



Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification Application for Experienced CHWs (formerly known as grandparenting) Letter of Validation

Overview

The Maryland Department of Health will accept applications for Community Health Worker (CHW) certification for experienced CHWs (formerly known as the grandparenting process) from September 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020. The certification process for experienced CHWs considers an individual's previous CHW paid or volunteer experience and their demonstrated knowledge of the [Maryland CHW core competencies](#)¹.

Community health workers go by many titles, depending on where they work, who they work for and what they do. Common titles include community health representative, community health advisor, community health outreach worker, outreach specialist, patient navigator, lay health advisor, health coach, community health coach, lay health advocate, family advocate, community health care worker, health educator, liaison, promoter, outreach worker, promotores de salud, peer counselor, health interpreter, public health aide, and more.

This Letter of Validation is one component of a CHW Certification Application. Two Letters of Validation are required for a complete application. The Letter of Validation has 6 sections.

- Sections 1, 2, 3 are to be completed and signed by the CHW applicant.
- Sections 4, 5, 6 are to be completed and signed by the CHW applicant's current or former employer, supervisor, or agency representative. A signature in Section 6 indicates validation of the information in all sections of the Letter of Validation.

Before you begin:

- Review the [Maryland Community Health Worker Core Competencies](#)¹ document for more information about CHWs and the nine Maryland CHW core competencies.
- Read more about the [Maryland CHW Certification process](#)².

*** Note:** All fields of this form must be complete, unless otherwise noted. Incomplete forms will be returned to applicant for completion prior to certification application review.

Direct questions to the Maryland Community Health Worker Certification team by email, MDH.CHWApplications@Maryland.gov, or by phone, 410-767-5971.

¹ <https://pophealth.health.maryland.gov/Community-Health-Workers/Documents/Maryland-CHW-Core-Competencies.pdf>

² <https://pophealth.health.maryland.gov/Community-Health-Workers/Pages/Certification-Program.aspx>

