

**DBH COVID-19  
Peer Specialist/Family Support  
Partner Trainings**

# Memo

**To:** PEER SPECIALISTS TRAINERS, FAMILY SUPPORT PARTNER TRAINERS AND OTHER INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS  
**From:** IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
**Date:** 05/05/20

---

Per the Peer Specialist ([Standard 1.0](#)) and Family Support Partner ([Standard 3.0](#)) standards published by the Division of Behavioral Health, certification training is 40 hours of face-to-face instruction. In response to COVID-19 and its impact on availability of trainings for certification of Peer Support Specialists and Family Support Partners, DBH is temporarily allowing trainings to be conducted online in adherence with the standards below. This temporary change is effective immediately and will continue until October 15, 2020. All other training standards still apply.

## **Requirements for Online Peer Support and Family Support Partner Trainings**

Please note that online trainings that do not meet these online training standards will not be accepted for certification. Training that included rapid eLearning players or automatically advancing slides that do not require learner participation are not acceptable.

The following standards apply to all online peer trainings:

### **Interactive activities, checkpoints, and exercises**

Online trainings are required to have interactive activities and checkpoints that directly relate to required competency areas. These interactive activities and checkpoints are required throughout the training to assess for engagement and processing of information. A minimum of 10 hours of the 40-hour peer training must be conducted via an interactive site (i.e. Zoom/WebEx)

### **Self-paced learning models**

Self-paced learning models are to be used. Self-paced learning is defined as learning which requires the participant to read, view, or listen to educational material with interactive checkpoints and activities prior to the post-training exam. By contrast, self-study online

learning, such as reading or viewing material without interactive checkpoints, does not meet our online standards and will not be reviewed by the department.

### **Downloadable resources**

Provide downloadable resources such as guides or handouts that reinforce comprehension and learning.

### **Instructional and technical support**

Participants should be able to access instructional and technical support within 24 business hours. The online training should provide clear instructions for participants to understand where they can direct their questions about functionality and content. An instructor or representative must be available within 24 hours during the business week