

# Peer Support Specialist

## INDUSTRY FACTS



### What do peer support specialists do?

Everyone has their vices. Those unhealthy (but generally harmless) habits we develop over time. But left unchecked, those innocuous behaviors can transform into devastating addictions. Peer support specialists generally have experience navigating their own dependencies and mental health issues. They are compassionate, patient, understanding, and possess excellent interpersonal skills.

Here's a breakdown of their responsibilities:

- Evaluating clients' mental and physical health, addiction, or problematic behavior
- Assessing patients' readiness for treatment
- Developing, recommending, and reviewing treatment goals and plans with clients and their families
- Assisting patients in developing skills and behaviors necessary to recover from their addiction
- Working with clients to identify behaviors or situations that interfere with their recovery

### Where do they work?

Peer support specialists work in a variety of environments that range from mental health centers and community centers to prisons and private practices.

### How much do they earn?

There's something about working in a field that is meaningful and pays well—particularly in a world where more and more professionals are looking to make a real difference in the lives of others. According to Glassdoor, the average peer support specialist salary is just above \$34,255 per year.

### How's the job outlook?

As mental and physical health continue to take center stage, experts predict a 23.22% job-growth rate over the next 10 years\*.

"I was very impressed with what CareerStep had to offer. Affordable pricing for a comprehensive program, combined with the support and flexibility I needed. A perfect choice!"

**JESSICA C., CAREERSTEP LEARNER**  
JUNE, 2020

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## PROGRAM DETAILS

### Improve Your Life

When it comes to career training, you'll find a lot of posers out there. Con artists that'll try to impress you with fancy hyperbole. But through all the noise, the distinct sound of success can be heard. Your success. All it takes is a little push. A nudge in the right direction—and your whole life could change. New doors opened. New worlds discovered. New opportunities explored.

### Prepare For A Better Job

Addiction is a tragic illness. An illness that impacts all our lives in one way or another. Are you compassionate? Empathetic? Do you possess excellent interpersonal skills? Then you'll probably find working as a substance abuse counselor to be incredibly rewarding.

### Learn Your Way (From Home)

With online training, you can absorb more knowledge and learn more skills—fast.

- Study on a schedule that fits your life
- Progress at a pace that matches your learning style
- Adjust the time and effort you devote to your coursework each day

### Receive Coaching and Guidance

When you train with CareerStep, we back you every step of the way—from enrollment through course completion.

- Learner support
- Technical support
- Career support (interview coaching and resume reviews)

### Program Outline

Module Name
Program Orientation
Advocacy, Mentoring, and Empowerment
Concepts of Addition Recovery
HIPAA for Mental and Behavioral Health
Program Completion

**TOTAL HOURS = 103**

Didactic, Simulations, and Experiential

\*Job market and salary data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/> [02/21]

†Completion estimates based on Learners studying 10 hours each week, or 2 hours per work day. Clinical hours are not included.