



Peer Specialists Certification Program

Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health

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Peer Certification in 2022

- [SB 803 bill](#) requires DHCS, by July 1, 2022, to establish statewide certification requirements for Peer support specialists.
- Creates opportunity for an additional pathway for Medi-Cal reimbursement for Peer support services
- Adds Certified Peer Support Specialist as a **Medi-Cal Billable Provider**
- Adds Peer Support Services as a **Medi-Cal Billable Service**



BHIN-21-041 Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Program Implementation

- Enacted January 1, 2021
- Peer Certification Specialist Program to start July 2022
- Peer Certification standards set in BHIN 21-041
- Future guidance will be provided on the implementation of the Peer Support Services Medi-Cal benefit.



BHIN-21-041 – Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Program Implementation

- [BHIN 21-041](#) addresses:
 - Completing 80 hours of training curriculum for initial certification
 - Passing certification exam
 - Completing 20 hours of continuing education every 2 years
 - Opportunities to serve as Peer Supervisor (if person has at least 2+ years experience)
 - Grandparenting process- if employed as Peer specialist prior to 2022
 - Minimum qualifications for Peers



CalMHSA

- [California Mental Health Services Authority \(CalMHSA\)](#) is the entity representing all CA counties for development and implementation of a state approved Peer Support Certification Program
- CalMHSA has submitted the Peer Certification plans to DHCS on November 19, 2021



CaMHSA Advisory Council

- Opportunity for agencies to join meetings and comment at the end. Schedule for meetings below and on [website](#):

Upcoming Meeting Dates	Time	Webinar Links	Agendas
Friday, January 14, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA
Friday, January 28, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA
Friday, February 11, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA
Friday, February 25, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA
Friday, March 11, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA
Friday, March 25, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA
Friday, April 8, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA
Friday, April 22, 2022	1:00-4:00PM	Zoom	TBA



Current Use of Peer Specialists

- SAPC is interested in understanding if/how Peers are being utilized in YOUR network now
- SAPC will disseminate a survey via email
- Your responses will help inform program & policy development
- Opportunity for your agency to be involved in offering feedback

Resources



<https://www.calmhsa.org/peer-certification/>

- Additional information on Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification
- List of LA County Medi-Cal Peer Certification Stakeholder Advisory Council Members & Meeting Dates
- Ability to provide [feedback](#) to LA County Stakeholder Advisory Council members
- Questions or comments can also be sent to:
PeerCertification@calmhsa.org



THANK YOU

For more information, contact SAPC at:
SAPC_ASOC@ph.lacounty.gov

