

Welcome to Partners for Employment, Kathryn!



Kathryn Schwaar is an Education Specialist with Partners for Employment at The University of New Mexico's Center for Development and Disability. She has over ten years of experience with youth education and community engagement. Kathryn holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Utah Valley University and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from The University of New Mexico.

A Note of Thanks



Thank you to all who joined the 2021 Reaching New Heights in Supported Employment Conference. An exceptional note of gratitude to our Funding Partners, the New Mexico Department of Health/Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD), and the New Mexico Public Education Department/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR) for bringing this community event to you at no cost and to the presenters who volunteered their time to help make this event a success!

Certificates of Completion and Conference Resources:

Each day of the conference has a dedicated resource page. This page contains the PDF copies of the presentations, related worksheets and tipsheets (if applicable), and a link to

You have or will receive an email containing a link to view and download your certificate of completion. The email will come from the Center of Development and

the presenter or agency's webpage.

Visit our [Reaching New Heights Conference Page](#) for these resources and more.

Please note: Recordings of our local presenters will soon be available on the conference webpage.

Disability.

If you attended a session and have not received your certificate, please contact Lorena Villalovos at lillalovos@salud.unm.edu.

ACRE and CESP Updates

ACRE - Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators

Please join us in congratulating the following Employment Professionals for achieving their ACRE Certificates!

- Megan Allen
- Comien Cheadle
- Jennifer Cordasco
- Maxine Cordova
- Stephanie Duran
- Richard Harrid
- Crystal Hicks
- Keith Maes
- Andrew McDonald
- Alisha Mora
- Alicia Pacheco
- Mary Britt
- Krystal Perea
- Angel Segura
- Denise Sierra
- Nicole Starke
- Rebecca Trujillo
- Teena Trujillo
- Rita Turner
- Chris Woods
- Melissa Wassana

The ACRE certificate is a nationally recognized certificate of achievement that never expires! Partners for Employment has been provided with a limited number of scholarships to allow those who complete the College of Employment Services training course an opportunity to obtain their ACRE certificate.

Having this certificate shows that the recipient has completed the required competency-based training and assignments which cover many of the skills and knowledge essential to providing quality person-centered services to individuals with disabilities. Whether you are new to the field or you would just like to get up-to-date on the best approaches being used nationwide, this certificate will provide you with an opportunity to showcase your skills.

If you are interested in learning more about this certificate, please contact Dominique Nunez at denunez@salud.unm.edu for more information.

Certified Employment Support Professional

The CESP credential is designed for job coaches, job developers, transition employment specialists, job placement personnel, and employment specialists/ consultants who serve a wide variety of target audiences including individuals with intellectual/ developmental disabilities, mental health diagnoses, sensory impairments, physical disabilities, traumatic brain injury, and autism spectrum disorders. Visit the APSE website to [learn more!](#)

Congratulations to the most recent CESP!

- *Kyle Henderson*

CESPs who completed Recertification!

- Marcy Hintz
- Carrie Roberts
- Casey Stone-Romero

CESP at Home!

Exciting Changes

Eligible applicants for the Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP) exam now have two ways to take the exam.

First, **in person**. Through a partnership with KRYTERION Global Testing Services, APSE (The Association for People Supporting Employment) will offer the exam in person in Albuquerque, Farmington, and El Paso, TX. Second, **remote proctoring services**. With remote proctoring services, eligible applicants for the CESP exam will be able to take the exam in the comfort of their homes.

For more information on the CESP exam, visit <https://apse.org/cesp-central/>. For specific questions about CESP options in New Mexico, email PFE Education Specialist Brittany Edwards-Sharpe at BSharpe@salud.unm.edu.



Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP™) Exam Opportunity

What is the CESP™ Certification?

CESP™ is a national credential that recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a sufficient level of knowledge and skill to provide integrated employment services to a variety of populations. It is earned by passing a comprehensive examination based on national standardized competencies and remains valid for 3 years.

In-person and online proctoring is AVAILABLE NOW!

In-person testing sites are accessible through Kryterion Global Testing Solution centers in Albuquerque, Farmington, and El Paso, Texas. Applicants also have the option to test remotely, in the comfort of their home with online proctoring services. Use this **fact sheet** to determine what testing option is best for you.

Total Exam Cost: \$199

(\$159 for the exam & \$40 non-refundable application fee)

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

for people who have successfully completed the ACRE-approved College of Employment Services (CES) training OR have an ACRE Certificate of Achievement

People interested in applying for a scholarship are required to fully review, fill-out, and sign the CESP™ **Scholarship Application** form. All inquiries and questions regarding the CESP™ exam, as well as, submission of completed CESP™ Scholarship Applications can be emailed to Brittany Edwards-Sharpe at bsharpe@salud.unm.edu.

People interested in taking the CESP™ Exam *without* a scholarship can apply here:
<https://apse.smapply.org/>

[Center for Development and Disability](#) | [Partners for Employment](#)