



**Be the change you want to see.
Become a Certified Peer Support
Specialist and inspire
others along the way!
*Your lived experience is
the only experience needed.***

Who is a Certified Peer Support Specialist?

- Someone who had mental health or substance use disorder lived experience and helps others going through similar challenges.
- Someone who helped a family member with mental health or substance use disorder lived experience and supports other families with their loved ones.
- Someone who helps others recognize and build confidence in their own strengths and ability to succeed in their recovery.
- Someone who connects people with activities and services that support recovery and creates a sense of purpose.

What are the steps to credentialing?

1. Training:

- 80 Hours
 - Hybrid: 40 hours in-person and 40 hours virtual, OR
 - Fully virtual: 80 hours virtual
- Build on your personal experience and gain a rich mix of peer support skills, such as:
 - Active listening
 - Empathy and compassion
 - Communications
 - Motivational interviewing
 - Crisis Management

2. Application:

- Complete the **Certified Peer Support Specialist Trainee application** via the Department of Health (DOH).



3. Experience:

- Your lived experience is the only experience you need to enroll in training.
- Complete 1,000 supervised hours of on-the-job experience

4. Can an existing Certified Peer Counselor get the Certified Peer Support Specialist credential?

- Yes, they need to complete the gap training and apply with DOH to transition to a Certified Peer Support Specialist.

Why should I get credentialed?

- You can bill Apple Health (Medicaid) for your services. Currently, only Apple Health reimburses for peer support services.
- Ensure professional standards with ongoing education.
- Be a part of a recognized and credentialed workforce.

Start your journey today!

- The Health Care Authority covers training costs (travel not included).
- No credential cost for Peer Support Specialist Trainees.

Explore More: Visit the [HCA website](#) to learn more about Peer Support.

