



## Six Steps to CRPA

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

### 1. Scholarships

Please note that training, certification and exam fee scholarships are no longer available (December 2019).

### 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 2020 calendar at <https://addictionrecoverytraining.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2020-Training-Schedule.pdf>.

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. Role Experience and Work:

Upon completion of training, candidates are now "CRPA-Provisional eligible," meaning eligible to apply for certification as soon as they are employed in the non-clinical peer role. Only non-clinical peer role work experience qualifies, that is, one-on-one conversations supporting individuals building recovery capital.

Candidates cannot be CRPA-Provisional approved unless/until they are working in the peer role. However, as a job search aid, the New York Certification Board at ASAP will, upon request, issue a one-time candidate status confirmation letter for presentation to a prospective employer guaranteeing that applicant will be Medicaid-reimbursable from commencement of employment. (Submission of the work verification form from the certification application will also be required.) Request for this letter must be accompanied by a CRPA-Provisional application form. The letter itself is non-renewable and expires after 90 days.

The value to the employer of CRPA-Provisional is that, in common with all CRPA credentials, candidate services become Medicaid-billable by the agency (individuals do not bill Medicaid).

Candidates with 500 hours past/present experience of performing in the peer role - that is, 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 - bypass CRPA-Provisional and apply direct for full CRPA.

Treatment experience or mutual aid sponsorship hours do not count.

### 4. 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.

### 6. CRPA Upgrade:

Please note that, within 24 months, candidates must complete 500 hours peer role experience and upgrade to full CRPA (which includes passing the Peer Recovery exam) - see details and instructions at <http://www.asapnys.org/ny-certification-board/crpa-upgrade/>. CRPA-P is non-renewable, and failure to meet this undertaking will result in loss of certification and, with it, the employer's ability to bill Medicaid.



For further information, please contact  
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