The Health Education program at Northern Illinois University offers a Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.Ed.) that leads to teacher certification in health education at the 6-12 level. The B.S.Ed. program is designed so future teachers of health education can assist students to become health literate by communicating and interacting effectively with diverse populations; demonstrating the ability to access valid health information and services; analyze cultural, technological, and media influences; and advocate for personal, family, and community health. The competencies are promoted by the Joint Committee on National Health Education Standards (NHES).

This strong and growing program offers undergraduate coursework leading to the B.S. Ed. in health education degree which allows graduates to apply for teacher certification. Health education students are also suited to work in community health agencies and medical and fitness facilities in need of health educators to plan and carry out health education programs for diverse clientele.

The Health Education program has a state-of-the-art teaching lab where students learn using the latest technologies in a variety of teaching environments representing an array of school settings.

Teacher Certification in Health Education
The following requirements must be satisfied in order to obtain certification in the state of Illinois:

- An overall GPA of 2.75 or above
- Pass the following ICTS tests:
  - Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP)
  - Health Content Test
  - Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT)
- Successful completion of a minimum of 100 clock hours of clinical experiences prior to student teaching
- Successful completion of student teaching at a middle school and high school
- Criminal background check and current TB test required for clinicals and student teaching

Sample Classes
- Introduction to Health Education
- Health Education in the Middle and High School
- Methods and Materials in School Health Education
- Community Health Programs and Issues
- Drug Education
- Sexuality Education
- Mental and Emotional Health
- Death Education
- Consumer Health
- Content Area Literacy Instruction
- Systems for Integrating the Exceptional Student in the Regular Classroom

In addition to the major, students are encouraged to complete an endorsement or minor in other areas such as biology, English, family consumer sciences, foreign language, science, mathematics, physical education, psychology, or a social science.

Health Education students are eligible and prepared to obtain the national Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) certification.

Minor
A minor in health education is available for teacher certification candidates.

Contact Us  Public Health and Health Education, Wirtz Hall 235, (815) 753-1384, Fax (815) 753-5406, phhe@niu.edu, www.chhs.niu.edu/healthed