
Q & A from ACCESS 2020 Conference: #GetInTheWAY

Q. Did other States require a law to implement peer certification?

A. Yes. 48 out of 50 states currently have a state recognized peer support certification. Learn about other states' peer specialist certifications [here](#).

Q. Can you be a clinician and be a peer support specialist?

A. No. One of the requirements of peer support is that it is a relationship of equals. A clinical relationship presents a power differential between the clinician and the client.

Q. How can we be sure to see the updated peer support core competencies? Is there a mailing list we should get on?

A. You can view the current competencies by viewing the MHA National Certified Peer Specialist Training Self-Assessment Checklist and Test Preparation Guide [here](#). Contact Kelly Davis at kdavis@mhanational.org to join MHA National's mailing list.

Q. How much does certification cost?

A. Current fees for certification include a \$225 application fee and a \$200 testing fee. National MHA is looking to combine and reduce the fees.

Q. Is there a way to get the NCPS fees waived?

A. No, but you may request your county Mental Health Services Act steering committee/planning committee to dedicate funds to pay for individuals in your community to take the exam.

Q. Which trainings are approved?

A. You can find a comprehensive list of approved NCPS trainings [here](#).

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Learn more about the National Certified Peer Specialist (NCPS) credential [here](#), or contact Kelly Davis at kdavis@mhanational.org.

For all additional questions please contact us: access@calvoices.org