

Youth Peer Support (YPS) Provider

Job Type: Per-Diem **Pay Rate:** \$25/hour

About the Role

Youth Peer Support (YPS) provides peer-based guidance, support, and advocacy to youth with behavioral health needs. Using lived experience, YPS providers help members build skills, access resources, and navigate behavioral health systems in a supportive, youth-centered way. Services are delivered in home and community-based settings.

Key Responsibilities

- Provide empathetic peer support and share lived experience to empower youth
- Support youth in understanding and accessing community resources and behavioral health services
- Promote self-advocacy, wellness, and family resilience through peer-based interactions
- Facilitate peer support groups and structured activities
- Coordinate and communicate with Care Managers and other service providers involved in the youth's care
- Attend required waiver service provider meetings to stay current on policies, resources, and best practices
- Complete and submit documentation (service plans, progress notes, expense logs) accurately and on time
- Report incidents, concerns, or safety issues promptly to supervision
- Deliver services in home and community settings in accordance with CFTSS requirements

Credential & Eligibility Requirements

Candidates **must meet eligibility for one of the following New York State peer credentials:**

Youth Peer Advocate (YPA) – Full or Provisional

- Ages **18–30**
- Self-identified lived experience with mental health, behavioral health, and/or co-occurring challenges (may include involvement with juvenile justice, special education, substance use, or foster care)
- Ability to use lived experience to support youth resilience, recovery, and wellness
- High school diploma or equivalent (education requirement may be waived by the certifying body)
- Completion of required **State-approved YPA training** (Level One required; Level Two completed within credentialing timeline)
- Agreement to follow the **Youth Peer Advocate Code of Ethics**
- Demonstrated leadership skills, including advocacy and peer group facilitation
- Ability to complete remaining credentialing requirements within required timeframes (if provisionally credentialed)
- Supervision by a credentialed YPA or qualified mental health professional per **14 NYCRR 591 or 595**

Certified Recovery Peer Advocate – Youth Specialty (CRPA-Y)

- Ages **18–30**
- Lived experience with substance use disorder and/or recovery
- High school diploma or equivalent (preferred)
- Completion of required CRPA training hours, including youth-specific content
- Documented peer-related volunteer or work experience

- Supervision by a qualified organization in accordance with certification standards
- Successful completion of NYCB / IC&RC Peer Advocate exam (or OASAS-approved equivalent)
- Ongoing continuing education and credential renewal as required

Additional Expectations

- Ability to engage youth in age-appropriate education, coaching, and skill-building
- Strong communication, documentation, and time-management skills
- Comfort working independently in community-based settings
- Commitment to ethical peer practice and collaborative care

Work Environment

- Services are primarily **community-based, with some in-home visits as needed.**

Training Requirements

- Clinical Training/Service Plan Training
- Mandated Reporter Training
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Personal Safety
- Safety in the Community
- Strength-Based Approach
- Suicide Prevention
- Domestic Violence Signs and Basic Interventions