



## CBDCE at a Glance

**Credential & Organization Name Changes:** The CDCES certification was formerly known as Certified Diabetes Educator® (CDE®). The organization name also has changed to Certification Board for Diabetes Care and Education (CBDCE). It was the National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators (NCBDE).

**CBDCE Mission:** To promote comprehensive and ongoing quality diabetes clinical management, education, prevention and support by defining, developing, maintaining and protecting the certification and credentialing processes.

**CBDCE Vision:** All persons with or at risk for diabetes receive education and/or services from CBDCE certificants.

**About CBDCE:** CBDCE is a national, independent, not-for-profit certification organization that awards the Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) credential. The certification program, with over 19,900 health professionals holding the credential, is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). Since 1977, the NCCA has been accrediting certifying programs based on the highest quality standards in professional certification to ensure the programs adhere to modern standards of practice in the certification industry.

CBDCE was founded in 1986 to develop and administer a certification program for health professionals who facilitate people in acquiring the knowledge, skill, and ability necessary for prediabetes and diabetes self-care, as well as activities that assist a person in implementing and sustaining the health practices needed to manage the condition on an ongoing basis, beyond or outside of formal self-management training. CBDCE supports the concept of voluntary, periodic certification for all health professionals who meet credential and experience eligibility requirements.

**About the Credential:** The Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) credential is a health professional who possesses comprehensive knowledge of and experience in diabetes prevention, prediabetes, and diabetes management. The CDCES educates, supports, and advocates for people affected by diabetes, addressing the stages of diabetes throughout the lifespan. The CDCES promotes self-management to achieve individualized behavioral and treatment goals that reduce risks and optimize health outcomes. The certification examination for diabetes care and education specialists is designed and intended for health professionals who have responsibilities that include the direct provision of diabetes education (DE), as defined by CBDCE. The credential is a professionally recognized achievement and a sought-after mark of excellence in the diabetes community.

*“It is crucial to have a CDCES as a team member in the hospital, as well as, outpatient setting. The credential empowers the patient to implement care that the physician prescribed and learn day-to-day lifestyle management. Not only does the CDCES educate, they also encourage and collaborate on how to manage and improve care. CDCESs are a vital part of the diabetes management team and have the time to spend with patients that physicians do not always have to help achieve the best outcomes.”*

Rebecca Morrison, BSN, RN, CDCES®, Marietta, GA

**Certification Statistics:** The CDCES credential is held by registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, registered dietitian nutritionists, pharmacists, physicians, PAs, and other health professionals participating as members of the diabetes care team. Almost 19,900 \* individuals holding the credential. (\*January 2020). 33% of those individuals are under the age of 40 (and that number is growing!) Approximately 1,200 newly certified health professionals have become certified each year for the last five years.

**Value of CDCES Certification Study:** In 2017, CDCES initiated a study on the value of certification. Here are some findings from the study.

- 97% value their CDCES credential
- 97% say certification gives them personal and professional growth and a sense of accomplishment
- 87% believe the credential helps to increase their marketability
- 92% said certification enhances their confidence
- 95% believe the certification enhances their credibility
- 90% felt that the credential set them apart from their peers

**CDCES Resources and Services:** The organization is dedicated to supporting CDCESs at every stage of their careers, as well as employers and students, as part of our commitment to offering exceptional diabetes specialty certification programs, demonstrating the value of certification, and advocating for Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialists.

Besides offering a rigorous certification program, CBDCE:

- Provides a (CE) Continuing Education tracking tool
- Maintains a Find a CDCES Directory that helps people with diabetes locate a CDCES in their area
- Provides a free online verification system that helps employers and people with diabetes verify an individual's certification status
- Administers a mentorship program that supports health professionals' efforts to meet the experience requirement to qualify for certification, as well as a Mentor Spotlight Award\*\*
- Supports diversity in the CDCES community through a series of targeted Scholarships that cover expenses related to applying for initial certification\*\*
- Offers an online shop to order CDCES-branded merchandise including lapel pins, ID/badge holders, water bottles, and more\*\*
- Supports community-based initiatives and research done by CDCESs through a Grants Program\*\*
- Collaborates with other organizations on important initiatives that support positive outcomes for people with diabetes
- Monitors legislative activities and encourages action when needed for situations that affect people with diabetes, certificants, and the certification industry

**\*\* New, launching in 2020/2021**

**Connect with CBDCE:**

Website: [www.cbdce.org](http://www.cbdce.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CertifiedDiabetesEducators/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-certification-board-for-diabetes-educators/?viewAsMember=true>

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