO:
The UNM Health Education program offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

INDUSTRIES & TARGET EMPLOYERS:
A variety of employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult UNM’s Lobo Career Connection for a complete list of employers and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator at the UNM Office of Career Services for help with identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Business:
HR, Corporations, Marketing, Test-taking companies, publishers, sales, customer service organizations, not for profit organization, Training and Development, consultation

Childcare:
Independently owned businesses, corporate childcare services, military childcare, religious organizations, daycare centers
Community and Social Services:
Not for profit, YMCA, YWCA, Camp programs, Residential Treatment Facilities, Rehabilitation programs, workforce programs, specialty group programs, adoption agencies, counseling, youth service organizations, recreational service organizations, senior services, case management, vocational rehabilitation services

Continuing/Certificate Programs:
GED programs, Adult Education, Continuing Education programs, Board of Education, community colleges, professional associations, specialty populations (Prison or Correctional systems, Veteran’s Reintegration programs, K-12 after school programs, etc.)

Education: K-12, Colleges, Universities

Government:
Research, Federal, state or city government, teaching, evaluation

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES
• Consider specializing with a double major, minor, or concentration in another area.
• Gain related professional experience through involvement in internships, student employment, Co-ops, and/or volunteer opportunities.
• Shadow professionals in the field to gain a better understanding of the occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
• Build your network and get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. Find organizations and events at the Student Activities Center website.
• Attend career related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and or career workshops.
• Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
• Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.
• Job leads can be found on your department’s website, list-serv, newsletters, and social media sites.
• Obtain required certifications, such as child or adult CPR and/or first aid

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:
American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance www.aahperd.org/
National Education Association www.nea.org/index.html
American Federation of Teachers www.aft.org/
American School Counselor Association www.schoolcounselor.org/
American Library Association www.ala.org/
American Association of School Administrators www.aasa.org/
National Center of Alternative Certification www.teach-now.org/
UNM College of Education http://coe.unm.edu/
New Mexico Department of Education www.ped.state.nm.us/
World Health Organization www.who.int/topics/health_education
Health Education and Behavior (Journal) http://heb.sagepub.com/
Center for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/
Society for Public Health Education www.sophe.org/
New Mexico Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NMAHPERD) http://nmahperd.org/

http://online.onetcenter.org http://www.bls.gov/oco/