



Like Helping Others? Consider Becoming a **PRSS**



WHAT is a PRSS?

The Certified **Peer Recovery Support Specialist** fulfills a unique role in the support and recovery from mental illness and substance use disorders. A PRSS is a person in recovery from a mental illness and/or substance use disorder, who has been trained to work with others on his/her individual road to recovery. This training incorporates the PRSS's recovery experience as a means of inspiring hope in those they serve, as well as providing a positive role model to others. A PRSS works in collaboration with the people we serve as well as clinical staff in the best interests of the individual's recovery process. There are many positive roles that a PRSS can fulfill in an organization based on their individual skills, experience, education, and desires. Peer Recovery Support Specialists offer the advantage of lived experience from mental illness and/or substance use. They know the journey to recovery is real and attainable because they have traveled the path.

Minimum Qualifications

- ✓ Have demonstrated recovery from a mental illness, substance use disorder or both.
- ✓ Be willing to self-disclose about their own recovery.
- ✓ Pass an examination and successfully share your recovery story based on standards promulgated by ODMHSAS after completing the training.
- ✓ Agree to respect and observe the PRSS Code of Ethics which must be signed and mailed with their Application Inventory Form to ODMHSAS before being assigned to a training.
- ✓ Be employed (within 6 months of certification) by or volunteer with the state, a behavioral service provider or an advocacy agency contracting with the state to provide behavioral health services.
- ✓ Be at least 18 years of age.

FACTS

- ✓ Working as a PRSS can be a career, a "foot in the door" to other behavioral health careers, and a supplement to certifications or licensures to those already working in the field.
- ✓ Salary Ranges from approximately \$25,000 to \$40,000. (ODMHSAS offers a PRSS Career Ladder)
- ✓ Working as a PRSS can provide a great job outlook and career path.
- ✓ A variety of Continuing Education opportunities free to Certified PRSS offered by ODMHSAS monthly.
- ✓ Peer Support is a Medicaid compensable service by those certified as a PRSS by ODMHSAS and working for a qualified provider.



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