

## Peer support training and trainer requirements

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This document is to serve as a guide for the mentee to trainer pathway as well as the requirements per the curriculum in reference to trainer/mentee qualifications for certified peer trainings in Washington State.

### Definitions

- **DBHR:** Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery. A division of the Washington Health Care Authority which oversees peer programs, training, continued education, certifications, and qualifications.
- **GAP training:** An additional curriculum training that current certified peer counselors must complete to be credentialed as a certified peer specialist to meet the 80-hour requirement set by Senate Bill 5555. This training will be available on the Talent LMS site as an online learning platform and followed by a six-hour live training offered virtually to practice skills from new content.
- **Train the Trainer (TtT):** A training specifically designed for DBHR approved trainers and mentees to maintain year approval to continue training DBHR peer curriculums.
- **Crisis Awareness and Communication in Peer Support (CACPS):** Legislatively mandated crisis training for certified peers billing crisis services.
- **Supervisor curriculum:** A two-day training for supervisors of peer trainees or peers on the supervisor track.
- **80-hour enhanced curriculum:** A legislative mandate put into law in 2023, to enhance the current 40-hour certified peer counselor curriculum to 80 hours to meet the standards of the new certified peer specialist credential.
- **Mentee:** A certified peer who is in training with a DBHR approved mentor, to become a DBHR approved peer trainer.
- **DBHR approved peer training mentor:** A DBHR approved trainer who has completed at least 10 trainings or two years of consistent peer training (i.e. at least six trainings per year for two years) and has been approved through DBHR.

### To become a DBHR approved trainer mentee:

- Must be a certified peer counselor/specialist.
- Must take the standard curriculum Train the Trainer.
- Must have a DBHR approved peer training mentor.
- Must have at least one year of direct service experience in peer support.
- Must complete all requirements outlined in the [certified peer counselor trainer mentor handbook](#) (page 9 and page 32)

### To become a DBHR approved trainer:

1. Complete the following forms from the [trainer mentor handbook](#) and [email them to HCA's Peer Support Program Administrator](#):
  - a. Trainer registry form (pages 14-15)
  - b. Trainee notification form (pages 16-17)
  - c. Mentor/trainee planning worksheet (pages 20-21)
  - d. Mentor/trainee values assessment (page 22)
  - e. Mentor/trainee responsibilities and competencies checklist (pages 23-27)
  - f. Mentor/trainee modules assessment (page 28)
2. Complete and train at least four live trainings (two modules per training), compile a list of dates of trainings, and [email them to HCA's Peer Support Program Administrator](#).
3. Final training audited by HCA's Peer Support Program Administrator and/or peer program staff.
4. Mentor/trainee training completion form (pages 18-19) [emailed to HCA's Peer Support Program Administrator](#).

## Trainer requirements for curriculums

All GAP training requirements must be completed within 60 days of GAP launch date.

### 80-Hour CPS curriculum

- Must be a DBHR approved trainer or mentee
- Main peer curriculum Train the Trainer (TtT) (yearly)

If you are already a DBHR approved trainer, your requirement to train the 80-hour curriculum is to complete the GAP training and take your yearly Train the Trainer. **You do not have to take the full 80-hour training.**

### Crisis curriculum (CACPS)

- Must be a DBHR approved trainer or mentee
- Main peer curriculum Train the Trainer (TtT) (yearly)
- Must complete GAP Training
- Must take the 40-hour training
- Must take the CACPS-specific Train the Trainer

### Supervisor curriculum

- Must take the two-day supervisor training
- Must take the one-day Train the Trainer
- Must be/have been a supervisor of peers
- Must complete GAP training
- If you are **not** a DBHR approved trainer, you can train this curriculum after mentorship and must be a CPC or CPS. (You must complete all other requirements to be a trainer of other curriculums.)