

Certified Peer Support Specialists must meet the following qualifications:

- Must have lived experience with a mental illness and/or substance use disorder.
- Must be at least 21 years of age.
- Must successfully complete an OBH approved peer training program prior to providing peer support services. Training must provide the CPSS with a basic set of competencies necessary to perform the peer support function. Successful completion requires obtaining the minimum qualifying score or better on required knowledge and skill assessments.
- Must be certified by an OBH approved certification organization.
- Must maintain and adhere to continuing education standards as defined by the OBH.
- Must have at least twenty-four (24) months of continuous recovery, which is demonstrated by a lifestyle and decisions supporting an individual's overall wellness and recovery. Through the Recovery Support Strategic Initiative, SAMHSA has delineated four major dimensions that support a life in recovery:
 - Health – Overcoming or managing one's disease(s) or symptoms, and for everyone in recovery, making informed, healthy choices that support physical and emotional wellbeing;
 - Home – A stable and safe place to live;
 - Purpose – Meaningful daily activities, such as a job, school, volunteerism, family caretaking, or creative endeavors, and the independence, income and resources to participate in society; and
 - Community - Relationships and social networks that provide support, friendship, love, and hope.

Additional qualifications may be required by the agency through which the CPSS is employed. The agency through which the individual is employed must ensure that the CPSS possesses the minimum requisite skills, qualifications, training, and supervision in accordance with the requirements described in the version of the Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual effective on the date of service, State Plan Amendments, and state and federal rules, regulations and laws.