



# CALIFORNIA PEER SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Peer Certification Program is built on the foundation of one of the oldest and best Peer Trainings in California. Our training prepares those who identify as peers for roles in the public mental health system as employees or volunteers able to support individuals on their road to recovery through intentional and skillful use of lived experience.

California Association of Peer Supporters Academy (CAPS) is a CalMHSA approved vendor under the lead agency of Mental Health Association of San Francisco (MHA-SF). CAPS Academy is a statewide partnership of three agencies that have decades of experience training peers to enter the workforce. The partner agencies are MHA-SF, PRPSN, and MHA-CA

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Those who identify as a Peer in recovery who are age 18 or older and who have personal lived experience with a mental illness, addiction, justice involvement and/or a close family member with lived experience.

Training participants must commit to attending and actively participating in 96 hours of training.

Training participants must have the technical capability and make a commitment to participate on camera during Zoom virtual classroom sessions.

Training participants must have the Heart and Passion to assist others on their journey of recovery.

## APPLICATION INFORMATION:

To Apply Online, go to:

<https://form.jotform.com/221397625685164>

**John Travers, Project Director**  
E-Mail: [jtravers@prpsn.org](mailto:jtravers@prpsn.org)

**Kerry Leonard, Director of Training Institute**  
E-Mail: [kleonard@prpsn.org](mailto:kleonard@prpsn.org)

## PROGRAM DETAILS:

→ 96 hours of Zoom virtual classroom instruction

→ Subject Matter Expert Instructors

→ The Student Experience:

- Study groups
- Support meetings with Instructors
- Employment preparedness
- Peer Support Partner Pairs

→ Daytime and evening trainings to accommodate your schedule.

→ Faculty Office Hours

## TRAINING TOPICS INCLUDE:

- The Concepts of Hope, Recovery & Wellness
- Confidentiality
- Conflict Resolution
- Co-Occurring Disorders
- Crisis & Safety Planning
- Cultural & Structural Competence
- Digital Literacy
- Documentation
- Effective Peer Support
- Group Facilitation Skills
- Mental Health First Aid
- Motivational Interviewing
- System Navigation & Referrals
- Psychiatric Rehabilitation
- QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer)
- The Role of Advocacy
- The Role of Consumers & Family Members
- Self-Disclosure in the Workplace
- Self-Care & Self-Awareness
- Trauma Informed Care
- Welcoming: The Great Equalizer
- WRAP

To learn more about the CA Peer Certification process go to: [capeercertification.org](http://capeercertification.org)



**PROJECT RETURN  
PEER SUPPORT NETWORK**  
Taking charge together!

