How to Become a Nationally Certified Family Peer Specialist

1. Prepare a narrative of your lived experience as a parent or primary caregiver of a child—across the lifespan—experiencing emotional, developmental, behavioral, mental health, and/or substance use challenges for the CFPS Application, completed online.

2. 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
   5. Navigation
   6. Professional Responsibilities

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 to learn more.