average Purdue Global military student awarded 54 credits needed associate 's 45 credits needed bachelor 's Commonly Searched Commonly Searched good health education specialist passion helping others lead healthy lives make smart lifestyle choices Job prospects increasing health education specialists certification may required preferred employers guide explains health education career field know ’ considering becoming certified “ Health education specialists develop implement and/or facilitate health education programs within community ” says Brittny Bratcher-Rasmus PhD CHES® faculty School Health Sciences Purdue Global “ assess gaps health-related knowledge develop implement public health interventions using educational promotional tactics. ” increased focus community-level preventive care education recent years Bratcher-Rasmus says COVID-19 pandemic contributed increase “ pandemic highlighted need prevention education related knowledge COVID-19 virus transmitted importance vaccinations ” says Bratcher-Rasmus “ pandemic also uncovered many chronic disease disparities communities prone COVID-19 exposure based many social economic factors. ” Implementing prevention education programs helps communities lower various risk factors chronic diseases improves interactions patients providers health care setting Health education specialists work many different settings including “ list certainly exhaustive health education specialists work anywhere promotes health well-being people ” says Bratcher-Rasmus Anyone wants make difference health behaviors health outcomes people communities populations would good fit field “ individual consistently explores social determinants health health policy advocacy health data determine best meet needs communities improve health behaviors health outcomes ” says Bratcher-Rasmus U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics projects employment health education specialists grow 7 2022 2032 faster average occupations According Bratcher-Rasmus factors indicate rapid growth projection profession include “ projected professional growth reflects shift toward prioritizing health promotion prevention public health ” says Bratcher-Rasmus “ aspects health care public health become increasingly recognized demand skilled professionals health education continue rise. ” terms “ health education specialist ” “ health educator ” used interchangeably many settings roles responsibilities similar However two “ health educator anyone health care health care-related field various educational backgrounds promotes health well-being multiple levels disciplines based training ” says Bratcher-Rasmus “ Examples include community health workers CHWs nurse health educators nutrition dietician educators health teachers ”