

Peer Recovery Support Services (PRSS) Community of Practice (CoP)

October 24, 2016

Learning Session - A Review & Discussion of CRSW Requirements, CAPRSS Standards for Recovery Coaches and Training Opportunities

Questions & Answers

SUPERVISION/WORK EXPERIENCE QUESTIONS:

Q1. How do/can I get supervised hours?

A1. The supervisor is someone within the agency for whom you are doing the paid or volunteer work. You should talk to the management of the agency about who is qualified to be the supervisor toward your certified recovery support worker (CRSW) credential.

Q2. How much face to face coaching is required? Or is any?

A2. Coaching is not required, however 500 hours of direct services to clients is required.

Q3. Is there a list of examples for what can be included in the 500 hours? Does transporting someone in recovery, helping someone in recovery shop, visiting a school and providing recovery support by being available to talk, and visiting other recovery organizations to find out what others are doing count?

A3. The 500 hours need to involve direct services to participants in recovery as described in ALC 303.02 - <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/documents/proposed-administrative-rules.pdf>

Q4. It is my understanding that the licensed alcohol and drug counselor (LADC) credential is a 60/40 ratio of person to person contact and 'other' (such as treatment plans, insurance, etc). Is the ratio the same for CRSW hours? Less, more, same?

A4. This is not specified in the administrative rules. 500 hours must be direct service to clients.

Q5. What is the correct work history timeline?

A5. The 500 hours of experience must be obtained within the 10 years prior to submitting your application.

Q6. How do I get my hours approved?

A6. Verify that the supervision is occurring, that it is direct service to clients, and the practice location is appropriate within the listed options. Then have your supervisor sign off on the hours performed and complete the required application documents concerning it.

Q7. Who can sign off on the remaining 475 additional hours?

A7. This should be someone in a supervisory role at the worksite/volunteer site where the experience is obtained.

Q8. Where do I find a CRSW to sign off on my hours? If they need to supervise me, how often do we need to meet and should I get my hours signed off at each supervision session? What needs to be recorded?

A8. The supervisor is someone within the agency for whom you are doing the paid or volunteer work. You should talk to the management of the agency about who is qualified to be the supervisor toward your CRSW. The frequency and duration of supervision for the initial application is not outlined. It just needs to be a total of 25 hours.

Q9. Are there guidelines for the supervision aspect so that Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors (LADCs), Master Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors (MLADCs) or CRSWs will know their responsibilities as well as limitations of liability?

A9. ALC 300 Administrative Rules define some supervision requirements for MLADCs and LADCs but does not define requirements for CRSWs. The new 400 Rules may include this information. Limitations of liability might also be included in the 400 rules to be written.

Q10. Can supervision be provided through group supervision?

A10. There are no specifics on how supervision is received – therefore at this point, it can be individual or group.

Q11. Is there a specific amount of time for how long the MLADC needs to be in NH?

A11. There are not any circumstances outlined in the rules that an MLADC needs to be in NH for any particular time period regarding CRSWs.

Q12. Is there compensation for LADCs/MLADCs who do supervision?

A12. LADCs and MLADCs that perform supervision of another are often compensated by the person seeking supervision (or the person receiving supervision's employer).

Q13. Would a State University Counseling Center be an acceptable work site?

A13. Yes, since they are likely an outpatient counseling center.

EDUCATION/TRAINING QUESTIONS:

Q14. What is the education pre-approval process?

A14. Any agency wishing to request pre-approval of their events, should submit an application to the LADC Board prior to 6 weeks before the event is to occur. It will then be reviewed and a letter will be mailed or emailed to you with the result of the review.

Q15. How often does an application need to be submitted to LADC board for pre-approval.

A15. If approved, a repeat of the same event does not need to apply again for another year if same presenter, objectives, and contents.

Q16. What trainings are approved for Suicide Prevention Hours? If Mental First Aid is approved, what must the Mental First Aid Training competencies meet? Please be descriptive.

A16. The rules do not state that Mental Health First Aid is an approved substitute for Suicide Prevention training. People are encouraged to seek suicide prevention training as opposed to mental health first aid.

Q17. Are there any HIV trainings scheduled sooner? Can a training be scheduled in November?

A17. BRSS TACS funding will support three more HIV trainings, by the end of August 2017, NHADACA should have offered a total of five HIV trainings. The Training Institute will look into offering a training as soon as possible.

Q18. How will the BRSS TACS trainings be communicated? Can a CRSW applicant be advised of these?

A18. These trainings will be communicated on the NHADACA website at www.nhadaca.org. Email notices are also sent to everyone on NHADACA's email list. CRSW applicants are encouraged to contact NHADACA to be included on this email notification list.

Q19. Can you address the schedule for Recovery Coach Academy trainings by NHADACA.

A19. NHADACA is not sponsoring any of these trainings at this time. Other organizations do offer these trainings. NHADACA does post many of the RCA trainings occurring in the state on the Professional Development Calendar on their website, if they are informed about these trainings.

Q20. Is it a new rule that you do not need the Recovery Coach Academy (RCA) to be a CRSW?

A20. The RCA was never a requirement. RCA does not cover all education requirements needed to become a CRSW but does cover some of the requirements.

Q21. The peer week long training is accepted as a requirement of the IC & RC. How is it that the NH board has not adopted this since the training is in line with IC & RC?

A21. NH does accept the RCA, it is just not a requirement for certification as a CRSW. Not all CRSWs provide peer recovery support. If one is not providing peer recovery supports, RCA may not necessarily be needed.

EXAM QUESTIONS:

Q22. Where are testing sites located?

A22. Testing sites are located in Manchester and New London. Testing address is provided when an exam is booked to avoid outdated information and confusion. Visit this site for testing center locations:

<http://www.isoqualitytesting.com/mlocations.aspx>

Q23. Is there a limit for when the exam can be taken?

A23. The exam can be taken at any point before submitting the application, whenever convenient for the person.

Q24. Is there recommended reading to help prepare for the exam? Is there a study guide?

A24. IC&RC has a candidate guide as well as a list of recommended publications for further study (listed in the candidate guide). For more information, visit:

<http://www.internationalcredentialing.org/Resources/Candidate%20Guides/PR%20candidate%20guide%201-14.pdf>

Q25. For those who speak a second language, will they be accommodated by an interpreter for the testing?

A25. Testers can describe special accommodations needed, however the CRSW requirements do state that a person be able to read and write in English.

Q26. Will the exam expire if I took it a long time ago?

A26. The exam is valid indefinitely. Once you pass the exam, it will not expire.

Q27. If the exam is not passed is there a waiting period to take the test again?

A27. The test can be retaken but the exam fee will need to be paid each time the test is taken. Candidates interested in retaking the exam must wait 60 days after the original exam. Effective May 1, 2017 testers must wait 90 days.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

Q28. If we have all of our educational training, requirements completed, documented hours are getting regular on-going supervision (but have not yet completed the full 25 hours), do you recommend submitting the application now?

A28. No.

Q29. If I have been working on the old application can I submit the old application? How long do I have?

A29. Must comply with new rules for education and experience effective 10/13/16. You can submit the old application, but it might not be accepted and you may need to submit additional information.

Q30. How do I record my time? Should my hours be recorded as they relate to the 4 domains?

A30. If you complete the application, it will dictate how to record the time. The 500 hours experience is not broken down by domain.

Q31. Can a candidate make their appointment for fingerprinting and that information be sent to the board in advance of their application being received by the board?

A31. Yes.

Q32. Question #11 in the CRSW initial application states “Do you have a mental disability that significantly impairs your professional ability or judgement?” Please define, via a list, what defines a mental disability that would impair judgement ability. Is this subjective?

A32. The administrative rules do not list specific mental disabilities. If you suspect the answer to that question in your particular situation is yes, then you will be asked in the application to describe the circumstances and explain any corrective or preventative action taken to prevent interference with your work as a CRSW.

FELONY QUESTIONS:

Q33. Is it possible to get a waiver for the background check?

A33. No.

Q34. What is the additional information for the felony?

A34. The Board will ask you for a description of what happened, how and why it happened, and what you did to prevent it from happening again. They want to know if any corrective action was taken.

Q35. Are there exact standards for meeting the criteria of what constitutes fixing the “deficiency”? Are they available to the general public?

A35. There are not. They want to know what corrective action you have taken to prevent it from happening again.

MEDICAID-RELATED QUESTIONS:

Q36. For CRSW work to be reimbursable by Medicaid for peer to peer, is it a requirement that the CRSW has completed a state approved Recovery Coach Training?

A36. No, it is not a requirement that a CRSW complete a Recovery Coach training. However, He-W 513.03(r) does indicate that a CRSW that is seeking reimbursement must be supervised by a LADC with an LCS or a MLADC AND must complete 30 hours of training at one of the give institutions:

- a. NH Training Institute on Addictive Disorders;
- b. NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals;
- c. New England Institute of Addiction Studies;
- d. Addiction Technology Transfer Center; or
- e. Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) Recovery Coach Academy (RCA)

Q37. What services can be billed for?

A37. He-W 513.03(r)(1) describes peer recovery support services that are reimbursable by Medicaid to be "Peer recovery support services shall include non-clinical services to help recipients and families identify and work toward strategies and goals around stabilizing and sustaining recovery and, as applicable, providing links to professional treatment and community supports."

Q38. Where can I find the billing codes and descriptions?

A38. T1012 Non-Peer Recovery Support Individual (per 15 min)
T1012-HQ Non-Peer Recovery Support Group (per 15 min)
H0038 Peer Recovery Support, Individual (per 15 mins)
H0038-HQ Peer Recovery Support, Group (per 15 mins)

OTHER QUESTIONS:

Q39. How do I know if I am doing the right work to become a CRSW?

A39. Verify that the supervision is occurring, that it is direct service to clients, and the practice location is appropriate to the listed alternatives.

Q40. What can't a CRSW do?

A40. A CRSW can perform the activities that are defined within its scope of practice. The CRSW cannot perform outside of its scope of practice.

Q41. Is CRSW work clinical or peer to peer?

A41. There are clinical aspects of the CRSW scope of service such as screening and referral, there is also direct service work with clients. If you are in recovery yourself, then it could be described as peer to peer, however being in recovery is not a requirement of the credential.

Q42. How do I get a job as a CRSW?

A42. Contact the various recovery community organizations and substance use disorder treatment facilities to apply for a CRSW position.

Q43. What is the average salary of a CRSW?

A43. A general salary range across practice locations has not been evaluated or calculated. Salaries will vary by organization.

Q44. How do I find other CRSWs?

A44. The board maintains a list of all CRSWs which is posted on their webpage at <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/licensing.htm>

Q45. Is there a recommended time frame for sobriety for becoming a CRSW?

A45. The Board does not have a recommended timeframe outlined in the administrative rules.