



Navy Office of Global Health Engagement

Global Health Engagement Community

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

What does it mean to be part of the Global Health Engagement Community and what is the Global Health Specialists Program (GHSP)?

The U.S. Navy Global Health Engagement (GHE) Community includes members who possess any of the three designations, Global Health Specialist Additional Qualification Designator (GHS AQD), GHS-Associate (GHS-A) or GHS-Professional (GHS-P), while the GHSP refers specifically to members who hold the GHS-A or GHS-P designation and fill GHE positions across the Department of Defense (DoD), interagency and international communities in support of Navy, Marine Corps and DoD missions. We consider the GHS AQD to be the foundation of the Navy GHSP and the GHSP to be the core of the GHE Community. GHS personnel are active and reserve component officers from all Medical Department Officer Corps who are highly trained and experienced in critical areas of security cooperation, public health, diplomacy and other global health competencies. The GHSP is established to facilitate the professional growth of global health knowledge and skills, and manning and billeting in Navy Medicine. It will also provide a GHS cadre with the expertise required to interact with other nations, other U.S. government agencies, allies, partner nations, nongovernmental organizations and operate jointly in support of Geographic Combatant Commanders' security cooperation plans.

What is the difference between professional and associate GHS designations?

The Navy GHE Community is composed of three groups: AQD, Associate and Professional. All applicants who meet the minimum requirements will be awarded the GHS AQD and be eligible for advancement to professional or associate status based on program needs and requirements. The GHSP is a professional development platform that is designed to create highly trained global health professionals to man key positions and operate in any environment.

GHS-A is the junior level designation and is required for members to hold key GHE positions such as Fleet Health Engagement Team (FHET) members, Geographical and Navy combatant command staff, GHE Staff and GHE organizations staff (CGHE, DIMO).

GHS-P is the senior level designation and is considered the gold standard for all GHS personnel. GHS-Professionals hold key senior leadership positions that include program and organizational directors, health advisors, DoD and Navy LNOs, OCONUS public health emergency officers and Fleet Health Engagement Managers (FHEM).

Is the GHS designation a sub-specialty?

No, the GHS designation is not a sub-specialty, but instead it is a unique designation that enables Navy Medicine to identify medical department officers who meet the personnel competencies represented by specific knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) developed through education, training and experience to perform and enhance GHE capabilities in support of the United States Government (USG) and DoD global health activities. Our goal is to create a true community of professionals that can operate in any environment.

Why should I want to be a part of this program?

The GHSP seeks to create a strong community, a collective, a family of likeminded professionals who are on the front lines of positive change, creating stability and security for the U.S. and our Allies. We understand GHE is not for everyone, but those few who see challenges as an adventure and a way of life, who understand diplomacy isn't just a 9-5 job, that what you say and how you say it can determine our success or failure and that the world's toughest environments may be the gateway to peace and stability, I say apply, welcome aboard and let the journey begin.



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What does it mean for me to be an active member of the community?

To be considered active in the GHS community a member must maintain and enhance their global health knowledge and skills through continuing education opportunities via on-going learning, coursework, seminars, engagements and more. All active members should act as ambassadors for the community and when possible, participate in GHE missions and community activities. As long as members adhere to the above criteria it is not required for them to be in a GHE position to be considered active. Any member currently holding a GHE position is considered active and should comply with the above requirements.

Will there be educational and training opportunities available for GHS?

Yes, the Office of Global Health Engagement (GHEO) will identify education and training opportunities, and is developing an educational road map with career pathways for the GHS Community. The GHEO will provide routine professional development updates for GHS Community members to take advantage of opportunities across a vast domain for continuing learning. The Education & Training (E&T) section, as a part of the GHSP, will support in obtaining continuing education opportunities from both civilian and military organizations to ensure we remain on the cutting edge of geopolitical and economic issues that impact our mission and the work we do. This section will support personnel who wish to join the community as well as those who wish to advance and grow their skills. We hope to continue to work closely with our Air Force and Army partners to reduce redundancy in our training efforts and improve interoperability.

This is a new program so what should I expect?

This is true, the GHSP is new, but GHE or humanitarian assistance or security assistance is not, so you can expect for us to continue to listen to you and support this work. The Navy GHEO operates on the principles of inclusiveness and being customer-centric, so to this end, we need your patients, but most importantly we need your input as we shape the future of our community.

Where do I find out more information about the GHSP?

For more information regarding the GHSP and the GHE Community, you may contact the GHEO at usn.ncr.bumedfchva.mbx.ghe-office@mail.mil