

# Certified Peer Recovery Specialist Supervision Requirements

(Taken from the Certified Peer Recovery Specialist Official Handbook located here:  
<http://tn.gov/mental/recovery/PeerSupSpecCert/CertificationHandbookApril12.pdf>)

Certified Peer Recovery Specialists, either employed or volunteer, must be under the general supervision of a mental health professional or qualified alcohol and drug abuse treatment professional in accordance with acceptable guidelines and standards of practice as defined by the State and as defined in the TDMHSAS Licensure rules, Chapter 0940-05-01, as follows:

“Mental Health Professional” means a board eligible or a board certified psychiatrist or a person with at least a Master's degree and/or clinical training in an accepted mental health field which includes, but is not limited to, counseling, nursing, occupational therapy, psychology, social work, vocational rehabilitation, or activity therapy.

“Qualified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Personnel” means persons who meet the criteria described in subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) as follows:

(a) Currently meet one (1) of the following conditions:

1. Licensed or certified by the State of Tennessee as a physician, registered nurse, practical nurse, psychologist, psychological examiner, social worker, substance abuse counselor, teacher, professional counselor, associate counselor or marital and family therapist, or if there is no applicable licensure or certification by the State, has a bachelor's degree or above in a behavioral science or human development related area; or
2. Actively engaged in a recognized course of study or other formal process for meeting criteria of part (1) of subparagraph (a) above, and directly supervised by a staff person who meets criteria in part (1) of subparagraph (a) above, who is trained and qualified as described in subparagraph (b) and (c) below, and who has a minimum of two (2) years' experience in his/her area of practice; and

(b) Are qualified by education and/or experience for the specific duties of their position; and

(c) Are trained in alcohol, tobacco and/or other drug abuse specific information or skills. (Examples of types of training include, but are not limited to, alcohol or other drug abuse specific in-services, workshops, substance abuse schools, academic coursework and internships, field placement or residences).

The amount, duration and scope of supervision of Certified Peer Recovery Specialists may range from direct oversight to periodic care consultation.