

News Type: Press Release

Date: May 10, 2019

National Health Science Standards—Creating Consistency Throughout Health Science Education Programs

Lehi, Utah—May 10, 2019—The National Consortium for Health Science Education (NCHSE), the premier organization for promoting excellence and consistency in health science teaching and learning for students interested in health professions, issued the following statement today regarding the release of the newly revised National Health Science Standards (NHSS). The statement can be attributed to Phyllis Johnson, NCHSE Chair.

“The newest edition of the National Health Science Standards (NHSS) released today are a significant step forward in continuing an exemplary framework that states can use as the foundational principles in the development of all health science education curriculum. The eleven foundational standards: 1) Academic Foundation, 2) Communication, 3) Systems, 4) Employability Skills, 5) Legal Responsibilities, 6) Ethics, 7) Safety Practices, 8) Teamwork, 9) Health Maintenance Practices, 10) Technical Skills, and 11) Information Technology in Healthcare remain essential components of the framework. New detailed objectives and indicators will guide teachers through key concepts to be taught and learned in health science classrooms nationwide. The goal is to fully engage with students in a way that will deepen and strengthen their knowledge and skills in health science education.”

We applaud the writing team, health science state leaders, state education agencies and industry partners for their extensive efforts to develop, review, and revise these standards. We are confident the changes are based on meaningful input and feedback. The Consortium looks forward to working with health science state leaders to ensure the final standards meet the needs of health science educators and students across the country.

NCHSE will work with middle school, secondary and postsecondary educators and partner with publishers and educational resource providers nationwide to identify and develop professional development and curricular materials needed for the successful implementation of the National Health Science Standards (NHSS). NCHSE encourages all stakeholders to implement the new standards, adapt curriculum to align with the standards, and provide the broad support that schools and teachers will need in the upcoming academic year.”

Attachment: National Health Science Standards (NHSS May 2019 edition)

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