

# FAMILY PEER ADVOCATE CREDENTIAL SCREENING TOOL

Thank you for your interest in the Family Peer Advocate Training & Credential program administered by Families Together in NYS, Inc. and sponsored by the NYS Office of Mental Health. While approval for the FPA Credential is not guaranteed, this screening tool will help you determine if you may be eligible to apply.

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- ✔ Are you at least 18 years of age?
- ✔ Do you hold at least a HS Diploma, GED, or state equivalency?
- ✔ Do you have **experience as the parent (biological/adoptive/foster) or primary caregiver** of a child/youth with significant social, emotional, developmental, medical, substance use, and behavioral needs with onset **prior to the age of 21**?
  - A 'primary caregiver' is the person who is primarily responsible for the day-to-day care of the child/youth with parental responsibilities.
- ✔ Do you have **experience navigating child-serving systems of care** on behalf of your child/youth? Examples include but are not limited to: Early Intervention, Mental Health Inpatient/Outpatient, Special Education, Child Welfare, Addiction Services and Supports, Juvenile Justice, and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Services.
- ✔ Are you willing to share relevant aspects of your personal experience, as a family peer, in the course of providing services to other families whose children are facing similar challenges?
- ✔ Are you currently employed in a NYSOMH licensed, designated or funded program providing Medicaid reimbursable services of family peer support?

**Note:** If you answered "No" to any of the above questions, it is likely you are **not eligible** for the Family Peer Advocate Credential. We encourage you to explore other peer credential programs in NYS.

[Learn More!](#)



**QUESTIONS?**



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