



Vaya Health North Carolina Peer Support Specialist Training Program Application

About this Training

Vaya Health's North Carolina Peer Support Specialist training is a 40-hour program scheduled on five days. A brief graduation ceremony will be held on the afternoon of the final training day. Our current training curriculum meets the criteria set forth by the state of North Carolina.

To receive a completion of training certificate, students must be present and participate on ALL of the scheduled days and hours. If you are unable to attend all hours, please do not apply at this time. Students who do not complete all 40 hours will not earn the certificate of completion, which is required for NC Peer Support Specialist Certification. If you miss three hours or less, you must arrange with the course owner to make up the information/assignments covered during the missed time. If you miss more than three hours course time, you will be asked to retake the training in the future and will need to reapply and pay for the future class.

This training involves lectures and group activities. The group activities require respect and support. The trainers will utilize class participation, involvement in group activities, as well as general attendance to assess readiness to deliver peer support services in a professional setting. In addition to providing education to participants, there will be skill-building through role plays, take-home activities, and sharing of personal recovery experiences related to overcoming mental health and/or addiction challenges.

While we anticipate that there will be employment opportunities throughout the state for certified peer specialists in the coming years, and this course will provide you with the North Carolina state-required training for those positions, completing this course provides NO guarantee of employment. You are responsible for applying for available positions and utilizing the necessary community supports for job-seeking skills you may need.

- * You are required to have a minimum of **nine (9) months** of demonstrated, sustained recovery to be eligible for this training.
- * To become a North Carolina Certified Peer Support Specialist, you must have a minimum of **one (1) year** of demonstrated, sustained recovery. Completing this approved 40-hour course does not entitle the training participant to the CPSS certification unless they have the required lived experience of a mental health and/or substance use disorder as well as all other criteria required by the NCCPSS certification program (pss.unc.edu).

Your Application

Date of this application:

For which PSS class are you applying? Date: Location:

Classes fill quickly and there is often a waiting list. Are you open to attending classes in other locations?

Your first and last name:

Your mailing address:

Your county of residence:

Your email address:

**If you do not have an email address, we strongly recommend obtaining one as we will communicate heavily before, during and after training via email.*

Your telephone number:

Your date of birth:

Name and phone number for emergency contact:

In what counties are you interested in working as a Peer Support Specialist?:

Your answers to the following questions will help the review committee choose between multiple applicants, so please fully answer all questions. You may attach additional sheets as necessary.

1. How did you hear about this training?

2. Can you identify yourself as a person who has received or is receiving services for mental health and or a substance use disorder? *Note: Having received professional services is not a requirement. Please explain:

3. Are you willing to openly share your lived experience with others? Yes No

4. Have you completed the WRAP® (Wellness Recovery Action Plan®) class or correspondence course? Yes No Do you have a WRAP®? Yes No

5. Are you self-described as being in “recovery”? Yes No

If so, how long have you been in recovery?

6. Describe what has been helpful in your recovery. What tools do you use in your daily life?

7. What does recovery mean to you? What factors are important in your own recovery?

13. This training is an intensive course built on interaction and sharing of behavioral health experiences. What will be your greatest challenge in attending the training and how will you address this challenge?

Important notices:

- Please email PSStraining@vayahealth.com or call 1-800-893-6246, ext. 3357 with questions or requests.
- Classes with only one approved 40-hour course trainer must be limited to a maximum of 15 participants. If a class size is more than 15 participants, the NCCPSS program requires the owners of approved 40-hour courses to have two certified 40-hour course trainers. If less than five people are present on the first day of class, class will be cancelled.
- If a class must be cancelled, Vaya will contact training participants by phone or verified email contact within 48 hours of the cancellation decision.
- Refunds: The fee charged to applicants who are enrolled in this course covers the cost of materials. If you do not attend or the course in which you are enrolled is cancelled, you may request to apply the fee to a future date for this course or request a refund in writing. If you attend any portion of the course or do not communicate your cancellation prior to the start date, you will not be eligible for a refund. If you receive the course participant manual, the manual must be returned to Vaya Health, 200 Ridgefield Court, Asheville, NC 28806 before an eligible refund is issued.
- ADA accommodations: Vaya will provide any and all reasonable accommodations (under the ADA) within our ability and will assist prospective students in acquiring other accommodations as needed to complete the course application process or participate in the course. Request these accommodations by email to PSStraining@vayahealth.com or calling 1-800-893-6246, ext. 3357.
- Vaya follows a “no wrong door” approach for submitting grievances or complaints. You can file a grievance or complaint in any of the following ways:
 - **BY PHONE:**
 - Member Services: 1-800-849-6127
 - Grievance Resolution and Incident Team: 828-225-2785, ext. 1600
 - 24/7 Compliance Hotline: 1-866-916-4255 (allows anonymous reporting)
 - **BY MAIL:** Vaya Health, Attn: Grievance Resolution and Incident Team, 200 Ridgefield Court, Asheville, NC 28806
 - **BY EMAIL:** ResolutionTeam@vayahealth.com
 - **ONLINE:** www.vayahealth.ethicspoint.com (Allows for anonymous reporting)
 - **NCCPSS Program:** (Phone: 919-843-3018 or Email: pssregistry@unc.edu)

By signing below, I certify that I understand the above information and, if selected, plan to be present and actively participate in the Vaya Health's Peer Support Specialist Training Program. I understand that I must have lived experience of a mental health and/or substance use disorder to receive the North Carolina's Certified Peer Support Specialist Certification for which this course is a pre-requisite.

Further, I give permission for the trainer to contact my references to verify the information provided.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Thank you for your application. Program participants will be selected based upon qualifications and availability. Two reference letters are required (see attached letter form). Please note your relationship to the person providing the reference. The letters may be submitted by former or present employers, teachers, volunteer supervisors, clergy, or staff who have provided your services, treatment or who may testify to your qualifications.



Your application **MUST** be submitted in its entirety, including both reference letters and with all questions answered completely to be considered for this class.

Please mail your completed application and references to:

Vaya Health
Attention: Peer Support Training
825 Wilkesboro Blvd. SE
Lenoir, NC 28645
PSSTraining@vayahealth.com

There is a \$30 fee for this training to cover the cost of our materials. Please do not send payment with your application. Upon selection, you will be asked to send payment.