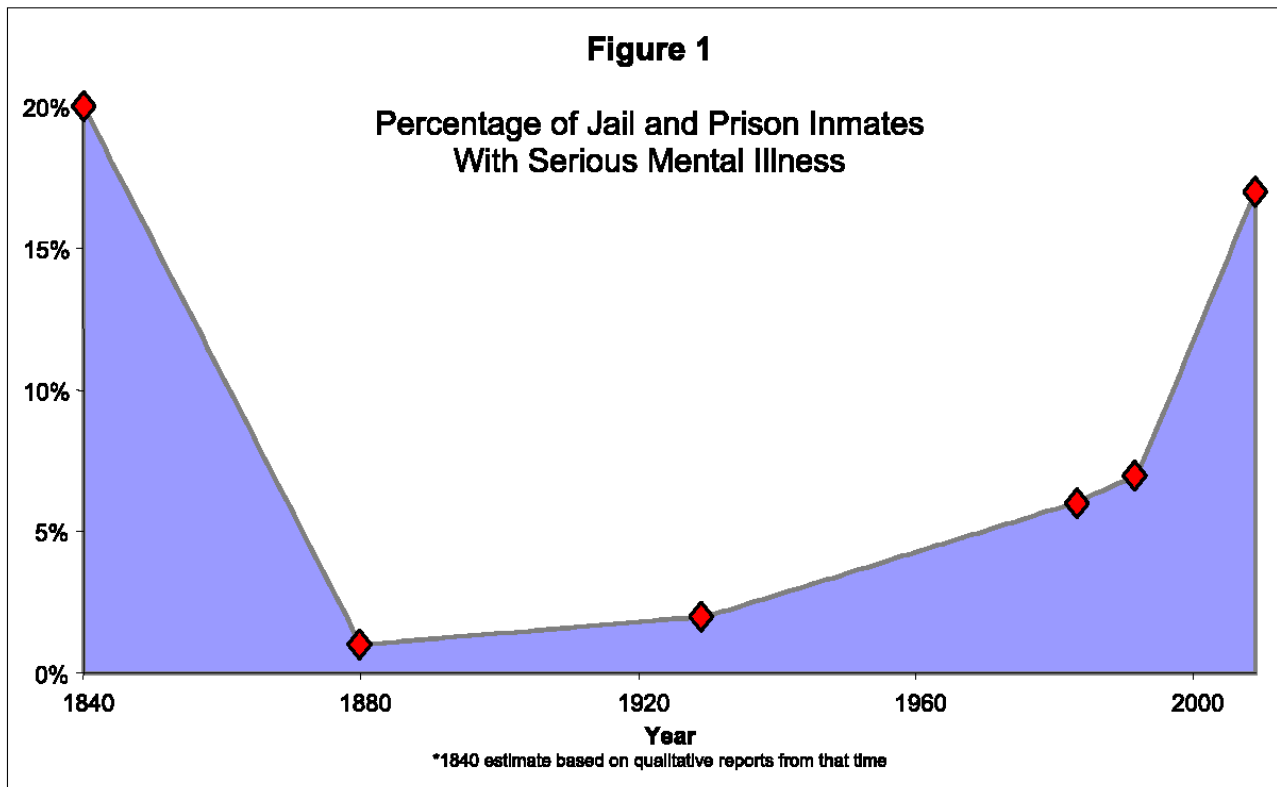


# CCHP-MH: Specialty Certification for Qualified Mental Health Professionals





\* 1840 estimate based on qualitative reports from that time

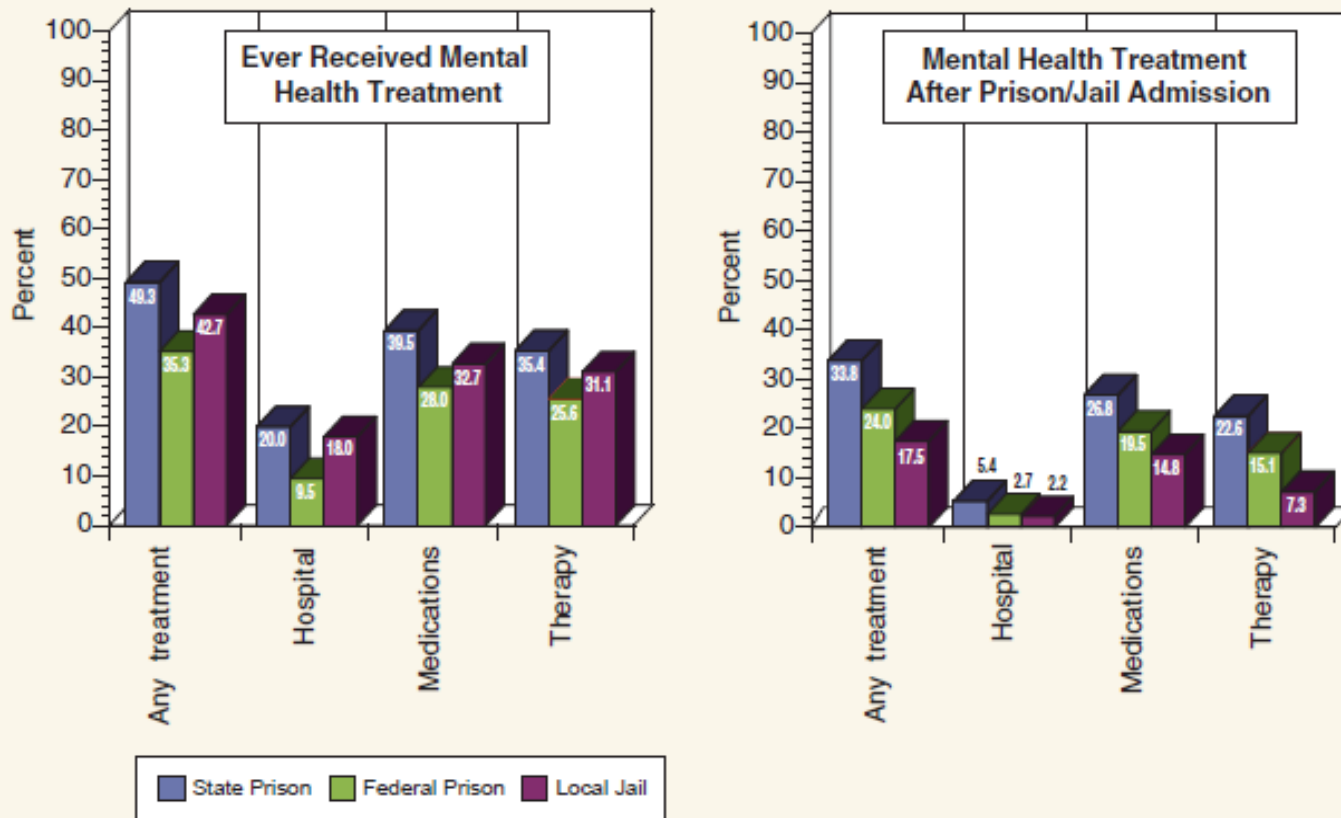
*“Men of Massachusetts, I beg, I implore, I demand . . . Raise up the fallen; succor the desolate; restore the outcast; defend the helpless.”*  
- Dorothea Dix, 1843

Source: <http://mentalillnesspolicy.org/NGRI/jails-vs-hospitals.html>

- In 1850 there was approximately one public psychiatric bed available for every 5,000 people.
- Currently, there is one bed available for every 3,000 people.
- The situation faced by individuals with serious mental illnesses today is remarkably similar to individuals with serious mental illnesses in the 1840s — a shortage of psychiatric beds and an abundance of jail and prison cells.

Source: <http://mentalillnesspolicy.org/NGRI/jails-vs-hospitals.html>

## Mental Health Treatment Among Prison/Jail Inmates



Data courtesy of DOJ

Source: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/statistics/1DOJ.shtml>

Condition	Percent of inmates in:			Percent of all U.S. Population
	State prisons	Federal Prisons	Local Jails	
Symptoms of mental-health disorders	49.2	39.8	60.5	10.6
Major depressive disorder	23.5	16	29.7	7.9
Mania disorder	43.2	35.1	54.5	1.8
Psychotic disorder	15.4	10.2	23.9	3.1
Percent of people needing mental-health treatment who received it	33.8	24	17.5	13
Any drug dependence or abuse	53.4	45.5	53.5	2
Dependence (only or with abuse)	36.1	28.7	35.8	0.6
Abuse only	17.3	16.8	17.7	1.4
Percent of people needing drug treatment who received it	14.8	17.4	6.9	n/a

*Sources: Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities (2004) and Survey of Inmates in Local Jails (2002), Bureau of Justice Statistics.*

# Jails and prisons are not created to be de facto mental hospitals.

- Mentally ill offenders are “frequent flyers”
- Mentally ill inmates cost more
- Mentally ill inmates stay longer
- Mentally ill inmates are often major management problems
- Mentally ill inmates are more likely to commit suicide
- Mentally ill inmates are sometimes abused

Source: <http://mentalillnesspolicy.org/NGRI/jails-vs-hospitals.html>

**More than ever -  
facilities need to be  
equipped with  
qualified  
professionals to  
meet the increased  
demand and  
complexities of  
providing superior  
service in a  
challenging  
environment**





# CCHP-MH

- Specialty certification for qualified mental health professionals working in the correctional setting
- Recognizing the work you do and the difference you make
- Exclusively for registered QMHPs already CCHP certified
- From the most widely-accepted correctional health care certification program





"NCCHC's mental health certification provides an excellent opportunity for correctional mental health providers to demonstrate their unique knowledge to their employer. It also provides recognition that correctional mental health is a specialty area of clinical practice in an environment that is both challenging and expanding in scope."

- *Tom Fagan, PhD, CCHP-MH*  
*Chair, CCHP – Mental Health Subcommittee*



# Benefits of Certification

“There are countless “unsung heroes” in our correctional facilities around the country providing essential mental health services, improving lives, saving lives. They can make it look easy. It is not. Development of the CCHP-MH credential sets standards for correctional mental health professionals. Obtaining the CCHP-MH credential can help elevate recognition of the expertise required for these positions”.

*John S Wilson, PhD, CCHP-MH  
Senior Clinical Operations Specialist  
MHM Services, Inc*



## Eligibility Requirements:

Eligibility is extended to all qualified mental health professionals as defined by the *Standards for Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities (2015), MH-A-02*:

“include psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric social workers, licensed professional counselors, psychiatric nurses, and others who by virtue of their education, credentials, and experience are permitted by law to evaluate and care for the mental health needs of patients.



Prior to submitting an application, applicants must have:

- Current CCHP certification
- Graduate level (master's and above) degree
- Professional licensure
- Equivalent of three years of full-time practice in a correctional environment



# Application

## 1. Submit application

- Online at <http://my.ncchc.org>

## 2. Complete application

- You will need to upload your license copy/verification and current resume/CV. Once logged in, click on the **“My CCHP Certification”** tab
- Applicants must complete their applications within 3 months of submitting the initial application.



# Application Status

- Once the initial application has been submitted, instructions for completing the application are sent by email
- Once the application has been completed, email confirmation is sent and exam registration instructions are provided
- Applicants can login to their [myNCCHC](#) account to check their status by choosing the “My CCHP Certification” tab, then the “Details” button of the certification type in question (CCHP-MH)

**Requirements**

The following items are required in order to receive certification for this program.

Component Detail	Status	Units Earned
Application Completed and Paid	Approved	1.00
License Submission	Pending Approval	1.00
Resume Submission	Pending Approval	1.00
Passed Examination	Pending Approval	1.00

- This applicant needs to upload their CV/resume and license copy



# Exam Registration:

## NCCHC Conferences and Partner Sites

- Taking the exam at NCCHC conferences and selected partner sites:
  - See the online [exam calendar](#) for all upcoming paper and pencil exams
  - Login to [myNCCHC](#) account and a new tab, "Register for a CCHP Exam" will be available
  - Candidates must take the exam within **6 months** of their application approval

*Registration is available once the CCHP-MH application is complete and approved.*



# Exam registration:

## Test Centers and Online

Taking the exam at a Prometric test center or online

- Prometric will email approved candidates once per week with instructions on how to register
- To see if there is a test center near you, [click here](#)
- Candidates must take the exam within **6 months** of application approval

*Registration is available once the CCHP application is complete and approved.*





# Exam Preparation

- Refer to the candidate handbook
- Use the reference materials:
- *Correctional Mental Health: From Theory to Best Practice*
- *How to Identify Suicidal People—A Systematic Approach to Risk Assessment*
- *Standards for Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities*



# Exam Preparation: Review Courses

- The 2015 edition of the Standards for Mental Health Services provides a framework for improved mental health care delivery and outcomes in adult correctional facilities. The foundation of both NCCHC's CCHP-MH examination and mental health accreditation program, these standards make more explicit what is required for the adequate delivery of mental health services.
- On-demand online review course: [CCHP-MH Review Course](#)
- [Standards Review and Exam At Your Location](#)



# Content Outline

- I. GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION (5%-10%)
- II. SAFETY (3%-7%)
- III. PERSONNEL AND TRAINING (7%-12%)
- IV. HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND SUPPORT (5%-10%)
- V. INMATE CARE AND TREATMENT (**12%-18%**)
- VI. HEALTH PROMOTION (3%-7%)
- VII. SPECIAL NEEDS AND SERVICES (**12%-18%**)
- VIII. CLINICAL RECORDS (4%-8%)
- IX. MEDICAL-LEGAL ISSUES (**10%-15%**)
- X. CORRECTIONAL MENTAL HEALTH: PAST AND FUTURE (4%-8%)
- XI. JUVENILES (8%-12%)

TIP: study proportionately

## Additional Linked Resources to:

- Legal mental health cases
- PREA final rule
- JCHC article: Thirty Years After *Estelle v. Gamble*: A Legal Retrospective
- NCCHC Position Statements



“Where an inmate's mental disability is the root cause of the threat he poses to the inmate population, the State's interest in decreasing the danger to others necessarily encompasses an interest in providing him with medical treatment for his illness.”

*Washington v. Harper*, 494 US 210, 225-226 (1990)

# Key Content Areas

- Legal obligations
- Informed consent
- Right to refuse
- Limits of confidentiality
- Deliberate indifference
- Malpractice
- Suicide/ self-injury
- Right to access care
- Psychotropics only as clinically indicated
- PREA
- Landmark cases

# Legal Obligations

- Community mental health providers – obligations?
- Correctional mental health providers – obligations?

# Limits of Confidentiality

## Reporting requirements in the community?

- Abuse
- Tarasoff

## Reporting requirements in corrections?

- Abuse
- Tarasoff (Limits? Changes?)
- PREA
- Safety/security of facility?
- Medication noncompliance



# Self-injury and Suicide

- Risk Management in the community?
- Risk Management in corrections?

# Exam Administration



- Proctored examination
- 80 – 100 multiple-choice, objective questions
- Two hours to complete the exam
- Exams are offered throughout the year at both NCCHC or partner exam sites as well as online and Prometric testing centers. Check the CCHP exam calendar for the most up-to-date information.



# Exam Results

Typically released within 1-2 weeks

By email (1-2 weeks post exam)

- First (and fastest) notification of pass/fail
- Contains link for employer notification
- Link to banner for email signature

By mail (2-3 weeks post exam)

- Official letter
- Certificate
- Press release
- CCHP-MH pin
- FAQs for recertification



# Recertification Requirements

- Annual recertification
- \$100 annual recertification fee, includes both CCHP and CCHP-MH
- Continuing education: 18 hours mental health care contact hours, with 6 specific to correctional health care
- Maintain licensure
- No retest required

# Questions?

Email:

[cchp@ncchc.org](mailto:cchp@ncchc.org)

Call:

773.880.1460 x297

