

CHC43515 Certificate IV Mental Health Peer Work Course Outline

This Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work focuses on working with persons who have a lived experience of mental health illness and distress, and the various services that are associated with their recovery journey. The course has been designed to assist persons with a lived experience of recovery to obtain the knowledge and skills to work or volunteer within the community mental health sector. You will learn to support another person's recovery journey and learn about the recovery framework, communication skills, diversity, responding to risk, how to help advocate their recovery needs, and trauma informed care.

Upon completion of this qualification you will be qualified to work in residential, outreach, and peer support programs.

Job Roles

Job roles associated with this qualification may include:

- Peer Support Worker Consumer Consultant
- Family Advocate Carer Consultant
- Peer Support Worker
- Peer Mentor
- Participation Coordinator
- Family Advocate

Course delivery and duration

This course is delivered through blended learning with the theory components complemented in a series of mandatory face to face workshops, one online unit and eighty (80) work/work placement hours to complete. The assessment for this course occurs in the classroom environment, online and in the workplace.

This course can be completed in six months providing the student is able to attend all workshops delivered in this timeframe. The course may also be completed over an extended period of time (12 to 24 months arranged with the THS ERTO on case by case basis). It is envisaged that the course will be available for enrolment at least twice a year.

The course contains an average of 820 nominal hours of training and assessment (dependent on the electives chosen by the student). Approximately 102 are committed to face to face classes; the remaining hours are allocated to the online components and assessments including work placement activities and independent study involving reading and research activities.

If you do not have employment in a related mental health role, a placement may be arranged for you by the Tasmanian Health Service Enterprise Registered Training Organisation (THS ERTO). You will be allocated a trainer/assessor to support you in your learning.

Credit Transfer

Credit transfer recognises previous formal learning (e.g. university, other qualifications). It uses an assessment of your previous course to determine whether it can be credited to your new course. The assessment determines the extent to which your previous course is equivalent to the required learning outcomes of your desired qualification.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is an assessment process used to evaluate a person's relevant skills, knowledge and experience gained through working and learning - be it through life experience, work or other activities such as volunteering and transfers these to the current training course requirements. RPL must take place at the start of your training, and can only be granted for a whole unit/s of competency.

RPL ensures the knowledge and skills previously gained are applied to the qualification criteria. It can assist in identifying what training may be required to complete the qualification, avoiding any unnecessary training for any skills you may already have. Complete the RPL section on the enrolment form. This will activate the RPL process, which includes a self- assessment. If you wish to proceed after the self- assessment you will be appointed an assessor and be provided with the RPL kit relevant to the Qualification in which you wish to enroll.

Participants are encouraged to discuss possible RPL application prior to commencement of training,

RPL is an approved assessment process which must be conducted with one of our trainers/assessors who can advise you on evidence required.

Please note: There is an associated cost with RPL assessment. This will be discussed with your trainer/assessor at the pre-enrolment interview.

Entrance requirements for Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work

There are no formal entry requirements for this program. Before enrolment, interested students are advised that to enable successful program completion, consideration of the students own skills need to be given to the following points:

- **Literacy and language skills**

This course will have a Language, Literacy and Numeracy pre-assessment which enables Tasmanian Health Service Enterprise Registered Training Organisation (THS ERTO) to determine any supports that may be required for you as an individual student.

- **Planning skills**

The ability to incorporate studies into your schedule and meet assessment deadlines.

- **Research skills**

The ability to use library resources or online search engines to support your learning.

- **Computer skills**

A working knowledge of the Microsoft Office Suite (or equivalent) is required prior to attending face to face classes, however if you're unfamiliar with the programs THS ERTO may be able to provide you with basic support training.

Computer equipment and resources required

As this course has an online component in one Unit of Competency and you are expected to be able to use computers in the work place, it is requirement that the student has access to:

- A modern computer with internet access (ability to view YouTube, etc.)
- Microsoft Office or equivalent
- Access to email
- Voice recorder (optional) – You may wish to record assessment material to be uploaded as part of your assessment evidence submission (often a feature of smartphones).
- Camera/video (optional) – You may wish to video assessment material to be uploaded as part of your assessment evidence (often a feature of smartphones).

Trainer/Assessor

Your trainer is assigned at the commencement of your course. You may have different trainers for throughout the course teaching different specialty areas. However there will be one main trainer assigned to you, whom you can ask for support.

Students are assigned an assessor at the commencement of their course. The assessor is there to ensure that you meet the requirements in your assessments and to provide feedback about your assessment submissions. Your trainer may be a different person to your assessor. You can arrange a consultation with either your trainer and/or assessor should you need further support.

Please note: THS ERTO delivers Cert IV in Mental Health Peer Work during the Tasmanian school terms. During school holidays, the trainers and/or assessors may not be available for support.

Student support team

Our student support team are able to answer general questions about us or your course and can be contacted on 1300 793 011. You may also contact us via rto-connect@ths.tas.gov.au and request a return phone call.

Please note the phone line is not manned continuously so please leave a message and it will be addressed as soon as possible.

During the initial stages, they may touch base with you via email to see how you're managing your new role as a student.

Fees

Fees are detailed on a separate brochure and will be sent with the enrolment kit. However please note in 2018 we have funded student places available throughout the year for those persons who are not currently employed or are employed on a casual basis (providing they meet the eligibility requirements). Please enquire when you contact our office as there are limited numbers of these subsidies available.

THS ERTO CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 1300 793 011

Email: rto-connect@ths.tas.gov.au