OhioMHAS Peer Recovery Supporter Certification Process

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OhioMHAS formally began certifying Peer Recovery Supporters July 1, 2016. Peer Recovery Supporters in an all-inclusive term consisting of peer specialists, recovery coaches, and peer supporters. In order to have a formal certification, individuals delivering peer services needed to have one title for consistency. Peer Recovery Supporter was chosen as it represents the three largest sections of the current peer workforce.
What IS the OhiOMHAS Peer Recovery Supporter Certification?

- The OhioMHAS certification provides a formal professional certification to qualified individuals with a lived experience.
Who IS Eligible To Apply?

- Individuals eligible to apply to be a Certified Peer Recovery Supporter include: Individuals with a direct lived experience of a mental health and/or substance use disorder who are in recovery
- In Ohio, the definition of recovery is: The personal process of change in which Ohio residents strive to improve their health and wellness, resiliency, and reach their full potential through self-directed actions.
Two Pathways to Certification

• Two pathways to certification:
  • Those who have completed an approved 40 hour in-person peer training OR
  • Those who have 3 years work/volunteer experience as a peer specialist, recovery coach, peer supporter, or peer navigator.
Regardless of Pathway, Everyone Must:

- Complete the 16 hours of E-Based Academy Courses
- Pass the Ohio Peer Supporter Exam
- Submit a recent BCI (within 30 days of application submission)
So... What is the Application Process?

- Make a certification packet containing:
  - Completed Application for Ohio Peer Recovery Supporter Certification
  - Signed Ohio Peer Recovery Supporter Code of Ethics
  - Copy of a certification of completion for a 40 hour in-person peer training OR Human Resource Office contact information for previous work or volunteer experience as a peer supporter, recovery coach, peer specialist, or peer navigator
  - Copies of certificates of completion for 16 hours of the approved E-Based Academy Courses
  - A BCI dated within 30 days of signing this application
  - If you have a conviction on your BCI that has occurred within the last 3 years, please also complete and include the Peer Recovery Supporter Certification Disqualifying Offence Waiver.
4. Mail or scan, fax, or e-mail your certification packet containing the below information to:
   The P.E.E.R. Center
   C/O Lisa Kiner
   750 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43205
   lkiner@thepeercenter.org or fax to 614-453-4845.

Once The P.E.E.R. Center has ensured your application packet is complete, their designated staff person will bring your application to OhioMHAS where it will be reviewed for approval. If The P.E.E.R. Center determines that your application is not complete, they will return it to you for correction.

Forms can be found at: http://mha.ohio.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=851
Questions