

OVER 1,300 PEOPLE HAVE EARNED
THEIR CHIS! HERE IS WHAT
SOME OF THEM HAVE SAID
ABOUT THE VALUE OF CHIS:

"I have benefited greatly from receiving my MLA CHIS. I now feel self-assured when working with people who are seeking health information. I am now confident that my skills and knowledge will enable them to get accurate up-to-date information in a timely fashion."

"I have the knowledge to help my customers find the best information for their health resource needs."

"I benefited by attending the classes, which gave me solid insight into how to handle and assist those with medical reference questions. It also helped by giving me some fresh eyes when looking at my collection."

"Taking the many free NNLM courses has increased my health reference skills and added [to my] knowledge of programming ideas to share with my colleagues."

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CHIS?

Everything you need to know to
earn your CHIS is on MLANET
(www.mlanet.org/education/chis).



MLA MEDICAL LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION
Quality information for improved health

MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
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MLA is a nonprofit, educational organization of health sciences information professional members worldwide. Founded in 1898, MLA provides lifelong educational opportunities, supports a knowledgebase of health information research, and works with a global network of partners to promote the importance of quality information for improved health to the health care community and the public.

MLA
CONSUMER HEALTH
INFORMATION
SPECIALIZATION

MLA MEDICAL LIBRARY
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Consumer Health Information Specialization

The MLA Consumer Health Information Specialization (CHIS) offers training in providing health information services to consumers and recognition for the accomplishment of acquiring new health information skills.

CHIS was created in 2001 with the support of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM).

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO GET THE CONSUMER HEALTH INFORMATION SPECIALIZATION?

- Medical librarians
- Public librarians
- Librarians working in consumer health libraries
- Allied health professionals
- Information professionals
- Anyone who cares about providing accurate and useful health information to the public

THERE ARE TWO LEVELS OF CHIS.

- Level One CHIS requires coursework in competencies 1–5.
- Level Two CHIS requires coursework in all 8 competencies.
- Each level requires 12 MLA continuing education (CE) credit hours of coursework. You have 3 years to earn your CHIS, which is valid for 3 years.

WHY GET YOUR CONSUMER HEALTH INFORMATION SPECIALIZATION?

- Librarians and other information and health professionals know the life-saving and life-enhancing value of accurate health information.
- By earning your CHIS, you acquire skills and knowledge needed to become a confident, expert provider of health information to your community.
- Your CHIS shows employers, colleagues, and the public you serve that you are committed to offering quality consumer health information services and to staying current with developments in consumer health information resources, technologies, and services.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR EARNING YOUR CHIS?

CHIS is organized around eight Core Competencies for Providing Consumer Health Information Services.

1. Knowledge of the Community
2. Knowledge of the Health Consumer
3. Knowledge of the Subject Matter and Resources
4. Evaluation of Health Information
5. Communication, Health Reference, and Instruction
6. Literacy and Health Literacy
7. Technology and Health
8. Ethical and Legal Issues

WHAT DOES CHIS COST?

Most CHIS courses are offered by NNLM at no cost. It is easy to meet the requirements for both levels with NNLM courses. MLA charges a modest fee for reviewing applications and granting certificates.

