

SUMMARY OF MAPCB CERTIFIED PEER RECOVERY SPECIALIST CREDENTIAL

The Maryland Addictions Professional Certification Board (MAPCB) is the Maryland member of the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) which establishes standards and facilitates reciprocity for the credentialing of addiction-related professionals. IC&RC represents 76 member boards, including 24 countries, 47 U.S. states and territories, all branches of the U.S. military, and five Native American territories.

The IC&RC is in the process of developing a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS) credential. The Job Task Analysis for the credential has been completed **and is included in the Maryland Peer Certification Manual** document created by MAPCB with input from ADAA, MHA and the BRSS TACS Policy Academy members. The IC&RC has begun developing a fully referenced examination, with On Our Own MD's Elaine Carroll offering input as Maryland's Subject Matter Expert at the exam development meeting in June 2013.

MAPCB was selected for the following reasons:

1. MAPCB is the designated entity representing the IC&RC in Maryland.
2. The IC&RC credential offers reciprocity, meaning that certification is valid in other states and countries that have the credential.
3. MAPCB has recently developed a co-occurring credential for professionals, and started the development of this peer credential last year.
4. There is no mental health peer specialist certification board.

MHA and ADAA have been collaborating on this combined certification so that peers in both Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder areas will be able to apply for the same credential, using their specific areas of lived experience, training and work experience.

The international standards have been set as indicated below.

To be eligible for reciprocity to other IC&RC jurisdictions, credentials obtained through Member Boards, like MAPCB, must meet the following IC&RC minimum standards:

The Four CPRS (Certified Peer Recovery Specialist) Performance Domains are

- Advocacy
- Mentoring/Education
- Recovery/Wellness Support and
- Ethical Responsibility

Experience

500 hours of volunteer or paid work experience specific to the domains.

Education

High school diploma or jurisdictionally certified high school equivalency AND **46** hours training specific to the domains, with 10 hours each in the domains of Advocacy, Mentoring/Education, and Recovery/Wellness Support and 16 hours in the domain of Ethical Responsibility.

Supervision

25 hours of supervision specific to the domains. Supervision must be provided by an organization's

documented and qualified supervisory staff per job description and must have two (2) years' experience supervising peer recovery specialists in the behavioral health and/or recovery and crisis support field. This experience requirement will be waived until December 31, 2015. A supervisor must also have received 6 hours of peer recovery support-specific supervisor's training.

Examination

Applicants must pass the IC&RC International Written Peer Recovery Examination. Those who grandfather in during 2014 do not have to take the exam.

Code of Ethics

The applicant must sign a Peer Recovery Specialist Code of Ethics statement or an affirmation that the applicant has read and will abide by the code of ethics.

Recertification

20 hours of continuing education earned **every two years**, including six hours in ethics. IC&RC credentials can only be obtained by meeting the requirements of the local Member Board, i.e. MAPCB, where you live or work at least 51 percent of the time.

You may want to visit the MAPCB and IC&RC websites at www.mapcb.com and <http://internationalcredentialing.org/> respectively.

Information regarding the application process for the Certified Peer Recovery Specialist will be available for distribution and posted on the ADA and MHA websites after the certificate has been approved by the IC&RC in October. **A letter of instruction will go out to directors and peers Nov, 1st and grandfathering will begin March 1, 2014.**

Peers that have obtained WRAP® FACILITATOR TRAINING and/or CCAR'S RECOVERY COACH ACADEMY training will be in the best position to get certification, as each will provide a number of CEU's required towards certification. More detail on how many CEU's in each domain those trainings provide will be included in the November 1st letter of instruction.

In addition, a series of special trainings will be presented by Maryland covering the four domains prior to the start of the grandfathering period. If you meet the other criteria for education, supervision and work experience, but require additional training, we encourage you to sign up for the first round of these trainings. Information on training will be posted on the ADA/MHA websites. The first in the series for Peer Recovery Specialists will be Recovery Planning, and will be held in August, and October. The first training for supervisors is scheduled to begin in October, 2013.