

Preparing For the CDCES* Exam

- Eligibility requirements
- Test Updates
- Get ready for success



*The use of DES products do not guarantee successful passage of the CDCES exam.

The Certification Board of Diabetes Care and Education (CBDCE) does not endorse any preparatory or review materials for the CDCES exam, except for those published by

Topics

- Updated Definitions
- Certified Diabetes Care and Education
 Specialist
- Eligibility requirements
- ▶ Exam content
- Study strategies
- ▶ Test taking tips
- ▶ <u>Resources</u>



Diabetes Cert Name Updates

- Organization: Certification Board for Diabetes
 Care and Education (CBDCE) (Formerly NCBDE)
- Designation: Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES)
- **Examination:** Certification Examination for Diabetes Care and Education Specialists
- Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (ADCES)





Why Take the CDCES Exam?

- Demonstrates to people with diabetes, employers, and third party payers that the CDCES possesses distinct and specialized knowledge, thereby promoting quality of care for persons with prediabetes and diabetes.
- CDCES is the recognized standard for competence in diabetes self-management education.
- Mastery of knowledge
- Given the diabetes epidemic, access to CDCESs is critical



What is a CDCES?

A Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist 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

Professional Practice Experience Must meet all

 A <u>minimum</u> of two years (to the day) of professional practice experience in the discipline under which one is applying for certification

AND

Minimum of 1,000 hours of professional practice experience within the past 4 years in diabetes self-management education with a minimum of 40% (400 hours = about 8 hrs a week) accrued in the most recent year preceding application.

AND

 Minimum of 15 clock hours of continuing diabetes education within 2 years prior to applying for certification.

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CDCES = Mastery Level

- Practice-based certification
- ▶ Requires individuals to accrue professional practice experience prior to applying.
- ▶ This practice experience is necessary to master the knowledge
- ▶ CDCES provides formal recognition of specialty practice and mastery of knowledge
- ▶ Provides validation of demonstrated dedication to Diabetes Care and Education (DCE).

Professional Practice I

- ▶ Diabetes Self-Mgmnt → Dia Education
- ▶ Program development
- ▶ Program management
- Public health/community surveillance
- Volunteer activities

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Professional Degree, DSME Prac

- Only experience occurring AFTER completing your professional degree can be counted toward the **Professional Practice** Experience requirement.
- ▶ Need 1000 hours of DSME **Practice Hours**
- If on Unique Qualifications Pathway, need 2000 hours of DSME



Definition
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Unique Qualifications Pathway –

- Designed for health professionals holding an advanced degree in a health related area/concentration
- This pathway has different eligibility requirements and involves a "pre-application" process plus 2000 hrs DSME.
- ► For more: info@CBDCE.org or call 877 -239- 3233



Quick Question – Multiple answers

The CDCES exam includes which of the following philosophies?

- a. Motivate people to make lifestyle changes
- b. Empower individuals to improve diabetes self-management
- c. Consider individuals needs, goals and life experiences
- d. Help all people with diabetes achieve an A1c less than 7%
- e. Collaborate and provide ongoing care

Definition of Diabetes Education

- It is a component of a comprehensive plan of diabetes care.
- Involves the person with prediabetes and or diabetes, caregivers and specialists
- Ongoing process of facilitating the knowledge, skill, and ability necessary for self-care, as well as activities that assist a person in implementing and sustaining the health practices to manage on an ongoing basis, beyond or outside of formal self-management training.



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Definition of Diabetes Education

- ▶ Process incorporates the needs, goals and life experiences of the person and is guided by evidence-based standards.
- Includes practical problem-solving approaches and collaborative care.
- Address psychosocial issues, lifestyle change, and strategies to sustain self-management



Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES)

- ▶ All people with prediabetes and diabetes should participate in DSMES to facilitate the knowledge, skills and ability necessary to selfmanage their diabetes.
- ▶ DSMES provides support to implement and sustain skills and behaviors needed for ongoing self-management.

Diabetes Self Management Ed Benefits

- ▶ Improves knowledge
- ▶ Lowers A1c
- Lose weight
- ▶ Improved quality of life
- ▶ Reduced all cause



mortality Reduced health care costs			
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Diabetes Self Management Ed Benefits

- Increased primary care and preventive services
- Less frequent us of acute care and hospital admissions
- More likely to follow best practice recommendations (esp those with Medicare)
 - Only 5-7% of Medicare recipients receive DSME)



Diabetes Care & Education Includes:

Assessment: Participant's needs are identified. Process is led by the participant with assessment of support of specialist.

Care & Education Plan: Individualized plan that reflects participant's self-management goals, current evidence and practice guidelines. Includes criteria for evaluating outcomes.



Interventions: The specialist delivers options to assist participants in meeting self-management goals.



Ongoing Support: The specialist provides options for ongoing support and resources. The support option is selected by participant to best meet self-management goals



Definition of Diabetes Education

Participant Progress: Specialist monitors and communicates whether participant is achieving self-management goals and other outcome(s) to evaluate effectiveness of interventions. Additional assessments are based on participant's needs across lifespan.



Documentation: Assessment, education plan, intervention, and outcomes are documented in participant's health record.



Services Development/Administration:Development and administrative activities performed as part of DSMES services

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Four Critical Times to Eval Self-Care

- To promote skills acquisition, medical nutrition therapy, and well-being
 - 1. At diagnosis
 - Annually (or when not meeting treatment targets)
 - 3. When complicating factors develop
 - 4. With life transitions



DSME Overall Objective

- ▶ Participant Centered
- Support informed decision making
- Problem solving
- Active collaboration to improve clinical outcomes and quality of life
- Avoid judgmental words that increase feelings of shame and/or guilt
- Choose words and phrases that put people first
- Avoid shame and blame

Poll Question

Which phrase best represents the principles for communicating with and about people living with diabetes?

A. John is non-adherent to his insulin regimen and is not taking his insulin as prescribed

B. John is in denial about his diabetes and frequently skips his insulin

C. John is taking his insulin about 50% of the time

D. John doesn't seem to care about his diabetes control at this time

Language of Diabetes Education

Old Way

- ▶ Control diabetes
- ▶ Test BG
- ▶ Patient
- ▶ Normal BG
- Non-adherent, compliant
- American Diabetes Care.

The Use of Language in Diabetes Care and Education
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Jeston, March Political States Mericements, Political, Joseph M. Percell

New Way

- Manage
- ▶ Check
- ▶ Participant
- ▶ BG in target range
- Focus on what they are accomplishing

What we say matters

Free Resources — Free Webinars Lifting People Up With Our Words | FREE Webinar A Resources What we say matters. As educators, advocates, spouses, friends, and providers, our use of language can deeply affect the self-view of people bring with dubetes every day. Intentional communication is a powerful tool that can uncover raums, identify barriers, and more both the provider and person with dubetes toward a greater understanding of the issues involved. The language used in the health care setting is immensely important in determining trust, mutual respect, and meaningful long term relationships. Many people with diabetes have experienced injustice, trauma, marginalization, and are often struggling with feelings of shame and blame. • Let's lift people through our commitment to careful listening. • Lef's empower our interactions by identifying and addressing trauma and the impact of social determinants.

	2021 Initial Certification Requirements† Review Please review before completing application.					
rom	profe	ssionals	who	ation Examination for Diabetes Care and Education Specialists is designed and intended for health have responsibilities that include the direct provision of diabetes care and education (DCE), as Refer to Definition of Diabetes Care and Education section, <u>page 4</u> .		
BDCE	†This	review I	ist rep	resents a summary of requirements. See pages 3-4 for all details.		
andbook	Yes	No				
			1.	As a clinical psychologist, registered nurse, occupational therapist, optometrist, pharmacist, physical therapist, physician, podiatrist, master certified health education specialist, certified clinical exercise physiologist, registered dietitian, dietitian nutritionist, or registered PA, is your license, certification or registeration current, active and unrestricted?*		
				OR		
				Do you hold a minimum of a master's degree in social work from a United States college or university accredited by a nationally recognized regional accrediting body?		
				OR		
				If you do not meet either of these, you are encouraged to investigate CBDCE's Unique Qualifications Pathway. Please visit our website for more information on that pathway.		
			2.	Has your practice experience occurred within the United States or its territories?		
			3.	Has all your practice experience occurred since you met requirement #1 above?		
			4.	Do you have a minimum of 2 calendar years (to the day) of practice experience since you received the license, registration or advanced degree as outlined above?		
			5.	Have you accrued 1000 hours of practice experience in diabetes care and education (DCE) within the last 4 years?		
			6.	Do you have a minimum of 40% (or 400 hours) of the 1000 hours of DCE practice experience accrued within the past year?		
			7.	Does your practice experience include at least some or all in the DCE process; assessment, education plan, interventions, ongoing support, monitoring and communication of participant progress, documentation, and development of DSMES services@administration?		
			8.	The Examination Content Outline (ECO) identifies what is covered on the Examination. Reminder that regardless of discipline, knowledge (and the ability to apply that knowledge) is necessary across all areas of the ECO. Heave you reviewed the ECO and assessed your knowledge across the ECO?		
			9.	Have you completed (within the past 2 years) a minimum of 15 hours of continuing education activities** applicable to diabetes and provided by or approved by a provider on our list of		

Applying to take the CDCES Exam

At the time of your online application you will receive:

- ▶ On-line notification of either approval
- Or that you have been selected for audit
- If you are submitting a paper application, call AMP if it has been more than 4 weeks since application was mailed and you have not received notice of receipt or audit. Call the AMP at (913) 895-4600

What is included in audit if requested?

- ▶ Licensure
- Documentation of Professional Practice Experience
 - ▶ A journal of weekly hours of providing DSME
 - ▶ Supervisor to verify
- ▶ CE course verification
- ▶ Employment verification signed by supervisor

Test Taking Window

- ▶ The exam is administered on an ongoing basis
- Once application approved, candidates must schedule their testing appointment within a 90 day window on a date of their choosing



See application booklet for more details



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When will I get my results?

- You will receive your test results the same day
- You can retake the test as many times as needed
- Cost -
 - ▶ 1st time \$350
 - ▶ Renewal \$250





Scoring the Exam

- ▶ Reported as raw and scaled scores
- ▶ Raw score: number of right answers
- Scaled score: statistically derived from the raw score
- ➤ Total score determines pass/fail and is reported as a scaled score ranging between 0 and 99
- To pass: 70 scaled score units



BDCE

CDCES Exam First Time Pass rates

- ▶ 2009 69 % (test changed based on work study analysis and computerized)
- **▶** 2010 − 69%
- **2011 -65%**
- **2012 63.5%**
- ▶ 2013 67 and 69%
- > 2014 66 and 67%
- > 2015 62 and 64% (test updated)
- **2016 67%**
- **2017 66%**
- **▶** 2018 67%
- **▶** 2019 70%

Exam Details

- Questions are linked directly to a task or tasks.
- Each question is designed to test if the candidate possesses the knowledge necessary to perform the task or has the ability to apply it to a job situation.
- 25 of the 200 questions are new but are not counted in the determination of individual examination scores.

Quick Question – Multiple answers

What are some study strategies that will help you succeed?

- a. Focus your study time on topics you are confident in.
- b. Take as many practice tests as possible
- c. Read as many books on diabetes as possible
- d. Develop a study plan and block off study time.
- e. Teach the content to someone else

Overview of CDCES Exam



- Composed of 200 multiple-choice, objective questions with a total testing time of four (4) hours.
- Based on job analysis completed in 2018, which surveyed diabetes educators about the tasks they performed.
- ▶ Exam outline updated in July 2019

			2021 Initial Certification Requirements [†] Review Please review before completing application.	From CBDCE
pro	ession	als who	loation Examination for Diabetes Care and Education Specialists is designed and intended for health o have responsibilities that include the direct provision of diabetes care and education (DCE), as E. Refer to Definition of Diabetes Care and Education section, <u>page 4</u> .	Handbook
†TH	s revie	w list re	presents a summary of requirements. See pages 3-4 for all details.	
Yes	N	lo.		
		1 1.	 As a clinical psychologist, registered nurse, occupational therapist, optometrist, pharmacist, physical therapist, physician, podistrist, master certified health education specialist, certified clinical exercise physiologist, registered dietitian, dietitian nutritionist, or registered PA, is your license, certification or registration current, active and unrestricted?" 	
			OR	
			Do you hold a minimum of a master's degree in social work from a United States college or university accredited by a nationally recognized regional accrediting body?	
			OR	
			If you do not meet either of these, you are encouraged to investigate CBDCE's Unique Qualifications Pathway. Please visit our website for more information on that pathway.	
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Exam Content - Assessment

- Assessment (59)
 - Learning (19)
 - ▶ Health and Psychosocial Status (19)
 - Knowledge and Self-Management Practices (21)



Exam Content - Intervention

- Intervention (89)
- Collaboration with Individual, Family, Caregiver, and Healthcare Team (18)
- Educate based on individualized care strategies (35)
- Meds, MNT, acute and chronic complications, problem solving
- ► Evaluate, Revise and Document (26)
- ▶ Follow-up, support and referral (9)

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Exam Content – Disease Management

- ▶ Education and Program Standards (28)
 - ▶ Education services standards
- National Standards for Diabetes Self Management Education and Support (8)
- ▶ Clinical Practice (18)
 - ▶ Inpt and Outpt Standards for ADA, AACE
- ▶ Promote Diabetes Advocacy (2)



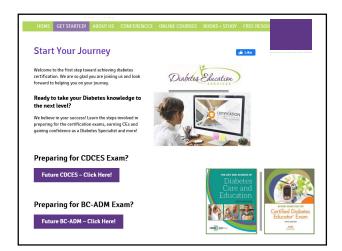
▶ For detailed outline look in Testing Handbook

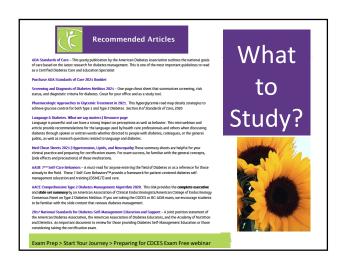
Test Timing of Diabetes Advancements

- CBDCE Recognizes that the advancement and dissemination of new diabetes information may not occur at the same rate in different areas of the United States.
- CBDCE has developed the following policies.
- One Year New medical advances, guidelines, or pharmaceuticals will be included in CDCES Exam no sooner than one year after the information is released.
- Immediately New diagnostic criteria or specific guidelines impacting diabetes care and education and/or treatment of diabetes which are released nationally and identified as effective immediately may be including in the examination at any time.













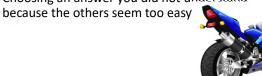
Taking the Exam

- Questions
- Answers
- ▶ Pitfalls



Reading too Fast Pitfalls

- ▶ Choosing a "good" answer, but not the right one for the stem
 - key intent of question
- Failing to read an important words (always, never, most, probably, usually)
- ▶ Choosing an answer you did not understand



Empowerment Errors

- Focusing on the medical need rather than the psychosocial needs
- Failing to keep in mind the participants characteristics (age, type of diabetes, etc.)
- We are supporting efforts toward behavior change.



Thinking Pitfalls

- Imaging a right answer and getting thrown when it is not among the choices
- Over thinking question/answers
- ► Choosing an answer that did not fit the situation
- Using the goals in your clinical setting. Focus on national goals.



Take a Practice Test – Learn how to "work" test questions

- Weed through the details
- Make sure you REALLY understand key intent of question
- ▶ Find the stem
 - ▶ Identifies key intent of the question
- ▶ Read all the options or answers
- Eliminate obvious wrong answers
- ▶ Select BEST option



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Look for Clues in The Answers

 Answers with the following words are usually incorrect: always, never, all, none, only, must, and completely



 Answers with the following words are usually correct: seldom, most, generally, tend to, probably, usually

Getting to the Right Answers



- ▶ Do not leave any answers blank
- ▶ Look for clues in the question
- ▶ Don't get lured in by juicy answers
- Avoid imposing your life experience into the question/answer
- ▶ Keep breathing Get up and move
- Even simple math problem should be worked out on scratch paper

Three Types of Questions

- Recall facts, principles, procedures
- Application ie application of knowledge that varies based on pt characteristics
- Analysis integration or synthesis of a variety of concepts or elements (ie evaluating complex problems with many variables.



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Sample Question -1

A patient is admitted to the hospital with elevated glucose levels with a strong family history of diabetes. She is started on fluid replacement and is placed on a clear liquid diet. Her father is in the room and is very concerned. Which of the following would suggest a diagnosis of new onset type 1 diabetes vs type 2 diabetes?



- A. Hyperglycemia
- B. Polyuria
- C. Ketosis
- D. Polydipsia

application

Sample Question 2

- MJ has type 1 diabetes and wants to know the possible complications that can result from hyperglycemia during the first trimester of pregnancy. Which of the following complications can result from 1st trimester hyperglycemia?
- A. macrosomia
 - B. vascular defects
 - C. shoulder dystocia
 - D. spina bifida

Vignette Style Question

- Read the following vignette to answer the next 3 questions.
- A 47 yr old man with newly diagnosed type 2 diabetes.
 Additional known information.
 - Married, with 2 teenagers
 - ▶ Professor with a BMI of 32
 - ▶ Started on Metformin 500mg BID
 - Father died of kidney failure secondary to diabetes

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Vignette Style Question 1

- Given what you know about this person, what emotions would you expect him to express?
- A. Fear of hypoglycemia
- B. Reluctance to start on insulin
- C. Panic disorder
- D. Fear of complications

▶ analysis

Vignette Style Question 2

- What is most likely to be a potential barrier to lifestyle change?
- A. Difficulty exercising
- B. Excessive alcohol intake
- C. Teenage children
- D. Long work hours



analysis

Vignette Style Question 3

- He requests information about healthy eating. Which meal planning approach best suits this individual until he can see a registered dietitian?
 - A. Explore possibility of metabolic surgery
 - B. Eliminate all concentrated sweets
- C. Eat 3 meals a day with snacks in between
- D. Mediterranean Diet

application

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Sample Question 3

Metformin is an antidiabetic agent different than that of sulfonylurea drugs. Some features of the drug <u>are</u> that it:

- A. Stimulates insulin secretion and increases hepatic glucose production.
- в. Causes hypoglycemia
- Lowers hyperglycemia in persons with diabetes, but does not lower blood glucose levels in people without diabetes.
- Results in weight gain and increase in plasma glucose levels.

recal



Sample question 4

A person with type 2 is on a twice daily dose basal/bolus insulin and complains of waking up with morning headaches. If the fasting capillary BG is 291, this person should be advised to:

- A. Increase evening dose of basal insulin
- B. Increase morning dose of bolus insulin
- c. Check 3am blood glucose
- D. Eliminate bedtime snack

analysis

Study Habits

- Find your best time of day to study
- ▶ Determine your learning style
 - ▶ Auditory discussion, study groups, tapes
 - ▶ Visual books, handouts, notes, videos
 - ▶ Kinesthetic workshops, demonstration
- Set up a study space
- ▶ Set up a study plan
 - Schedule your time
 - ▶ Make an appointment with yourself



Study Group

- ▶ Set a location, time and schedule
- ▶ Have an agenda
- ▶ Set the rules
 - ▶ Everyone does their share
 - ▶ Everyone commits to attend
- Can be a great source of moral support and can help decrease test anxiety



Study Time

- ▶ Review of what you know: 30 to 40%
- ▶ Learning new materials: 60 to 70 %
- CDCES prep courses, flash cards & sample tests
- ▶ Teach the content to someone else
- Use down time/waiting time productively

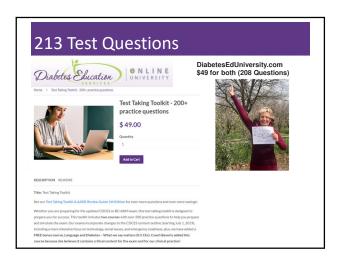


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Knowledge = Confidence

- Most important aspect of test taking
- Knowing the content will improve your confidence
- As you study your knowledge base expands





Combating Test Anxiety

- Positive thinking and affirmations
- Use relaxation techniques we teach pts
- ▶ Take practice exam
- ▶ Rest well night before
- Know how to get to test site
- ▶ Arrive at exam room early
- ▶ Know your stuff self-study or courses









