

The requirements to be a Certified Peer Support Specialist/Peer Wellness Specialist

1. Be at least 18 years of age
2. You must Not be listed on the Medicaid provider exclusion list
3. You must identify as a peer under one or more of the following:
 - A self-identified person currently or formerly receiving mental health services; or,
 - A self-identified person in recovery from an addiction disorder, who meets the abstinence requirements for recovering staff in alcohol and other drug treatment programs(2 years); or,
 - A self-identified person in recovery from problem gambling; or,
 - A family member of an individual who is a current or former recipient of addictions or mental health services
4. Successfully complete the required training offered by an OHA approved training program for Peer Support Specialist * or Peer Wellness Specialist **
5. Complete OHA application and send it to the Office of Equity and Inclusion(OEI)
6. The application form is on the OHA OEI website
<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/oei/Pages/Traditional-Health-Worker-Program.aspx>
7. Pass a criminal history background check administered by the OHA background check unit (BCU)

All THWs including Peer Support Specialists/Peer Wellness Specialists **EXCEPT** for Peer Support Specialists in Recovery from Addictions must take and pass a background check provided by the OHA BCU. The information necessary for that process is on the OHA application. If you have questions about the background check process, contact the Background Check Unit at 503-378-5470 and 888-272-5545. The website <http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/chc/Pages/tools.aspx>