

Maine Community Health Worker Certification Board Call for Board Members

Overview: The Maine Community Health Worker Certification Board seeks applicants for founding members.

Board Purpose: Serve as the governing authority for the Maine Community Health Worker Certification.

Board Goals:

1. Provide strategic oversight for the Maine Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification.
2. Support the certifying body and staff in their administration of applications and assessments.
3. Investigate and resolve complaints and appeals involving Maine CHW certified individuals, or related parties.

Board Composition: At least 50% of the Board's members will be CHW leaders. Other members will include a representative from Maine DHHS, a CHW employer, a CHW training partner, and a community member that has received CHW services.

Eligibility: New Committee Members must have:

- Two years of experience working as a CHW (see definition below) or in one of the other relevant categories listed above.

How Members are Selected: The Board will select new members who:

- Work as CHWs in diverse communities across Maine
- Work for different types of organizations representing the membership categories (Maine DHHS, CHW employer, CHW trainer)
- Lead or supervise a CHW program
- Work with Maine DHHS funded programs
- Lead or participate in the Maine CHW Initiative
- Show experience as a community member receiving CHW services

An individual does not need to meet all the qualifications. If you meet some or most of these, and would like to apply to join the Board, please do! Above all we are looking for individuals who will actively participate. We want to hear from you!

Responsibilities: Board members:

- Communicate by email about scheduling.
- Review agendas and background materials before meetings.
- Attend Board meetings as scheduled.
- Actively participate in discussions at meetings.
- Review and provide feedback on written materials.
- Complete tasks in between meetings, as assigned.
- Assist with recruitment of new members, as assigned.
- Actively participate in assigned panel related to complaints, ethics or appeals process.

Schedule and Time Commitment: The meeting schedule and time commitment are still to be determined. We anticipate that after an initial retreat, Board members will spend 2-4 hours a month in meetings and on assigned action items (combined.) Members commit to serving on the Board for at least 1 calendar year.

Compensation: The Maine Community Health Worker Certification does not provide additional payment or compensation for participating in this Board. A member may have support from their employer to participate during work hours. We can provide a letter to your employer about the value of joining the Certification Board.

About the Maine Community Health Workers Certification

Purpose: Establish clear standards for Community Health Worker practice, training, and competencies in order to improve access to care, reduce health disparities, and promote community well-being.

Areas of Focus: Required competencies, training and service hours, continuing education and professional development, and continued engagement with Community Health Workers core roles as defined by the National C3 Council.

Intended Audience: Community Health Workers seeking to obtain professional certification in Maine

CHW Definition: A trusted frontline public health professional who applies their unique understanding of the lived experiences, socioeconomic needs, language, and culture of the communities they serve. A CHW:

- Acts as a bridge between providers and individuals to promote health, reduce disparities, and improve service delivery.
- Empathizes with and advocates for individual and community needs.
- Helps to build individual, family and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support, and advocacy.

Application: To apply to join the Maine Community Health Worker Certification Board, please complete the following application. The deadline for the first phase of applications is March 27, 2026. <https://form.jotform.com/260483948755169>

If you have questions about the Certification Board or the application process, please contact Hannah Miller at hmiller@mainemobile.org.