



Missouri Department of Mental Health Peer Specialist Certification Code of Ethics



Missouri Peer Specialists (MPSs) will maintain high standards of professional conduct and ethics as embodied in the statements below:

1. MPSs will be guided by the principles of self-determination for all. The primary responsibility of peer support is to help individuals achieve their own needs, wants and goals.
2. MPSs will maintain high standards of personal conduct. MPSs will also conduct themselves in a manner that fosters their own recovery.
3. MPSs will share with consumers and colleagues their recovery stories from mental illness and will likewise be able to identify and describe the supports that promote their own recovery.
4. MPSs will respect the privacy and confidentiality of those they serve.
5. MPSs will at all times, respect the rights and dignity of those they serve.
6. MPSs will keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to recovery and share this knowledge with their colleagues and those they serve.
7. MPSs will never intimidate, threaten, harass, use undue influence, physical force or verbal abuse, or make unwarranted promises of benefits to the individuals they serve.
8. MPSs will never engage in exploitive and/or sexual/intimate activities with the persons they serve.
9. MPSs will not practice, condone, facilitate or collaborate in any form of discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical disability, or any other preference or personal characteristic, condition or state.
10. MPSs will advocate for those they serve that they may make their own decisions in all matters, including when dealing with other professionals.
11. MPSs will advocate for the full integration of individuals into the communities of their choice and will promote the inherent value of these individuals to those communities. MPSs will be directed by the knowledge that all individuals have the right to live in the least restrictive and least intrusive environment.

12. MPSs will not enter into commitments that conflict with the interests of those they serve.
13. MPSs will not exchange gifts of significant monetary value with those they serve
14. MPSs will take responsibility for maintaining the integrity and quality of job performance. This includes using work time to the advantage of the consumers and always giving the best effort on the job.
15. MPSs will strive through words and actions to create a professional atmosphere in the work environment.
16. MPSs will fairly and accurately represent themselves and their capabilities to the consumers and the community.
17. MPSs will maintain a safe and healthy work environment.
18. MPSs will provide services to meet the identified needs of the consumers and avoid providing services that are unnecessary or not capable of producing the desired effect.