CDE® STORIES

Learn why diabetes educators have chosen to support people with diabetes and further their own careers by earning the Certified Diabetes Educator® (CDE®) credential.

Melisa Sigley, RPh, CDE
Charleston, WV

On Becoming a Diabetes Educator:

My last rotation in pharmacy school was in a community pharmacy that offered diabetes education services. I got to know a CDE who became my role model as a dispensing pharmacist who also integrated diabetes education services. It happened we both worked for Rite Aid at the time, and she took me under her wing. It took a few years to get enough hours, but the drive began by wanting to be the expert on diabetes, like my mentor.

On Motivation:

I wanted to be the expert, set myself apart, and feel confident helping my patients manage their diabetes. Once I set my sights on diabetes education, I could not be deterred.

“
I find it so special, how invested you get in your patients’ lives. Patients call to tell me their successes before their next visit, and it feels good that they want me to know.
”

On Opportunities Provided as a Result of Holding the CDE Credential:

I was able to develop my own diabetes education program in an independent pharmacy, and then I made the transition to the pharmaceutical industry. My CDE credential helped me enter into the industry.