

CompHP

DEVELOPING COMPETENCIES AND
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR HEALTH
PROMOTION CAPACITY BUILDING IN EUROPE

The CompHP Pan European Accreditation Framework for Health Promotion Handbook

Short version

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**on behalf of
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This short version of the CompHP Accreditation Framework outlines the systems and processes for the accreditation of health promotion practitioners and health promotion education and training. For further detail on this, and on the structures and roles of the accrediting organizations at national and European levels, please refer to the full document¹. The Framework builds on the CompHP Core Competencies Framework² and the CompHP Professional Standards³.

In the Framework, the term '*accreditation*' applies to the whole quality system and to the process of recognizing education and training courses and '*registration/registered*' apply to the process by which individual practitioners are recognized as meeting agreed criteria.

A health promotion practitioner, for the purpose of the Framework, is defined as a person who holds a graduate or postgraduate qualification in health promotion or a related discipline⁴, and whose main role and function is health promotion as described by the Ottawa Charter⁵ and who work to promote health and reduce health inequities by:

- building healthy public policy
- creating supportive environments
- strengthening community action
- developing personal skills
- reorienting health services

Providers of education and training in health promotion are academic organizations which offer courses with health promotion, as defined above, as the core content.

Health promotion practice is defined as work which promotes health and reduces health inequities and which is empowering, participatory, holistic, intersectoral, equitable, sustainable and multi-strategy in nature.

REGISTRATION OF HEALTH PROMOTION PRACTITIONERS

Initial Registration

The practitioner will normally register first with a National Accreditation Organization (NAO). Where no NAO exists an application can be made directly to the European Accreditation Organization (EAO). When registered, the practitioner can use the professional title EuHP (European Health Promotion Practitioner).

¹ http://www.iuhpe.org/uploaded/CompHP/CompHP_Accreditation_Framework.pdf

² [http://www.iuhpe.org/uploaded/CompHP/Compencies_Handbook.pdf](http://www.iuhpe.org/uploaded/CompHP/CompHP_Compencies_Handbook.pdf)

³ http://www.iuhpe.org/uploaded/CompHP/CompHP_standards_handbook_final.pdf

⁴ Including, for example, public health, health education, social sciences including psychology, epidemiology, sociology, education, communication, environmental health, community, urban or rural development, political science. This is not an exclusive list as other academic qualifications may also be deemed appropriate.

⁵ <http://www.who.int/healthpromotion/conferences/previous/ottawa/en/index.html>

Requirements for initial registration

Two types of practitioners are eligible for initial registration:

- Health promotion practitioners with a graduate (Bachelor) or postgraduate (Masters) qualification from a health promotion course, which is accredited within the CompHP Accreditation Framework, are eligible for registration upon presenting evidence of graduation.
- Health promotion practitioners with a graduate (Bachelor) or postgraduate (Masters) qualification from a health promotion course which is not accredited within the CompHP Framework or a course in a relevant other discipline⁶ are eligible for registration if they have a minimum of two years work experience in health promotion practice in the preceding five years. The practitioner must show evidence of meeting the required criteria defined in the Framework by completing a self-evaluation form and providing appropriate references.

For a limited period (three years) from the establishment of the Framework, health promotion practitioners are eligible for registration without meeting the above educational requirements if they have a minimum of three years of work experience in health promotion practice in the preceding five years. Such practitioners must show evidence that they meet the criteria defined in the Framework by completing a self-evaluation form and providing appropriate references.

Re-registration for Practitioners

Re-registration for practitioners is obligatory after five years. The basic conditions for re-registration are that the practitioner is:

- An active practitioner with a minimum of two years of work experience in health promotion practice in the preceding five years
- Able to demonstrate 120 hours of a diversity of CPD activities in the preceding five year period.

For re-registration, the health promotion practitioner must complete a self evaluation form and provide appropriate references to demonstrate meeting the required criteria.

Credit system for re-registration

A credit points system is used in the Framework to record Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities (Table 1). One credit equals the investment of one hour of participation in the activity.

⁶ See Footnote no.4 for full list

Activity	Description	Max hours per year
Course	Participating in education to increase knowledge/skills in health promotion.	20
Training	Participating in activities leading to skilled behaviour.	15
Conference	Participating in a conference focusing on health promotion.	10
Meeting	Participating in formally arranged meetings with the purpose of sharing experiences/learning on health promotion.	5
Workshop	Participating in group learning on health promotion.	5
Lecture	Giving a formal presentation on a health promotion topic.	10
Presentation/Poster	Making a formal presentation on health promotion at a conference or other formal event.	10
Peer Group	Participating in a group comprising health promotion professionals to share experiences and provide peer support.	15
Mentored practice	Gaining knowledge and/or skills through working with a health promotion mentor.	10
Publishing	Publishing an article, book chapter, or book focusing on a health promotion topic.	15
Professional Activities	Being active in a national or international health promotion professional association/Organization.	10

Table 1 Sample of CPD activities with maximum credits per year

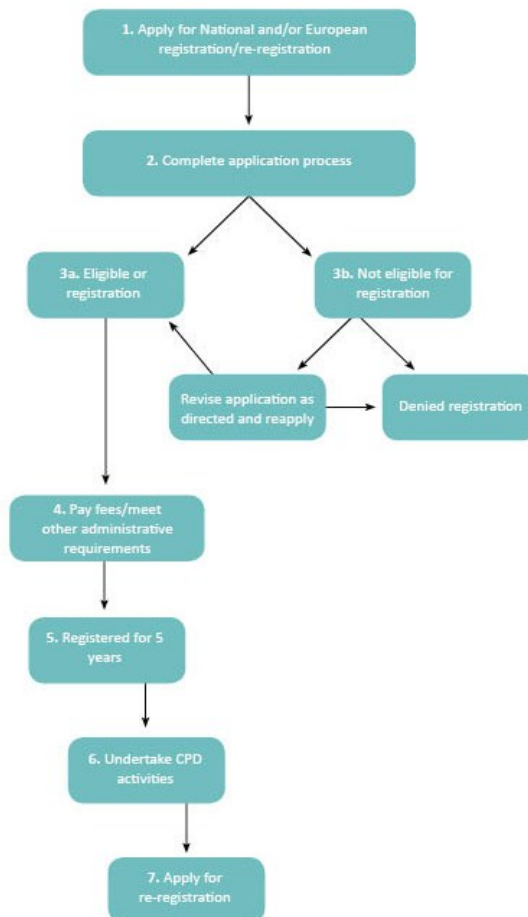
Application Process for health promotion practitioners

All applicants for initial and re-registration must submit the required application form, together with any documents required to support their application, and pay the required fee. Details of these requirements and their submission online will be available on the Accreditation Framework website.

The assessment process for accreditation registration/re-registration may result in the practitioner being:

- Registered
- Not registered but encouraged to reapply in cases where most of the information indicates eligibility but not all criteria have been fully met (recommendations for changes required to meet the criteria will be provided)
- Denied registration based on failure to meet criteria.

An independent appeals procedure will be available to those practitioners denied entry to the register.



ACCREDITATION FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COURSES

Full academic courses

Education providers will apply to the European Accreditation Organization for accreditation of full courses⁷. It should be noted that it is the course which is accredited, not the provider and thus, should a provider offer more than one relevant course, application must be made for each separately.

Criteria for accreditation of full courses

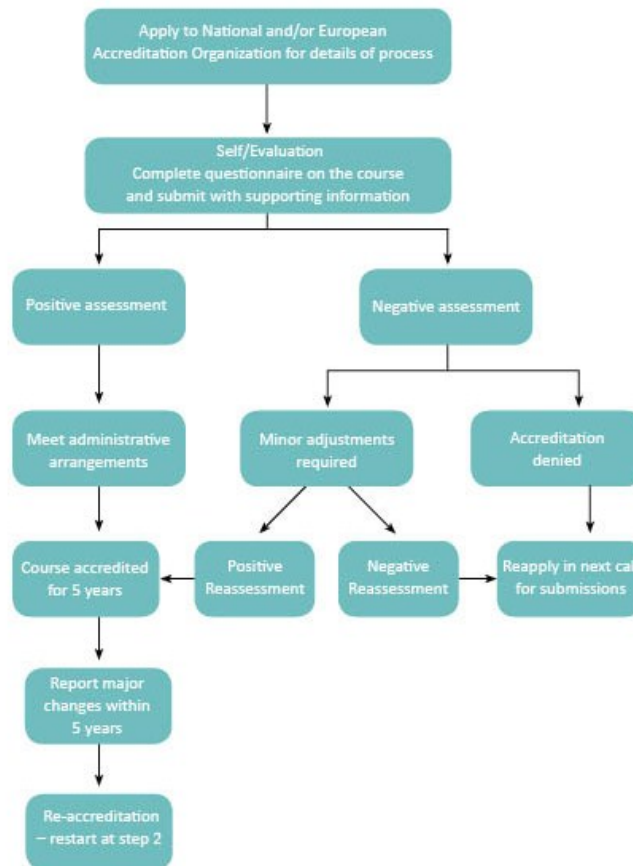
To be accredited within the Framework, full courses must cover **all** domains of the CompHP Core Competencies Framework and demonstrate how the course content will enable students to meet the performance criteria (i.e. learning outcomes) defined in the CompHP Professional Standards. The provider must also provide proof of recognition/ accreditation within the education quality assurance/accreditation system in their country.

Application Process for full courses

All providers applying for accreditation of full courses must submit the required application form, together with any documents required to support their application, and pay the required fee. Details of these requirements and their submission, and of fees and conditions, will be available on Accreditation Framework website.

⁷ Full courses are defined as complete Bachelor (3 years) or Masters (1 or 2 years) level educational programmes that consist of different modules and which are usually offered within an academic setting.

Course providers will be required to undertake a detailed self-assessment process in which they will map the course content to the CompHP Core Competencies Framework and demonstrate how the course meets the performance criteria defined in the CompHP Professional Standards. The provider will be asked to submit supporting documents as evidence of meeting the specified criteria and in some cases a site visit by the European Accreditation Committee may be deemed appropriate.



The assessment process for accreditation may result in the course being:

- Accredited
- Not accredited but advised to reapply within a defined period. This option will apply where it is considered that only minor adjustments to either the application or the course are required and recommendations for the changes required to meet the criteria will be provided.
- Denied accreditation. If denied accreditation the course cannot be resubmitted for accreditation until the next call for submissions (usually a 12 month period).

Accreditation for a course is usually for a five year period. However, if in this period there are substantial changes to the course content it will be necessary to notify the EAO which will assess whether a full re-accreditation process is required. As with individual practitioners, an independent appeals procedure will be available to those providers who have been denied accreditation for their course(s).

Accreditation of CPD activities

Accreditation of CPD activities will be developed as the Framework is implemented.

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