

## Peer Specialist Workforce

State-by-state information on key indicators, and links to each state's peer certification program web site.

### Alabama

Certification program exists  
Peer support not Medicaid-reimbursable  
204 peer specialists statewide  
[www.mh.alabama.gov/MI/consumers.aspx](http://www.mh.alabama.gov/MI/consumers.aspx)

### Alaska

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.akpeersupport.org](http://www.akpeersupport.org)

### Arizona

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
2,524 peer specialists statewide  
[www.azahcccs.gov/shared/Downloads/MedicalPolicyManual/961.pdf](http://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/Downloads/MedicalPolicyManual/961.pdf)

### Arkansas

Certification under development  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
No web site

### California

No certification  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/MH/Documents/CMHPCPeerCertPaper.pdf](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/MH/Documents/CMHPCPeerCertPaper.pdf)

### Colorado

Certification under development  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
<http://www.coloradomentalwellnessnetwork.org/recovery-education/peer-support-specialist/>

### Connecticut

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
100 peer specialists statewide  
[www.mindlink.org](http://www.mindlink.org)  
[www.ct.gov/DMHAS/cwp/view.asp?A=2900&Q=437254](http://www.ct.gov/DMHAS/cwp/view.asp?A=2900&Q=437254)

Delaware  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
29 peer specialists statewide  
[www.delawarerecovery.org](http://www.delawarerecovery.org)

District of Columbia  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
107 peer specialists statewide  
[www.dbh.dc.gov/service/peer-specialist-certification-program](http://www.dbh.dc.gov/service/peer-specialist-certification-program)

Florida  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
421 peer specialists statewide  
[www.peersupportfl.org](http://www.peersupportfl.org)

Georgia  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
1700 peer specialists statewide  
[www.gacps.org](http://www.gacps.org)

Hawaii  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
190 peer specialists statewide  
[health.hawaii.gov/amhd/consumer/hcps/](http://health.hawaii.gov/amhd/consumer/hcps/)

Idaho  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
125 peer specialists statewide  
<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Medical/MentalHealth/PeerSpecialistsFamilySupportPartners/tabid/2935/Default.aspx>

Illinois  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
359 peer specialists statewide  
[www.illinoismentalhealthcollaborative.com/consumers/consumer\\_crss.htm](http://www.illinoismentalhealthcollaborative.com/consumers/consumer_crss.htm)

Indiana  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
378 peer specialists statewide  
[www.chwcrs.org/](http://www.chwcrs.org/)

Iowa  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
76 peer specialists statewide  
<http://www.iowabc.org/mhpss>

Kansas  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
538 peer specialists statewide  
[www.webs.wichita.edu/?u=ccsr&p=/certifiedpeerspecialisttraining/](http://www.webs.wichita.edu/?u=ccsr&p=/certifiedpeerspecialisttraining/)

Kentucky  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
556 peer specialists statewide  
[www.dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/ebpi-recovery.aspx](http://www.dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/ebpi-recovery.aspx)

Louisiana  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
74 peer specialists statewide  
[www.lapeersupport.org](http://www.lapeersupport.org)

Maine  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
100 peer specialists statewide  
[www.amistadinc.com](http://www.amistadinc.com)

Maryland  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
107 peer specialists statewide  
<http://mapcb.wordpress.com/cprs/>

Massachusetts  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
583 peer specialists statewide  
[transformation-center.org/home/training/certified-peer-specialists/](http://transformation-center.org/home/training/certified-peer-specialists/)

Michigan  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
1532 peer specialists statewide  
[www.mpsupeers.org](http://www.mpsupeers.org)

#### Minnesota

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
2 peer specialists statewide  
[www.mentalhealthmn.org/](http://www.mentalhealthmn.org/)  
[www.riinternational.com/](http://www.riinternational.com/)

#### Mississippi

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
143 peer specialists statewide  
[www.dmh.ms.gov/peer-support-services/](http://www.dmh.ms.gov/peer-support-services/)

#### Missouri

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
326 peer specialists statewide  
[www.peerspecialist.org/PeerSpecialist1.0/](http://www.peerspecialist.org/PeerSpecialist1.0/)

#### Montana

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.mtpeernetwork.org](http://www.mtpeernetwork.org)

#### Nebraska

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
320 peer specialists statewide  
[www.dhhs.ne.gov/behavioral\\_health/Pages/DBHOCAPeer.aspx](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/behavioral_health/Pages/DBHOCAPeer.aspx)

#### Nevada

Certification under development  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.NVPPS.com](http://www.NVPPS.com)

#### New Hampshire

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bbh/peer.htm](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bbh/peer.htm)

#### New Jersey

Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
134 peer specialists statewide  
[www.certbd.org/](http://www.certbd.org/)  
[www.mhanj.org/consumer-connections-2/](http://www.mhanj.org/consumer-connections-2/)

New Mexico  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
362 peer specialists statewide  
Web site unknown

New York  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
300 peer specialists statewide  
[www.nypeerspecialist.org/](http://www.nypeerspecialist.org/)

North Carolina  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
1834 peer specialists statewide  
<https://pss.unc.edu/>

North Dakota  
Certification program exists  
Peer support not Medicaid-reimbursable  
16 peer specialists statewide  
Web site unknown

Ohio  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.mha.ohio.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=712](http://www.mha.ohio.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=712)

Oklahoma  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
400 peer specialists statewide  
[www.ok.gov/odmhsas/Mental\\_Health/Certified\\_Peer\\_Recovery\\_Support\\_Specialist/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/odmhsas/Mental_Health/Certified_Peer_Recovery_Support_Specialist/index.html)

Oregon  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
515 peer specialists statewide  
[www.mhaoforegon.org](http://www.mhaoforegon.org)

Pennsylvania  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
4389 peer specialists statewide  
[www.papsc.org](http://www.papsc.org)

Rhode Island  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
89 peer specialists statewide  
[www.ricertboard.org/](http://www.ricertboard.org/)

South Carolina  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
1000 peer specialists statewide  
[www.scsshare.com](http://www.scsshare.com)

South Dakota  
No certification  
Peer support not Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
No web site

Tennessee  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
557 peer specialists statewide  
[www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/topic/certified-peer-recovery-specialist-program](http://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/topic/certified-peer-recovery-specialist-program)

Texas  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
750 peer specialists statewide  
[www.viahope.org/programs/peer-specialist-training-and-certification/](http://www.viahope.org/programs/peer-specialist-training-and-certification/)

Utah  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
346 peer specialists statewide  
<https://dsamh.utah.gov/certified-peer-support-specialist-information-page/>

Vermont  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.wvcvt.org](http://www.wvcvt.org)

Virginia  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
464 peer specialists statewide  
<https://www.vacertboard.org/certifications>

Washington  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
2,500 peer specialists statewide  
Web site unknown

West Virginia  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
Number of peer specialists unknown  
[www.dhhr.wv.gov/bhhf/Sections/programs/ConsumerAffairsCommunityOutreach/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/bhhf/Sections/programs/ConsumerAffairsCommunityOutreach/Pages/default.aspx)

Wisconsin  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
428 peer specialists statewide  
[www.wicps.org](http://www.wicps.org); [www.sce-peerspecialist.uwm.edu](http://www.sce-peerspecialist.uwm.edu)

Wyoming  
Certification program exists  
Peer support Medicaid-reimbursable  
56 peer specialists statewide  
[www.health.wyo.gov/behavioralhealth/mhsa/initiatives/peer-specialists/](http://www.health.wyo.gov/behavioralhealth/mhsa/initiatives/peer-specialists/)

Data sources:

Doors to Wellbeing: National Consumer Technical Assistance Center (2016). Peer Specialists Database.  
Retrieved from: <https://copelandcenter.com/peer-specialists>

Kaufman, L., Kuhn, W., & Stevens Manser, S. (2016). Peer Specialist Training and Certification Programs: A National Overview. Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health, School of Social Work, University of Texas at Austin. Visit the Institute's web site here: <http://sites.utexas.edu/mental-health-institute/>

Wolf, J. & Jones, N. (2016). State Peer Specialist Certifying Entity Survey. Unpublished raw data.

[Click here](#) to listen to a podcast on national peer support training and certification programs.

[Click here](#) to download the podcast transcript.