How to Become a Nationally Certified Family Peer Specialist

1. Complete 88 hours of training in the 5 CFPS Core Competencies:
   1. Wellness and Resiliency
   2. Effecting Change
   3. Resources and Natural Supports
   4. Systems Knowledge and Navigation
   5. Professional Responsibilities

2. Prepare a narrative of your lived experience as a parent, family member, or caregiver who has or had responsibility parenting a child or as a primary caregiver for another family member experiencing mental health and/or substance use challenges for the CFPS Application, completed online.

3. Complete 500+ hours of paid or volunteer family peer support work. 20+ hours of this must be supervised. Most family peers work full-time for a family-run organization, health care provider, or other organization offering family peer support for about one to two years before qualifying for national certification.

4. Pass the national certification exam, which is 120 questions in 120 minutes. This computer-based exam can be taken at local testing centers in your state.

Visit [www.ffcmh.org/certification](http://www.ffcmh.org/certification) to learn more.