



Six Steps to CRPA

Certified Recovery Peer Advocate—The Medicaid-billable Peer Recovery Certification in New York State

1. Scholarships

Please note that a very limited number of training, certification and exam fee scholarships are available - see <https://for-ny.org/crpa-scholarships/> (March 2020).

2. Training:

A total of 46 hours NYCB-approved training is required, typically delivered as two courses - the CCAR Recovery Coach Academy (30 hours) and Peer Ethics (16 hours), or as a single custom-designed curriculum. Enroll with any of the trainings listed on the FOR-NY upcoming trainings webpage - <https://for-ny.org/upcoming-trainings/> (listings are regularly updated).

Alternatively, this coursework may be completed direct with the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery - see, <https://ccar.us/>.

Trainers will issue training certificates on completion of this coursework; these training certificates are required documentation for professional certification applications, as is a High School Diploma.

3. CRPA-Provisional:

Upon completion of training, candidates are eligible to apply for CRPA-Provisional, providing they meet the other requirements for professional certification. The primary value of CRPA-Provisional is that holders of any CRPA-certification are eligible for employment in Medicaid-reimbursable jobs.

Effective April 1, candidates for CRPA-Provisional will not need to be working in the role at time of application to be eligible for this professional certification. Candidates must, however, meet the experiential and educational requirements of the role.

CRPA-Provisional is NOT required to build the 500 hours experience in the peer recovery role.

Please note that CRPA-Provisional expires after 24 months (plus any temporary extension awarded on the basis of the present emergency). The certification is non-renewable. If applying for CRPA-Provisional, please be confident that you will be able to complete 500 hours role experience, plus pass the associated competency-based exam, within this non-negotiable timeframe.

4. CRPA:

Candidates with 500 hours past/present experience of performing in the peer role - that is, in a job, internship, voluntary, full/part time, paid/unpaid in an agency or community-based program (does not have to be OASAS-licensed), or a mix - may bypass CRPA-Provisional and apply direct for full CRPA.

Only non-clinical peer role work experience qualifies for CRPA, that is, one-on-one conversations supporting individuals building recovery capital. Treatment experience or mutual aid sponsorship hours do not count.

Pending restoration of the IC&RC Peer Recovery Exam, NYCB cannot award full CRPA to new candidates at this time. If you need to be immediately Medicaid-reimbursable, please apply for CRPA-Provisional.

5. Professional Certification:

Download, complete and submit the relevant application form at - <http://www.asapnys.org/ny-certification-board/nycb-certifications/>. Expect 4-6 weeks to process professional certification applications, including confirmation of information supplied. The New York Certification Board, meeting in quorum, approves qualified applicants. Current status as an NYCB certificant is verifiable on the ASAP-NYCB website.

Certification confirms role competence. For details of CRPA competencies, please see the *Knowledge, Skills & Abilities* inventory posted at <http://www.asapnys.org/ny-certification-board/certified-recovery-peer-advocate-crpa/>. Certification is not a license (not required for peer recovery), nor a character reference.

5. Ethical Conduct:

Please note that adherence to the NYCB Code of Ethical Conduct is required for certification - see download at <http://www.asapnys.org/ny-certification-board/>. Candidates are covered by this code from date of application for professional certification. Ethical complaints are taken very seriously and, depending on the severity of the breach of ethics, may result in permanent suspension of certification and loss of career. This professional compliance is separate from an employer's policies and procedures, and any applicable law.



For further information, please contact
Ruth Riddick, ASAP Community Outreach | rriddick@asapnys.org