

# What is a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS)?

A CPRS is an individual who uses lived experience in recovery to help others in their recovery journey. CPRSs receive formal training to both facilitate support groups and work one-on-one with individuals who are either seeking or maintaining recovery from serious mental health issues, substance use disorders, or co-occurring behavioral health concerns.

## Roles of the CPRS

1. Mentor
2. Confidant
3. Advocate
4. Resource broker
5. Truth teller
6. Problem solver
7. Role model
8. Friend/ally



# Certified Peer Recovery Specialist Program



**MARYLAND**  
Department of Health

For additional information contact:

**Maryland Department of Health**  
**Behavioral Health Administration**  
**Office of Consumer Affairs**  
**410-804-8447**

[https://bha.health.maryland.gov/  
Pages/Consumer-Affairs.aspx](https://bha.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Consumer-Affairs.aspx)



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## What is Recovery?



“A process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.”

*SAMHSA, 2012*

## Recovery Pathways



Recovery pathways are as unique as the individual who is seeking wellness. As a peer, you are a valuable resource to provide support to others in their own journey through recovery.

## Where are Certified Peer Recovery Specialists Located?

Maryland is developing integrated, recovery-oriented care and encourages using Certified Peer Recovery Specialists (CPRS) in both treatment and community-based settings.

These settings include intensive outpatient (IOP) and outpatient treatment programs, jails and detention centers, hospitals and emergency rooms, wellness and recovery centers, recovery residences, and many other programs dedicated to initiating and maintaining recovery.

For a complete list of locations in the county where you live, please contact your local behavioral health authority. Local contact information may also be found at:

**[marylandbehavioralhealth.org](http://marylandbehavioralhealth.org)**

## How to Become a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist



The credentialing process for those interested in becoming a CPRS is managed by the Maryland Addiction and Behavioral Health Professionals Certification Board (MABPCB).

Information specific to supervision, work or volunteer experience, education and training requirements, and ethical standards of practice can be found on the MABPCB website:

**[mapcb.wordpress.com/CPRS](http://mapcb.wordpress.com/CPRS)**