

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES BILLING GUIDE



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WHAT ARE PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES?

Peer Recovery Support Services (PRSS) are community-based support services provided by individuals with lived experiences of mental illness or substance use disorder (SUD). The goal of PRSS is to engage those with a substance use (or behavioral health) disorder, be a companion service to those in active treatment, or support those in short-term recovery.

The philosophy of PRSS centers on a person using their own lived life experiences to help others (peers) through treatment and toward the path of sustained recovery from mental illness and/or substance abuse. A PRSS specialist will:

- Have firsthand experience with a mental illness and/or substance abuse challenge, as well as have lived in recovery for at least one year
- Work very closely with case management staff in order to assist clients in maintaining long-term recovery
- Maintain support of the client during the recovery process

WHY PEER RECOVERY?

PRSS are an integral part of the continuum of services offered through the behavioral health system of care and consist of activities that promote recovery, self-determination, self-advocacy, well-being, and independence. These services are individualized, recovery-focused, and based on a relationship that supports a person's ability to promote his or her recovery. PRSS promotes an integrated care model, compliments traditional treatment services, and can offer an employment opportunity to those in recovery.

HOW PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES HELP

Peer support specialists are individuals with lived experiences who have achieved significant recovery and can assist others and their family in their recovery journeys. PRSS can be provided in a variety of settings including hospitals, drop-in centers, and prisons. Peer support specialists go beyond treatment as usual and use different training and skills to support recovery in collaboration with professionals, including but not limited to therapists, social workers, and psychiatrists. Peer support specialists aid in various roles, including case management, wellness coaching, and education. They are also active participants in a full range of clinical settings, including crisis services. Peer support specialists promote recovery by lived experience as well as enhance hope and social networking through role modeling. They supplement existing treatment with education, empowerment, and aid in system navigation to access these services. In addition, peer support specialists will:

- Provide outreach during early recovery
- Co-develop a personal recovery plan
- Articulate personal goals for recovery and holistic steps toward long-term recovery
- Assist in accessing community resources
- Create smooth transitions in level of care changes to ensure a continuum of support
- Guide and educate through the recovery process
- Engage in the recovery community
- Promote accountability and provide support before, during and after treatment
- Advocate for needs and community education about mental illness and substance abuse
- Facilitate recovery support groups
- Engage in shared problem solving to identify and overcome barriers
- Explore and apply personal strengths
- Build positive social skills through role modeling

PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS

According to Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) bulletin BT201929, PRSS must be delivered by individuals certified in PRSS, per the Department of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA) training and competency standards and must be performed under the supervision of a licensed professional or qualified behavioral health professional (QBHP). Individuals providing PRSS must be under the supervision of a licensed professional, including:

- Licensed physician (including licensed psychiatrist)
- Licensed psychologist or a psychologist endorsed as an HSPP
- LCSW
- LMHC
- LMFT
- LCAC, as defined under IC 25-23.6-10.5
- Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) enrolled as provider specialty 835
- APRN, as defined in 405 IAC 5-20-8-2
- Individual with a master's or doctoral degree in any of the following disciplines:
 - Social work from a university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education
 - Mental health counseling from an accredited university
 - Marital and family therapy from an accredited university

INDIANA CRITERIA

PRSS can also be referred to as peer support or peer counseling services. PRSS is individual, face-to-face, and provides structured, scheduled activities that promote socialization, recovery, self-advocacy, development of natural supports, and maintenance of community living skills.



PLACE OF SERVICE

- 03 - School
- 04 - Homeless Shelter
- 11 - Office
- 12 - Home
- 13 - Assisted Living Facility
- 14 - Group Home
- 16 - Temporary Lodging
- 18 - Place of Employment/Worksite
- 23 - Emergency Room
- 31 - Skilled Nursing Facility
- 32 - Nursing Facility
- 33 - Custodial Care Facility
- 34 - Hospice
- 53 - CMHC
- 57 - Non-Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Facility

PEER NETWORK INDIANA

Peer Network Indiana is a place for peers to connect with one another, connect with employers, and develop their skills as peer support specialists. Peer Network Indiana provides a variety of resources geared towards peers and the great work that they do in their communities across Indiana. For more information go to: <https://peernetworkindiana.org/>.

CODING REQUIREMENTS

Peer Recovery Services are available without a prior authorization (PA) up to 365 hours (1,460 units) per rolling 12-month period.

Additional units may be authorized via the PA process.

CPT CODE	DESCRIPTION	CRITERIA
H0038	Self-help/peer services, per 15 minutes.	Self-help/peer services are specialized therapeutic interactions that are performed by individuals who are current or past recipients of behavioral health services. These individuals are trained and certified to provide support and assistance to individuals in their recovery and integration into the community. Peer recovery services are individual, face-to-face services that provide structured, scheduled activities that promote socialization, recovery, self-advocacy, development of natural supports, and maintenance of community living skills.

Billing Exclusions

- PRSS that are purely recreational or diversionary in nature, or have no therapeutic or programmatic content, will not be reimbursed.
- Interventions targeted to groups are not billable as PRSS.
- Activities that may be billed under Skills Training and Development or under case management are not billable as PRSS.
- PRSS are not reimbursable for children under the age of 16.
- PRSS that occur in a group setting are not reimbursable.

ACROYNMS

CMHC – Community Mental Health Center

CRS – Certified Recovery Specialist

DMHA – Department of Mental Health and Addiction

HSPP – Health Service Provider in Psychology

OTP – Opioid Treatment Program

PA – Prior Authorization

POS – Place of Service

PRSS – Peer Recovery Support Services

SUD – Substance Use Disorders

REFERENCES

[Indiana Family and Social Services Administration \(FSSA\) Peer Support Web Page](#)

[Indiana Provider Reference Module: Behavioral Health Services Mental Health and Addiction Treatment](#)



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