

Request for Information on Peer Support Services in Louisiana Q & A

This document includes questions received regarding the Request for Information (RFI) on Peer Support Services in Louisiana, with corresponding questions. Questions were received via email or during the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) hosted question and answer session held on September 8, 2020.

Duplicative questions or questions not related to this RFI were eliminated.

Questions	Answers
Is this for a grant (funding)?	There is no funding associated with this RFI. The purpose of the RFI is simply to gather information and feedback from partners.
1. Is this a new requirement, or is there a vendor providing these services? If so, what is the vendor name, the contract term, and the contract number? 2. What is the estimated budget for this project? 3. Is there a timeline for a formal solicitation to be reached?	This is not a new requirement. Currently the OBH, through a contractor, coordinate and provide the Peer Employment training in Louisiana. There is no estimated budget for this project at this time. The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH)/OBH is seeking feedback from partners and stakeholders for these services. The deadline to receive responses to this request for information is September 13, 11:59pm CST.
Who will be reviewing the RFI's?	The RFI will be reviewed in accordance with the protocols set by the State of Louisiana and the Department of Health.
Will this presentation be sent out to peers?	The PowerPoint is uploaded to the Peer Support website.
What mechanisms will be in place to ensure the Certification process accounts for various trainings?	The LDH/OBH is seeking feedback related to training for Peer Support Specialists within the RFI. A specific response to this question is not available, as this is the type of feedback being sought from stakeholders, partners, and other respondents.
How many peers are involved in the workgroup?	The LDH/OBH has consistently sought feedback from Peers this initiative. All Peers on the OBH list-serve were invited to participate in the workgroup; however, workgroup participants were not required to identify as Peers when signing in to participate in the workgroup.
How much will it cost to renew your certification and how often will that be required?	The LDH/OBH is seeking feedback related to the certification and credentialing of Peer Support Specialists within the RFI. A specific response to this question is not available, as this is the type of feedback being sought from stakeholders, partners and other respondents.

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<p>NAMI St Tammany has been approved as a Medicaid biller for more than a year through United. How are standards related to supervision are established, are they nationally developed or developed by states? Confusion is about some of the questions being asked as it jumps back and forth between theoretical supervisor support and through billing as associated with billing through Medicaid. Need clarification on what the intention of all of this.</p>	<p>Please refer to CMS guidance document as it relates to the supervision of Peer Support Specialists in order to meet the requirement for Medicaid reimbursement. Please include your recommendations in your response to the RFI, question number 2(j). Regarding your agency's current billing through a Medicaid MCO for peer services as an in lieu of service, please confer with the MCO for guidance on questions/issues specific to your organization.</p>
<p>How many peers do you have on the workgroup that will review the RFPs?</p>	<p>The RFP, if sought as a result of the RFI, will be reviewed in accordance with the protocols set by the State of Louisiana and the Department of Health and will include appropriate subject matter experts.</p>
<p>Will there be any type of grandfathering for those already certified?</p>	<p>The LDH/OBH is seeking feedback related to the certification and credentialing of Peer Support Specialists within the RFI. A specific response to this question is not available, as this is the type of feedback being sought from stakeholders, partners and other respondents.</p>
<p>What changes will be implemented in the rest of the fiscal year that will effect training and re-certification?</p>	<p>The LDH/OBH is seeking feedback related to the certification and credentialing and training of Peer Support Specialists within the RFI. At this point, it is not anticipated that any changes will be made through the end of the fiscal year (which ends 6/30/2021) that will affect training and recertification.</p>
<p>How many peers do you have working in OBH department?</p>	<p>The LDH/OBH has dozens of Peers employed throughout the behavioral health system as direct employees, with grant projects, and through contractors. As new projects and grant initiatives are implemented frequently, this exact number is constantly changing.</p>
<p>How do peers who were involved in the March meeting get included in the continuing workgroup?</p>	<p>To be informed about progress related to this RFI or join our Peer Support Specialist listserv please submit your email address to OBH.Peers.Programs@la.gov.</p>
<p>I'm new to the Peer Support program. I've been interested for a while. What I'd like to know is do we bill for services the same as we do for the MHS/MHP?</p>	<p>Peer Support Services are not currently a stand-alone Medicaid reimbursable service. For questions related to billing refer back to the managed care organization and provider agency you are affiliated.</p>
<p>Will the PowerPoint be up on OBH board?</p>	<p>The PowerPoint is uploaded to the Peer Support website.</p>

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It has been mentioned several times that the Medicaid billing will be for certain providers. Do we know at this point what providers?	As of right not Peer Support Services is are not currently a stand-alone Medicaid reimbursable service. Specifics related to the type of providers who can utilize the service has not been finalized.
Can you please make sure there are certified peer support specialists on the groups that review the RFIs and RFPs - not just unidentified possible peers?	The RFI and RFP will be reviewed in accordance with the protocols set by the State of Louisiana and the Department of Health and will include appropriate subject matter experts.
What's the process for CEU approval?	Per the RFI, Please refer to page 3 question 2 of the RFI. LDH/OBH is seeking feedback related to the certification as it relates to continuing education. For approval of CEUs please contact Ricardo Williams at ricardo.williams2@la.gov.
How many peers does the state have on its list serve?	At any given time the number of active peers can fluctuate between 300 and 375.
Will peer certification be mandatory to bill Medicaid or provide peer services?	As of right not Peer Support Services is are not currently a stand-alone Medicaid reimbursable service. Please refer to CMS guidance document on Peer Services as a Medicaid reimbursable service.
Is OBH going to be the credentialing board or will there be an oversight agency?	The LDH/OBH is seeking feedback related to the certification and credentialing of Peer Support Specialists within the RFI. A specific response to this question is not available, as this is the type of feedback being sought from stakeholders, partners and other respondents.