

# Peer Delivered Services for Individual with a Gambling Disorder Policy Statement

Updated October 12, 2024

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Prompted by a desire to expand the use of peer support services and continually improve problem gambling treatment services in Oregon, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Behavioral Health Division (BHD), Problem Gambling Services (PGS), effective July 1, 2016, is implementing a new policy to allow Peer Specialist in recovery from mental health and addictions services to provide peer delivered services to enrolled gambling treatment clients as Peer Specialist/Peer Mentors/Recovery Mentors, and for programs to encounter for the non-Medicaid services through the use of the PGS Procedure Codes and Rates via PG Net. This policy should reduce challenges and barriers within the PGS system and assist agencies to better implement, expand, and integrate peer delivered services to support a problem gambling recovery-oriented systems of care. This is a temporary allowance to fill a void that currently exists until the problem gambling peer delivered service system becomes more robust.

A Peer Specialist within the behavioral health system has a lot to offer any individual within the PGS system, as their main role is to help a client navigate the behavioral health system and community resources, and to ensure the client has a voice at the table in planning for their services and feels empowered to succeed in their recovery.

## **Requirements/Qualifications:**

A Peer Specialist is a person providing peer delivered services to an individual or family member with similar life experience, under the supervision of a qualified Clinical Supervisor. A Peer Specialist must complete a division approved training program as required by OAR 410-180-0300 to 0380 and be:

- A self-identified person currently or formerly receiving mental health services; or
- A self-identified person in recovery from a substance use or gambling disorder, who meets the abstinence requirements for recovering staff in substance use disorders or gambling treatment programs; or
- A family member of an individual who is a current or former recipient of addictions or mental health services.

Peer Specialists must demonstrate knowledge of approaches to support others in recovery and resiliency and demonstrate efforts at self-directed recovery.

Additional requirements for Peer Specialist that are not in recovery from a gambling disorder and providing peer delivered services within a state funded non-Medicaid problem gambling treatment program:

- Attend PGS approved 16-hour Problem Gambling 101 for Peers training within one (1) year of start date of providing problem gambling peer services,
- Complete Modules One through Two of the “Problem Gambling for Social Service Professionals” training within three months of agency assignment to problem gambling client services.
- Attend at least one (1) open Gamblers Anonymous (GA) meeting.

These are the minimal requirements from the State Non-Medicaid Problem Gambling Services Program. Agencies may develop policies of their own with stricter requirements, if they choose.

### **Documentation:**

Documentation of a peer specialist approved Peer Support training must be included within a Peer Specialist personnel file, as this documentation may be reviewed by a BHD Compliance Specialist during an official Mental Health and Addictions Outpatient Treatment site review to determine agencies Letter of Certificate status.

Documentation of a Problem Gambling 101 for Peers training, along with Modules One through Two of the “Problem Gambling for Social Service Professionals” should also be included in a Peer Specialist personnel file. This documentation may be reviewed by PGS program staff through technical assistance provider visits or requested via email based on encounter data of peer services and follow-up.

### **Billing:**

Use billing code H0038 or H0038G- Individual or Group Peer Delivered Services. Additionally, Peer Specialist can encounter for peer case management under billing code T1016P and client finding outreach efforts under billing code P0001.

Additional questions, contact: Greta Coe, Problem Gambling Services Manager, at [greta.l.coe@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:greta.l.coe@oha.oregon.gov) or (503) 602-4444.

Behavioral Health Division  
Problem Gambling Services  
500 NE Summer Street  
Salem, OR 97301

