Online, On-Demand, Self-Directed
Training and Testing

The Academy of Peer Services (APS) is an online, on-demand, self-directed training and testing website offering a wide range of interactive multimedia courses for those seeking certification as peer specialists. Courses on the supervision of peer specialists are also available.

APS is a collaboration between Rutgers University, The New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS), and community partners. It is funded through the New York State Office of Mental Health (NYSOMH). While designed for the certification of peer specialists, anyone with an interest in learning more about peer support is welcome to take courses. Enrollment is free and open to all.

Peer Advisory Council and Team Leadership

The Academy of Peer Services has a strong Advisory Council of nationally recognized leaders in the delivery and supervision of peer services. The Council meets quarterly.

For the current list of team members, subject matter experts, instructional designers, technical specialists, and members of our advisory council, visit the About Us page on our website:

https://aps-community.org/about

Certification for the Peer Support Workforce

After completing the core courses in the Academy of Peer Services (see reverse side), those seeking certification can apply through the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board.

Specific requirements must be met for full certification. For more, visit:

http://nypeerspecialist.org

Virtual Learning Community (VLC)

The Virtual Learning Community is a project of the Academy of Peer Services that offers “live” presentations on topics of interest to the peer workforce, a job bank, calendar for events and virtual meetings, training opportunities, online discussion and support groups, and more.

To learn more about the Virtual Learning Community, visit:

https://aps-community.org
Elective Courses (online)

- An Overview of Peer Wellness Coaching
- Community Organizing
- Cultural Competency for Peer Providers
- Development of Community Assets
- Ethics and Peer Support: Navigating Complex Relationships
- Harm Reduction
- Historical Roots of the Community Mental Health System
- Housing Related Peer Support Service
- Individual Placement and Support (IPS)
- Model of Supported Employment
- Insurance Parity
- Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment (IDDT)
- Motivational Interviewing
- Moving Beyond Disability
- Peer Leadership
- Peer Support in Criminal Justice Settings
- Person-Centered Intake and Assessment
- Psychiatric Advance Directives
- Recovery Centers in New York State
- Recovery through Psychiatric Rehabilitation Principles
- Self Care for Peer Providers
- Social Security Entitlements
- Stigma and Self-Disclosure
- Suicide: A Peer to Peer Conversation
- Supervision: For Peer Support Providers
- Supported Employment Specialist Core Competencies
- Supporting Veteran and their Families
- Whole Family Health and Well-Being

Core Courses (online)

- Action Planning for Prevention and Recovery
- Creating Person-Centered Service Plans
- Documentation for Peer Support Services
- Essential Communication Skills (Active Listening and Reflective Responding)
- Human and Patient Rights in New York
- Introduction to Person-Centered Principles
- Olmstead: The Continued Mandate of Deinstitutionalization
- Peer-Delivered Service Models
- The Goal is Recovery
- The Historical Roots of the Peer Movement
- The Importance of Advocacy & Advocacy Organizations
- Trauma-Informed Peer Support

**Prerequisite: The Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

Enrollment is free.

To view the Academy website or course catalog visit: [http://www.academyofpeerservices.org](http://www.academyofpeerservices.org)

For the Virtual Learning Community visit: [http://aps-community.org](http://aps-community.org)

or email: academy.virtual.community@gmail.com

Additional Courses in the Supervision of Peer Specialists are available