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Introduction

There is widespread recognition that peer-delivered interventions can play a significant role in improving health outcomes, especially for patients living with complex chronic health or behavioral health conditions. The effectiveness of Peer Workers is rooted in the fact that these workers share a common “lived experience” with clients (a “peer” is defined as someone living with HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis C (HCV), and/or has experience accessing Harm Reduction services). As a result, Peer Workers have a unique capacity to provide targeted services that can inspire, empower and support clients living with, or at risk for, HIV and HCV. Peer Workers provide a unique category of service delivery through the lens of “shared lived experience” which is distinct from the roles and services delivered by other members of a multi-disciplinary care or prevention team.

The NYS 2015-2020 Blueprint for Ending the AIDS Epidemic recommended that the AIDS Institute develop a process for certification of Peer Workers. Peer-delivered services are viewed as critical to meeting New York State’s goal of ending the AIDS epidemic and it is anticipated that Peer Workers will play a critical role in increasing linkage and retention in care for people with HIV and HCV, improving rates of HCV cure, HIV viral suppression and preventing new infections. The AIDS Institute has, for many years, recognized the important role that peers can play and many health and social service programs have a long history of successfully engaging peers in a wide range of services.

The New York State Department of Health began certifying individuals as AIDS Institute Peer Workers in June of 2016. The AIDS Institute offers specific tracks to certify individuals as: 1) HIV Peer Worker, 2) Hepatitis C Peer Worker, or 3) Harm Reduction Peer Worker. Individuals may choose more than one track. Certified Peer Workers must complete a series of required professional trainings totaling a minimum of 90 hours. The required trainings prepare peer workers to assist clients with HIV/HCV/STD prevention, harm reduction, outreach, patient navigation and/or self-management services.

Certification of HIV, HCV and Harm Reduction Peer Workers is intended to support employment opportunities for people with HIV and HCV and to help formalize and standardize training requirements. Certification will help increase recognition of the important work that HIV, HCV and Harm Reduction Peer Workers perform. Certification is voluntary and the AIDS Institute recognizes that both certified and non-certified peers will continue to play an important role in AIDS Institute funded agencies and other health and human services programs.

All courses listed in the Course Catalogue are available free of charge and there are no fees associated with applying for, or being granted, AIDS Institute Peer Worker Certification. On page 4 of this Course Catalogue, you will find a list of Core Trainings. All Core Trainings must be completed by all individuals seeking to become an AIDS Institute Certified Peer Worker. Specialized Trainings in HIV, HCV and Harm Reduction are also included in the catalogue. To become certified, an individual must complete a minimum of 22 hours of training in their specialized track: HIV, HCV or Harm Reduction. The combined number of hours of training to earn certification is 90 hours (68 hours of Core Training and 22 hours of Specialized Training).
Please note: The courses can be taken in any order you choose to obtain the 90 required hours.

You can register for the courses listed in this catalogue at [www.hivtrainingny.org](http://www.hivtrainingny.org). To register for courses, you must follow the simple directions for establishing an account. Once you have an account, course attendance is automatically tracked on this website through the My Courses tab which is accessible after you have logged in to your account. This makes it easy to document completion of training. The AIDS Institute will accept trainings within the last 3 calendar years of submitting application.

To become eligible for certification, a Peer Worker must have a host agency that nominates him or her to the AIDS Institute for certification. The host agency provides the opportunity for a practicum performing HIV, HCV or Harm Reduction Peer work with the potential for being hired at the end of the practicum if the peer worker achieves an acceptable supervisory evaluation.

Please note: the practicum can be waived for Peer Workers who are already employed and can document at least 500 hours of work within a one-year period with an acceptable supervisory evaluation.

In addition to completing the training requirements and practicum, Peer Workers nominated by an agency for AIDS Institute Certification must also:

- Pass the NYS AIDS Institute Peer Worker knowledge test and
- Agree to follow the NYS Peer Worker Code of Ethics.

A copy of the NYS AIDS Institute Peer Worker Code of Ethics is available from HIV Education and Training Programs at the address listed below. The Code of Ethics is also reviewed in the training titled: AIDS Institute Peer Worker Pre-Certification Training.

Individuals who complete these requirements will be awarded the AIDS Institute Peer Worker Certification from Stony Brook University.

For more information about certification of AIDS Institute HIV, HCV and Harm Reduction Peer Workers, please contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIV Education and Training Programs</th>
<th>Center for Public Health Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corning Tower, Room 244</td>
<td>Stony Brook University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empire State Plaza</td>
<td>Benedict House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany, NY 12237-0658</td>
<td>Stony Brook, NY 11794-4016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 518-474-3045</td>
<td>Phone: 631-444-3209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 518-473-8815</td>
<td>Fax: 631-444-6744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:hivet@health.ny.gov">hivet@health.ny.gov</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:stonybrookpeercertification@gmail.com">stonybrookpeercertification@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuing Education

In order to maintain Certification, AI Certified Peer Workers must complete a minimum of 10 hours of training, or Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) per year. This requirement must be submitted every 2 years, prior to your anniversary date of certification, through your online application. For example, if you were certified on September 15, 2016, you must have your CEUs completed and submitted into the application system by September 15, 2018. Certified Peer Workers should strive to complete and submit proof of their CEUs 30 days prior to their anniversary date in case of any issues.

The training you receive towards your continuing education should be directly related to HIV, HCV, and/or HR, and improve and strengthen your ability to provide services. Certified Peer Workers should consult with their supervisors to decide which trainings would best fit their training needs.

In order to receive credit, training should be obtained through one of the following:

- Courses from the AI Peer Worker Certification Course Catalogue, via your hivtrainingny.org account
- TTAP (with certificate)
- AETC (with certificate)
- Your employer (with certificate)
- AI approved CEU provider organizations

Questions regarding CEUs should be sent to stephen.sebor@stonybrook.edu.
## Core Training Requirements

**Core Training Requirements for all AIDS Institute Certified Peer Workers**

All Certified Peer Workers will need to complete a minimum of 68 hours of the Core Required Trainings Below (plus an additional minimum of 22 hours from the Specialized Training Topics on Page 7 and 8, for a total of 90 hours minimum):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
<th>In Person Training</th>
<th>Online/Webinar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NYS AIDS Institute Pre-Certification Peer Worker Training (call Stephen at 631-444-3209 to register)</td>
<td>19.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Bridges to Cultural Competency</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Literacy in HIV, STI, and Viral Hepatitis Care- Health Literacy in Patient Care</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to HIV, STIs and Viral Hepatitis</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBT Cultural Competency</td>
<td>3.5 – 6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peers Providing Trauma Informed Care</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SafeTALK Suicide Alertness Training</strong></td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex, Gender and HIV/STDs</td>
<td>13.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Choose at least two courses topics from the three listed below. At least one must be in person.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-person or Online course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harm Reduction Approach Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar: Harm Reduction Approach Overview</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-person course or Online course – must take both online courses for credit of this topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motivational Interviewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motivational Interviewing Overview – Online Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motivational Interviewing Practice – Online Learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-person course only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overview of Stage-based Behavioral Counseling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Minimum Core Hours – 68 hours**

*This course is not offered through the AIDS Institute HIV Education and Training website. Please see the course description in this catalogue with a link on where to learn more and register for the course.*
Specialized Training Requirements

Choose from the following trainings to total **at least 22 hours** of trainings in the track for which you are seeking certification. Course Trackers are available for HIV, HCV, and HR to help you keep track of trainings you have taken and still need to take. Peer Workers seeking certification for multiple tracks must complete 22 hours for each track but overlap of credits is allowed. For example, if a peer takes HIV and Hepatitis C Co-infection, he or she will receive credit hours in both tracks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
<th>In Person Training</th>
<th>Online/ Webinar</th>
<th>HIV Track</th>
<th>HCV Track</th>
<th>HR Track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Drug Users and HIV/HCV Retention in Care and Treatment Adherence</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing Sexual Risk with Drug Users and their Partners</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Meth, MSM &amp; HIV: An Update</td>
<td>13.0 hours</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring Competencies for HCV Testing</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Facilitation Skills for STD/HIV Prevention Interventions</td>
<td>13.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Sex! Linking Gay Men and MSM to Sexual Health Services</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C Basics for Peer Workers</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C Medical Care and Treatment Update for Peer Workers</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C Peer Worker Role in Patient Navigation</td>
<td>13.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C: Prevention with Young People Who Inject Drugs (PWID)</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C: Screening, Diagnosis and Linkage to Care</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV and Hepatitis C Co-infection</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Peer Worker Role in Patient Navigation</td>
<td>13.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Testing in NYS</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td>2.0 hours</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Testing Skills Practice Session</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving Health Outcomes for HIV-Positive Individuals Transitioning from Correctional Settings to the Community</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro to Co-Occurring Disorders for Clients with HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living with HIV</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table continued next page
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
<th>In Person Training</th>
<th>Online/Webinar</th>
<th>HIV Track</th>
<th>HCV Track</th>
<th>HR Track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peer Workers: Promoting Primary Care and Treatment Adherence for HIV</td>
<td>13.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Prevention: Connecting Care and Prevention</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting Health Care Coverage for PLWHA in NYS</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role of Non-Clinicians in Promoting PrEP</td>
<td>3.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safer Injection and Wound Care</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Sexual Health Among Young MSM of Color</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surviving and Thriving: Older Gay Men and MSM Living with HIV</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender Health 102: Addressing Barriers to Care for Transgender People*</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar: Health Promotion for Older Adults Living with HIV</td>
<td>2.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar: MSM and Sexual Health Part 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>4.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar: Sexual Health of Older Adults</td>
<td>2.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum 22 Hours of Specialized Training Per Track**

*This symbol denotes a course has a prerequisite. Please see the course description for details.*
The following courses are not offered through HIV Education and Training but, may be counted toward specialized training requirements as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
<th>Training Length</th>
<th>Track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LTI Mentor Training</td>
<td>32.5 hours</td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYC DOHMH BHIV Comprehensive Care Coordination Training</td>
<td>30.0 hours</td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NQIC Training of Consumers for Quality</td>
<td>20.0 hours</td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid Overdose Prevention</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td>HIV, HCV, HR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford University Positive Self-Management Program (PSMP) or</td>
<td>15.0 hours</td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Disease Self-Management Training (CDSMP)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AIDS Institute and T-TAP Course Equivalency Chart

The AIDS Institute recognizes that for most of the courses T-TAP hours exceed AIDS Institute equivalency hours. Since you are getting credit for the course(s), we will only transfer the number of hours attributed to the AIDS Institute course. For example, although HIV Testing in NYS is 6.5 hours under T-TAP, you would only be awarded the AIDS Institute Equivalency of 3 hours. You must upload a T-TAP certificate(s) to your application to be awarded credit for the AIDS Institute Equivalent course(s). Course(s) must have been taken within the last 3 calendar years of submitting application. If you have taken any of the above courses, you can find them on your T-TAP account located here. Please be sure to print your certificates which you will need for your peer certification application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NYS AIDS Institute Course Title</th>
<th>NYS AIDS Institute Hours</th>
<th>T-TAP Accepted Course Equivalency</th>
<th>T-TAP Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Facilitation Skills for STD/HIV Prevention Interventions</td>
<td>13.0 Hours</td>
<td>Group Process and Facilitation Skills</td>
<td>14.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Testing in NYS</td>
<td>3.0 Hours</td>
<td>HIV Testing</td>
<td>7.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Testing Skills Practice Session</td>
<td>6.5 Hours</td>
<td>Delivering HIV Positive Test Results</td>
<td>7.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro to Co-Occurring Disorders for Clients with HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>6.5 Hours</td>
<td>Working with clients living with HIV/AIDS OR Co-Occurring Disorders</td>
<td>7.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to HIV, STIs and Viral Hepatitis</td>
<td>6.5 Hours</td>
<td>HIV 101/STI 101 (must take both)</td>
<td>14.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harm Reduction Approach Overview Motivational Interviewing Overview of Stage-based Behavioral Counseling</td>
<td>6.5 Hours</td>
<td>Motivational Interviewing OR Fundamentals of HIV Prevention Counseling</td>
<td>14.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBT Cultural Competency</td>
<td>3.5 – 6.5 Hours</td>
<td>LGBTQ Sensitivity</td>
<td>7.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Workers: Promoting Primary Care and Treatment Adherence</td>
<td>3.5 Hours</td>
<td>The Positive Life Workshop</td>
<td>3.5 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What Peers Need to Know about Hepatitis C</td>
<td>6.5 Hours</td>
<td>Hepatitis C 101: Understanding Hepatitis C</td>
<td>7.0 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Peer Certification Course Tracker Form – HIV Peer Workers

Note: You should only use this checklist if you are seeking HIV Peer Certification

**Directions:** You can use this two-page document to keep track of courses you have taken on the way to completing your course work for achieving your HIV Peer Worker Certification. Either print a copy of this two-page document or save it to your computer. To track your progress, log on to your account on [www.hivtrainingny.org](http://www.hivtrainingny.org) (your user name is your email address, your password was selected by you). Select Course List at the top of the screen. On the right, select “My Courses.” Any course with the status “Attended” can be checked off as completed below.

The box below is a list of required Core Courses – All 68 required training hours must be completed before submitting for certification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Training Requirements for all AIDS Institute Certified Peer Workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Certified Peer Workers will need to complete a minimum of 68 hours of the Core Required Trainings Below (plus an additional minimum of 22 hours from the Specialized Training Topics on Page 7 and 8, for a total of 90 hours minimum):</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
<th>In Person Training</th>
<th>Online/Webinar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NYS AIDS Institute Pre-Certification Peer Worker Training (call Stephen at 631-444-3209 to register)</td>
<td>19.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Bridges to Cultural Competency</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Literacy in HIV, STI, and Viral Hepatitis Care - Health Literacy in Patient Care</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to HIV, STIs and Viral Hepatitis</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBT Cultural Competency</td>
<td>3.5 – 6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peers Providing Trauma Informed Care</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SafeTALK Suicide Alertness Training*</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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**Total Minimum Core Hours – 68 hours**
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<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Testing in NYS</td>
<td>2.0-3.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Testing Skills Practice Session</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving Health Outcomes for HIV-Positive Individuals Transitioning from Correctional Settings to the Community</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro to Co-Occurring Disorders for Clients with HIV/AIDS</td>
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<td>13.0 hours</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Prevention: Connecting Care and Prevention</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting Health Coverage for PLWHA in NYS</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
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<tr>
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<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surviving and Thriving: Older Gay Men and MSM Living with HIV</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar: Health Promotion for Older Adults Living with HIV</td>
<td>2.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar: MSM and Sexual Health Parts 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>4.0 hours</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Table continued next page*
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<th>Course Completed?</th>
<th>Date Taken</th>
<th>Date Scheduled to Take</th>
<th>Track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Webinar: Sexual Health of Older Adults</td>
<td>2.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Specialized Hours</strong> (add training hours)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LTI Mentor Training</td>
<td>32.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYC DOHMH BHIV Comprehensive Care Coordination Training</td>
<td>30.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NQC Training of Consumers for Quality</td>
<td>20.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid Overdose Prevention</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford University Positive Self-Management Program (PSMP) or Chronic Disease Self-Management Training (CDSMP)</td>
<td>15.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Peer Certification Course Tracker Form – HCV Peer Workers

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All Certified Peer Workers will need to complete a minimum of 68 hours of the Core Required Trainings Below (plus an additional minimum of 22 hours from the Specialized Training Topics on Page 7 and 8, for a total of 90 hours minimum):

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<th>Training Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NYS AIDS Institute Pre-Certification Peer Worker Training (call Stephen at 631-444-3209 to register)</td>
<td>19.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Bridges to Cultural Competency</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Literacy in HIV, STI, and Viral Hepatitis Care - Health Literacy in Patient Care</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peers Providing Trauma Informed Care</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>SafeTALK Suicide Alertness Training*</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring Competencies for Hepatitis C Testing</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Facilitation Skills for STD/HIV Prevention Interventions</td>
<td>13.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C Basics for Peer Workers</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Opioid Overdose Prevention</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2.0 hours</td>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opioid Overdose Prevention</td>
<td>3.0 hours</td>
<td>□</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample Specialized Course Lists – By Track

The following grids provide examples of which courses a peer might complete to satisfy the “Specialized Course” requirements, according to their track. A peer worker pursuing Certification should attempt to select the courses that would best assist her/him with the knowledge and practice to succeed in his/her role. Please note that at least 22 hours of credit are required per track.

### Sample Specialized Training Course: HIV Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
<th>Training Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIV Peer Worker Role in Patient Navigation</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Workers: Promoting Primary Care and Treatment Adherence for HIV</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total # of Hours (22 Required)</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Hepatitis C: Screening, Diagnosis and Linkage to Care</td>
<td>6.5</td>
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<td><strong>Total # of Hours (22 Required)</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
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### Sample Specialized Training Course: HR Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Title</th>
<th>Training Hours</th>
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<td>6.5 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addressing Sexual Risk with Drug Users and their Partners</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C: Prevention with Young People Who Inject Drugs (PWID)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safer Injection and Wound Care</td>
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NYS AIDS Institute Pre-Certification Peer Worker Training

The New York State Department of Health is pleased to announce that, beginning in early 2016, there will be a formal process for certifying individuals as NYS AIDS Institute Peer Workers.

This **three-day training** is intended for people seeking to become NYS AIDS Institute Certified Peer Workers who are either currently working as a Peer Worker or who have been selected by an agency for possible future employment as a Peer Worker. The interactive training helps participants build the knowledge, attitudes and skills needed to use their lived experience of HIV, HCV or accessing harm reduction services as a vehicle to help clients.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Use their lived experience as the basis for providing effective prevention, harm reduction, outreach, patient-navigation and/or self-management services to clients;
- List core competencies of NYS AIDS Institute Peer Workers and identify required trainings to build skills in each competency;
- Recall the NYS AIDS Institute Peer Worker Code of Ethics;
- Maintain confidentiality and appropriate boundaries when working with clients;
- Work effectively as a member of their agency’s care team;
- Follow-best practices for documenting the services they provide to clients;
- Participate effectively in case conferences with other professionals;
- Explore issues related to employment as a peer worker; and
- Identify self-care strategies to address work-related stress.

**Prerequisites:** Completion of a community-based peer recovery or peer readiness training or preparation of an HIV/HCV/harm reduction treatment experience statement. Completion of at least three core courses from the required peer certification training list.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 19.5 hours
Building Bridges to Cultural Competency

This **one-day training** explores the broad definition of culture and its relationship to competent and effective health care and human service delivery.

As a result of this training participants will be able to:

- Discuss invisible privilege and its effect on both receiving and providing services;
- Explore potential obstacles to providing effective services; and
- Describe how these obstacles are created when diverse cultures, Western medicine and human service deliveries collide.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
Health Literacy in HIV, STI, and Viral Hepatitis Care - Health Literacy in Patient Care

This **half-day training** will provide health and human services providers an overview of health literacy and give participants the opportunity to develop skills utilizing health literacy universal precautions to clearly communicate with patients or clients. At completion of this training, participants will be able to apply two health literacy strategies, plain language and teach back method, into their work.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Define health literacy, the health literacy disconnect in healthcare, and how this affects patients and the public;
- Learn about two health literacy universal precautions, plain language and teach back method, to improve communication and patient understanding;
- Develop plain language and teach back facilitation skills; and
- Identify common concerns and challenges associated with incorporating plain language and teach back method with all patients.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 3.0 hours
Introduction to HIV, STIs and Viral Hepatitis

This **one-day training** will prepare non-physician health and human services providers to address HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and viral hepatitis in an integrated, client-centered manner. The training will review the similarities and differences in transmission, screening, available treatments and needed support services for each of the diseases. The training will emphasize the connection between these diseases and the skills needed to effectively interact with clients whose sexual or substance using behaviors place them at risk for HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Recall data showing the overlap of cases of HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis;
- State the rationale and importance of integration of services related to HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis;
- State the similarities and differences in how HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis are transmitted;
- Deliver an integrated prevention message for HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis;
- Provide clients with basic information about the spectrum of illness, testing and treatment for HIV, STIs and viral hepatitis; and
- Link clients to needed HIV, STI, and viral hepatitis testing, treatment and support services.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
Peers Providing Trauma Informed Care

The **one-day training** will provide Peer Workers with an overview of trauma and Trauma-Informed Care. It will cover the effects of trauma, re-traumatization and how Peer Workers can utilize a Trauma-Informed approach. The training will emphasize why Peer Workers should be aware of the impact of trauma on the clients they work with, as well as help peer workers understand the importance of using a Trauma-Informed approach within their agencies. The training will review how Peer Workers can work with other members of the care team to help clients access needed services to address the impact of trauma on their lives, including strategies for destigmatizing mental health services. The training will also allow Peer Workers to consider the impact of trauma on their own lives and will review self-care strategies to remain balanced when working clients who have experienced trauma.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Understand the impacts of trauma and vicarious trauma on an individual;
- Identify the five principles of Trauma-Informed Care;
- Understand the importance of using a Trauma-Informed approach in their work;
- Utilize the five principles of Trauma-Informed Care to reduce the risk of re-traumatization;
- Work with other members of the care team to help clients who have experienced trauma access needed support services;
- Identify Trauma-Informed approaches which help reduce the stigmatization of accessing mental health services; and
- Practice self-care strategies.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
SafeTALK: Suicide Alertness for Everyone

Safe Tell, Ask, Listen and KeepSafe (SafeTALK) is a three-hour training that prepares anyone over the age of 15 to identify persons with thoughts of suicide and connect them to suicide first aid resources. Most people with thoughts of suicide invite help to stay safe. Alert helpers know how to use these opportunities to support that desire for safety. Powerful video clips illustrate both non-alert and alert responses; discussion and practice help stimulate learning. Learn steps that contribute to saving lives.

As a result of this training participants will be able to:

- Move beyond common tendencies to miss, dismiss or avoid suicide;
- Identify people who have thoughts of suicide
- Apply the TALK steps (Tell, Ask, Listen and KeepSafe) to connect a person with suicide thoughts to suicide first aid, intervention caregivers.

Prerequisite: None

Length: 3 hours

In-Person

*** To access this training, please visit:
https://www.omh.ny.gov/omhweb/suicide_prevention/training/safeTalk.html
Sex, Gender and HIV/STDs

This **two-day training** is designed to help health and human services providers promote sexual health among their clients by building their capacity to talk sensitively and non-judgmentally about sexual identity, gender identity and sexual behaviors. Topics to be covered during the training include: sexual and gender identity; strategies for talking with clients about sexual health issues; HIV/STD prevention and harm reduction strategies for sexual behaviors.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Increase their awareness about the range of sexual and gender identities of their clients;
- Describe how homophobia and other forms of stigma and discrimination can impact a client's sexual behaviors and ability to practice sexual risk reduction;
- Increase their comfort in discussing sexual and gender identity with clients;
- Describe how sexual trauma can impact a client's sexual behaviors and risk for HIV/STDs; and
- Offer clients harm reduction options for sexual behaviors.

**Prerequisite:** Although there is no prerequisite for this course, it is strongly recommended that participants have previous knowledge or training on basic HIV/AIDS information.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 13 hours
Harm Reduction Approach Overview

This one-day training will provide health and human service providers with a comprehensive overview of Harm Reduction. Harm reduction is a practical set of strategies designed to prevent disease and promote health by “meeting people where they are” rather than making judgments about where they should be in terms of their personal health and lifestyle. Recognizing that not everyone is ready or able to stop risky behavior, harm reduction focuses on promoting ways to reduce the health risks associated with drug use and other high risk behaviors. This course will assist providers in more effectively engaging their clients in a range of interventions to reduce the risk of harm.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

• Define the key principles of harm reduction;
• Identify at least three attitudes they have about using a harm reduction approach;
• Explore the harm reduction premise that the client is the expert and is responsible for choosing the type and timing of behavior change;
• List a range of harm reduction options for substance use behaviors;
• Identify a range of harm reduction options for sexual behaviors;
• Describe ways in which they can incorporate harm reduction skills into their relationships with clients; and
• Practice identifying relevant approaches and barriers to using harm reduction techniques with their clients.

Prerequisite: None

Format: Face to Face

Length: 6.5 hours
Webinar: Harm Reduction Approach Overview
Motivational Interviewing

This one-day training is designed for non-clinical providers working with clients presenting with high risk behaviors and/or those who are HIV positive. This course will provide an overview of the Motivational Interviewing approach and its value as a client-centered directive intervention. The course focuses on helping providers address client ambivalence and the use of tools to help clients move towards less risky behaviors and change.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Review general principles of Motivational Interviewing;
- Engage clients more effectively during service delivery;
- Apply motivational interviewing techniques and practice skills;
- Respond more effectively to client resistance and reluctance; and
- Identify client’s stage(s) of change and apply appropriate motivational techniques.

Prerequisite: It is strongly recommended that participants have previous knowledge of basic HIV/AIDS information and harm reduction.

Format: Face to Face

Training Hours: 6.5 hours
Motivational Interviewing Overview – Online Learning

This 30-minute online module will provide health and human service providers with an introduction to Motivational Interviewing. The course will review the basic elements of Motivational Interviewing and how it can be helpful to providers when working with clients who are HIV positive, infected with Hepatitis C, or require harm reduction services.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Define Motivational Interviewing (MI)
- List 3 benefits of using MI
- Identify the major elements of MI
- Discuss ways to know if MI is effective
- Identify opportunities to use principles of MI in consumer encounters

Prerequisite: None

Format: Online Learning

Training Hours: 30 minutes
Motivational Interviewing Practice – Online Learning
Overview of Staged-based Behavioral Counseling

This **one-day training** is designed to help health and human service providers gain knowledge and skills in Stage-based Behavioral Counseling approaches and their applied use in the HIV/STI/VH prevention and care services. Stage-based Behavioral Counseling is an adaptation of the Stages of Change/Transtheoretical Model of Behavior Change Theory.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Describe the Stages of Change/Transtheoretical Model of Behavior Change Theory;
- Assess clients’ stage of readiness for prevention and care services;
- Deliver counseling strategies matched to clients’ stage of readiness; and
- Integrate behavioral approaches into existing prevention and care services.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
Active Drug Users and HIV/HCV Retention in Care and Treatment Adherence

This **one-day training** is designed to assist health and human services providers in promoting retention in care and treatment adherence with active substance users. Providers that are aware of effective strategies for working with active substance users can play a vital role in assisting clients with retention and treatment adherence. Topics to be covered during the training include: defining active substance use, including levels of use; strategies for talking with clients about the importance of maintaining healthcare; harm reduction strategies and tools for working with active substance users.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Increase their knowledge of issues related to active substance use and HIV/HCV retention in care and treatment adherence;
- Recall the definition of active substance use and recognize various forms of substance use and stages of use;
- Recognize strengths of substance users and identify ways to use those strengths to achieve retention in care and treatment adherence;
- Recognize strategies employed by providers to work with active substance users; and
- Describe strategies for supporting retention in care and treatment adherence during periods of chaotic use, relapse and transitions in and out of drug treatment.

**Prerequisite:** Although there is no prerequisite for this course, it is strongly recommended that participants have previous knowledge or basic training on HIV, hepatitis C and substance use.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Length:** 6.5 hours
Addressing Sexual Risk with Drug Users and Their Partners

This **one-day training** will build participant knowledge and skills in offering sexual harm reduction options to substance users. Although expanded access to syringes and drug treatment options have helped people greatly reduce their substance use-related risks for HIV, the latest research shows that sexual risk behaviors play a significant role in new cases of HIV among people who use drugs and alcohol.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Recall the latest research that shows how expanded access to syringes and methadone maintenance programs has greatly reduced the number of new cases of HIV from substance use-related risk;
- Identify and discuss sexual risk behaviors clients engage in when using drugs and alcohol;
- Identify harm reduction strategies for reducing sexual risk among people who use drugs and alcohol; and
- Practice harm reduction messages tailored to sexual behaviors for people who use drugs and alcohol.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Length:** 6.5 hours
Crystal Meth, MSM & HIV: An Update

This **two-day training** will increase knowledge of methamphetamine use among MSM, the connection to HIV and Hepatitis, harm reduction strategies and treatment issues. Methamphetamine use by MSM is not a new idea in New York State. However, recently there has been an increase in crystal methamphetamine use among MSM of color.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Identify epidemiologic trends and reasons why this information is relevant today
- List at least two reasons why this drug is popular among MSM of Color
- Describe their own values about working with MSM, people who use drugs, and sexual practices
- Define stimulants and depressants and why people might use them
- Describe at least three perceived benefits of methamphetamine use and long term effects
- Define the use of the DSM-5 in treatment and at least six of the criteria used for a diagnosis
- Define trauma and trauma informed care
- Recognize the difference between screening and assessment
- Identify at least four key elements of the Mental Health Assessment
- Define “Evidence-Based Practice” and list at least three practices that evidence-based for substance use
- Identify at least three resources for treatment and how to access treatment

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Length:** 13.0 hours
Ensuring Competencies for Hepatitis C Testing

This one-day training will define the specific competencies that all staff who offer HCV screening should be able to carry out on a consistent basis in their work with clients. Participants will receive specific tools and resources to assist with meeting these competencies. Through interactive role plays and real life examples, participants will practice delivering tailored information about Hepatitis C transmission, prevention, diagnosis, disease progression and treatment. The training will include use of self-assessment tools to help participants build their competencies in all areas of HCV testing, including basic education about HCV, provision of test results, linkage to diagnostic testing, health care services and harm reduction messaging.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Deliver accurate messages to clients about HCV transmission, prevention strategies, diagnosis, disease progression and availability of effective treatment;
- Explain the meaning of HCV test results and motivate all clients with a reactive result to follow-up with a medical provider for further diagnostic testing;
- Deliver tailored harm reduction messages to clients with reactive or non-reactive test results, including educating clients about syringe access options;
- Deliver accurate information about new, effective HCV treatment to dispel common myths and fears;
- Practice using Motivational interviewing to promote linkage and engagement in health care and other social services.

Prerequisite: Knowledge of HCV information and completion of on-line training in Motivational Interviewing is required.

Format: Face to Face

Length: 6.5 hours
Group Facilitation Skills for STD/HIV Prevention Interventions

This **two-day training** will help to increase providers' confidence, knowledge and skills in facilitating groups, particularly for group level HIV/STD prevention interventions (e.g., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention evidenced-based interventions).

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Increase their understanding of group process and how it influences behavior change;
- Identify qualities of an effective group facilitator;
- Increase skills in facilitating STD/HIV prevention intervention groups;
- Identify strategies for handling group problems; and
- Learn the importance of training, supporting and evaluating group facilitators.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Length:** 13 hours
Healthy Sex! Linking Gay Men and MSM to Sexual Health Services

This **one-day training** is designed to help participants become more comfortable discussing sexual health issues with MSM (men who have sex with men). It will provide an overview of the role of the non-medical provider in addressing barriers to linkage and retention in care for MSM, and methods to help MSM become advocates for their sexual health. The course will address participants’ values, attitudes, and beliefs about MSM, and offer guidance on how to employ a sex-positive approach to such areas as anal sex and cancer, substance use, STIs (including HIV and HCV), PEP and PrEP, serosorting, condoms, and treatment as prevention.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Recall NY State epidemiology on MSM and HIV;
- Identify strategies that providers can use to address barriers to prevention, treatment, and care for MSM;
- Identify patient navigation techniques to help MSM talk to their medical providers about their sexual health;
- State current information on anal health and anal cancer;
- Address PEP, PrEP, and prevention burnout among MSM; and
- Identify strategies that address mental health, substance use, and sexual risk in MSM.

**Prerequisite:** Recommended but not required to have attended HIV 101 or basic HIV course offered at www.hivtrainingny.org.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
Hepatitis C Basics for Peer Workers

This **one-day training** will offer peer workers information about hepatitis C and will cover basic facts about hepatitis A and B.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Recall basic facts about the who is affected by hepatitis C in New York State
- Recall basic facts about the functions of the liver
- Describe how hepatitis C is and is not transmitted
- Share information with others about viral hepatitis prevention and harm reduction strategies.
- Recall recommendations regarding who should be screened for hepatitis B and C
- Describe the two-step testing algorithm for hepatitis C
- Recall resources for HCV testing in NYS
- Describe to clients the spectrum of illness for hepatitis C
- Recall key facts about new treatments for hepatitis C and resources for HCV treatment in NYS
- Counsel clients with hepatitis C about the importance of vaccination for hepatitis A and B, avoiding alcohol, good liver health practices and avoiding re-infection
- Recall NYS AIDS Institute HCV Peer Worker competencies

**Prerequisite:** None

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
Hepatitis C Medical Care and Treatment Update for Peer Workers

This **one-day training** will review the latest advances in treatment for hepatitis C (HCV) and increase awareness of HCV Peer Workers about the overall medical care needs of people living with HCV. The training will review New York State core competencies for HCV peer workers related to supporting clients in accessing HCV medical care and treatment. It will provide peer workers with an opportunity to reflect on a wide range of ethical issues as well as their own attitudes and beliefs about HCV treatment with the goal of building peer worker skills in motivating and engaging clients in HCV medical care and treatment.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Explain the importance of engaging people living with HCV in primary care
- Recall basic information about advances in HCV treatment
- Recall NYS AIDS Institute HCV Peer Worker competencies related to linkage to care and patient navigation
- Use motivational interviewing to talk with clients about HCV treatment and work as part of a care team to assist clients in accessing and completing treatment
- Counsel clients living with HCV about the importance of vaccination for hepatitis A and B, avoiding or reducing alcohol intake and good liver health practices
- Counsel clients about the importance of avoiding re-infection and provide harm reduction strategies to avoid re-infection
- Recall basic information about health coverage options and other benefits that are available to help people living with HCV access health care services and medications
- Work as a member of the care team to:
  - Help patients take advantage of health maintenance services, vaccination, and other preventive services
  - Assist with follow-up on care team recommendations regarding client assessments and referrals for a variety of psychosocial issues including substance use, mental health, domestic violence, smoking cessation, etc.
  - Participate in case conferences.

**Prerequisite:** Hepatitis C Basics for Peer Workers or similar course

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
Hepatitis C Peer Worker Role in Patient Navigation

This two-day training will prepare Hepatitis C Peer Workers to help people navigate hepatitis C (HCV) testing, linkage to routine medical care and engagement in HCV treatment. This training will review the New York State Peer Certification core competencies related to patient navigation for HCV peer workers and focus on building specific skills and strategies peer workers can use to conduct outreach and other activities to help clients navigate the health care system.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Define barriers that prevent optimal engagement in HCV care;
- Conduct outreach to link people with HCV to medical care;
- Recall NYS AIDS Institute HCV Peer Worker competencies related to linkage to care and patient navigation;
- Outline strategies for assisting clients in navigating the complex maze of HCV screening, medical care and treatment;
- Respond effectively to common client concerns about accessing HCV care;
- Identify best practices for serving as a client escort and providing a facility tour;
- Provide clients practical guidance regarding appointment scheduling, navigating the health care system and establishing a positive relationship with all members of their health care team;
- Provide clients with harm reduction and re-infection prevention support.

Prerequisite: Hepatitis C Basics for Peer Workers or similar course

Format: Face to Face

Training Hours: 13.0 hours
Hepatitis C Prevention with Young People Who Inject Drugs (PWID)

This **one-day training** will explore Hepatitis C virus (HCV) prevention issues for young (18-29 years) people who inject drugs (PWID) in both urban and non-urban settings. The training will emphasize the link between viral hepatitis infection, prescription opioid misuse, and the potential for transition to heroin. Through interactive skills building activities, participants will identify strategies for effective and culturally competent engagement and intervention with youth who inject drugs.

**As a result of this training participants will be able to:**

- Describe the scope of HCV infection in young PWIDs;
- Explain the association between the emerging epidemic of HCV infections among young persons and the prescription drug epidemic;
- Identify factors impacting young PWIDs' vulnerability to HCV infection;
- Identify the principles of youth-centered, harm reduction-oriented service provision;
- Formulate effective prevention messages that address young PWIDs’ risk behaviors related to drug use; and
- Identify strategies for HCV prevention for young PWID.

**Prerequisite:** Although there is no prerequisite for this course, it is strongly recommended that participants have previous knowledge or basic training on HIV, Hepatitis C and substance use.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Length:** 6.5 hours
Hepatitis C: Screening, Diagnosis, and Linkage to Care

This one-day training will help increase non-clinical health and human services provider’s knowledge of Hepatitis C screening and diagnosis and the importance of effective linkage to care for persons infected with the Hepatitis C virus (HCV).

As a result of this training, providers will be able to:

- Describe the burden of HCV disease;
- Identify HCV risk groups;
- Describe the NYS law with regard to offering an HCV screening test;
- Distinguish between HCV screening and diagnostic tests and the meaning of their results;
- Demonstrate the delivery of accurate HCV counseling messages based on test result;
- State and explain the importance of linking people infected with HCV to care;
- List two barriers and two solutions to effectively linking HCV infected persons to care; and
- State at least two core components of an effective active HCV linkage to care model.

**Prerequisite**: It is strongly recommended that participants have basic knowledge of HCV or have previously attended, “Integrating Viral Hepatitis into Your Work,” or, “HIV and HCV Co-infection,” trainings.

**Format**: Face to Face

**Training Length**: 6.5 hours
HIV and Hepatitis C Co-Infection

This **half-day training** is for health and human service providers who work with people living with HIV and who need updated information about HIV/HCV co-infection in order to provide effective services to their clients. More than 25% of people living with HIV in the United States are co-infected with the Hepatitis C virus (HCV). Among people who acquired HIV as a result of injection drug use, the rates of HIV/HCV co-infection may be as high as 90%. HCV screening is recommended for all persons living with HIV.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Recall basic information about the liver and hepatitis C, including transmission, prevention, course of illness, screening and treatment;
- Counsel their HIV positive client about the importance of knowing their HCV status;
- Describe how co-infection with HIV and HCV affects the progression of each disease;
- Recall current trends and improvements in treatment for people who are co-infected with HIV and HCV; and
- List at least three additional service needs of people with HIV who are also co-infected with HCV.

**Prerequisite:** Although there is no prerequisite for this training, it is strongly recommended that participants have previous training in HIV/AIDS.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Length:** 3.0 hours
HIV Peer Worker Role in Patient Navigation

The **two-day training** will prepare HIV Peer Workers to help people with HIV who are newly diagnosed or who have fallen out of care learn to navigate the health care and social service delivery system. This two-day course draws from recently published guidelines from the International Association of Providers in AIDS Care and other best practices. This training will provide Peer Workers with the tools necessary to assist people with HIV in navigating the complexities of HIV care in the role of patient navigator.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Define barriers that prevent optimal engagement in HIV care;
- Recall NYS AIDS Institute HIV Peer Worker competencies related to linkage to care and patient navigation;
- Outline strategies for assisting clients in navigating the complex maze of HIV care and support services;
- Respond effectively to common client concerns about accessing HIV care and beginning HIV treatment;
- Identify best practices for serving as a client escort and providing a facility tour; and
- Provide clients practical guidance regarding appointment scheduling, navigating the health care system and establishing a positive relationship with all members of the HIV care team.

**Prerequisite:** Preferred that individuals have completed “**Overview of HIV Infection and AIDS – Online Learning.**”

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Length:** 13 hours
HIV Testing in NYS

This **half-day training** will provide the latest information about New York State Public Health Law requirements that guide HIV testing. In 2017, regulations were released which removed the requirement for obtaining informed consent in writing or orally. However, regulations require that patients be made aware of the offer of HIV testing, be provided key points of information about HIV prior to the test and be informed that they have the right to decline an HIV test. The training will review the updated HIV diagnostic testing algorithm and raise awareness about acute HIV infection. Participants will receive patient education resources for different testing results and understand their responsibility to provide patients diagnosed with HIV with an appointment for HIV care.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Meet the requirements of public health law to routinely offer HIV testing as a part of health care services to all patients age 13 and older;
- Recall the settings and providers impacted by the law
- Recall the key points about HIV testing that must be provided before conducting an HIV test;
- Be familiar with the latest HIV diagnostic testing algorithm and identify tools for interpreting the results of the multi-test algorithm;
- Describe the process for providing an HIV negative result;
- Recall follow-up actions for patients newly diagnosed as living with HIV including case reporting responsibilities and the requirement of arranging for follow-up HIV care (with patient’s consent);
- Recall the confidential nature of HIV testing and the use of NYS consent forms for disclosure of HIV related information; and
- Recall the procedure for requesting information from the DOH for the purpose of re-engaging a patient of the facility who appears to be out of care

**Prerequisite:** Although there is no prerequisite for this training, it is strongly recommended that participants have previous training in basic HIV/AIDS.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 3 hours

**Additional Training:** Participants who would like an opportunity to practice the skills associated with offering HIV testing services may choose to attend “HIV Testing: Skills Practice Session”.
HIV Testing Skills Practice Session

This one-day training will provide participants with an opportunity to practice key skills related to offering HIV testing services.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Recall strategies for providing HIV pre-test messages to clients with special needs, including low literacy skills, limited English proficiency, issues related to capacity to consent, and other unique circumstances or needs;
- Deliver a preliminary positive and confirmed positive HIV test result;
- Arrange for HIV care for newly diagnosed HIV positive patients;
- Conduct the NYS domestic violence screening protocol;
- Recall responsibilities regarding completion of the New York State Medical Provider HIV/AIDS and Partner/Contact Report Form (DOH-4189), including making an effective referral to the appropriate partner services program; and
- Recall the rationale and limitations of integrating HIV testing with screening for Hepatitis C and STIs.

Prerequisite: Knowledge of basic HIV/AIDS information and attendance at "HIV Testing in NYS" or an equivalent training.

Format: Face to Face

Training Hours: 6.5 hours
Improving Health Outcomes for HIV-Positive Individuals Transitioning from Correctional Settings to the Community

This one-day training is for non-clinical providers who work with HIV positive clients who were formerly incarcerated or who are involved in the criminal justice system. The training will inform providers about the culture of corrections as it relates to HIV-infected inmates' needs upon community re-entry. Best practices will be reviewed to assist formerly incarcerated clients living with HIV/AIDS establish and maintain linkages to care, as well as maneuver through the system and access needed services.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Understand the role of community providers in supporting successful community re-entry for incarcerated HIV positive clients;
- Describe the distinction between jail and prison custodial settings and how HIV transitional planning services differ;
- Outline the challenges that HIV-infected inmates face upon release;
- Describe effective engagement techniques for working with inmates who are transitioning into community systems of care;
- Discuss strategies for conducting assessments with former inmates who are living with HIV/AIDS to learn about their needs and to create appropriate linkages and referrals; and
- Identify support services and resources for HIV infected inmates who have left the correctional system.

**Prerequisite:** It is strongly recommended that participants have previous knowledge of basic HIV/AIDS information, harm reduction and corrections.

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours

**Format:** Face to Face
Intro to Co-Occurring Disorders for Clients with HIV/AIDS

This **one-day training** will introduce non-physician providers to co-occurring disorders (substance abuse and mental illness) and their impact on people living with HIV/AIDS. The training will also review trauma and its impacts on care as well as “red flags” or warning signs that might indicate a problem with substance abuse and/or mental health. Participants will also be offered tools for making referrals for appropriate treatment for clients who may be experiencing co-occurring disorders.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Define the term “co-occurring disorders” as it applies to substance abuse and mental illness;
- Define the term “trauma” and how it impacts substance abuse, mental illness, and HIV/AIDS;
- List qualities important for a provider in working with people with co-occurring disorders;
- Define the term “red flag” and give examples from case studies; and
- Identify communication skills that help a provider make a referral for co-occurring disorders.

**Prerequisite**: None

**Training Length**: 6.5 hours

**Format**: Face to Face
Peer Workers: Promoting Primary Care and Treatment Adherence for HIV

This **two-day training** is designed to increase awareness of Peer Workers about HIV primary care guidelines, the HIV Treatment Cascade, health insurance options, and treatment adherence. Peer Workers who are aware of HIV primary care guidelines and strategies for supporting treatment adherence can play an important role in improving the health outcomes of people living with HIV.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- List the components of primary care for patients living with HIV
- Understand the HIV Treatment Cascade and how it informs their work
- Explain to patients the key elements of the annual comprehensive physical exam for patients living with HIV
- Explain to patients the importance of routine laboratory screening and assessments used in primary care for people living with HIV
- Recall the different classes of HIV medications and briefly describe how they work
- Identify common barriers to treatment adherence, including medication side effects
- List three specific strategies for promoting treatment adherence
- Understand the health insurance assistance programs regarding the treatment and care of PLWHA
- Recognize the impact of culture on accessing healthcare
- Work as a member of the care team to:
  - Help patients take advantage of health maintenance services, vaccination, and prophylaxis for opportunistic infections
  - Conduct client assessments and make referrals for a variety of psychosocial issues including substance use, mental health, domestic violence, smoking cessation, etc.
  - Participate in case conferences.

**Prerequisite:** It is strongly recommended that participants have previous knowledge of basic HIV/AIDS information.

**Training Length:** 13.0 hours

**Format:** Face to Face
Positive Prevention: Connecting Care and Prevention

This one-day training will provide participants with updated information and strategies for promoting prevention among people living with HIV/AIDS. The latest research demonstrates that early initiation of treatment, retention in care and viral load suppression are critical to the health of people with HIV and also play a key role in reducing new infections. Participants will learn strategies for coupling messages about the importance of clinical care with behavioral interventions to address the risks associated with sexual and substance using behaviors.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Recall the latest research that demonstrates the link between treatment and prevention;
- Explain to clients the importance of early initiation of anti-retroviral treatment, viral load suppression and retention in care;
- Recall how co-morbidities such as HIV/HCV co-infection or HIV/syphilis co-infection can affect transmission and acquisition of HIV and other infectious diseases;
- Refer clients as needed to other intensive prevention interventions including group level interventions, condom distribution programs, partner services, syringe access and others; and
- Practice skills related to promoting prevention among clients living with HIV of all ages.

Prerequisite: None. It is strongly suggested that participants have attended basic training in HIV/AIDS.

Format: Face to Face

Training Length: 6.5 hours
Promoting Health Care Coverage for People Living with HIV/AIDS in New York State

This one-day training is designed to assist health and human service providers to better understand issues related to access to health coverage, including resources to pay for medical appointments, laboratory testing and medications, is a critical component for ensuring that people with HIV can get treatment to promote health and achieve viral suppression. This training will provide a comprehensive overview of health coverage options for people with HIV and discuss how being enrolled in a health plan does not guarantee that a client is prepared to access the full range of available benefits. Maintaining health coverage through major life changes can present a significant challenge for people living with HIV. Loss of coverage or lapses in coverage can result in interruption of treatment, lack of access to medication and a myriad of negative health outcomes.

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Define the myriad of key terms used by health plans that consumers should be understand;
- Recall income and other eligibility requirements for the full range of health coverage options including Medicaid, Medicare, employment based health coverage, New York State of Health – New York’s official health plan marketplace and HIV Uninsured Care programs (ADIS Drug Assistance Program);
- Understanding the health plan’s HIV formulary and pharmacy benefits;
- Accessing primary care and specialty services, including behavioral health services;
- Navigating changes in employment and health coverage;
- Qualifying life events, such as marriage, divorce, death of a partner and others; and
- Open enrollment periods, re-certifications, etc.

Prerequisite: None

Format: Face to Face

Training Hours: 6.5 hours
Role of Non-Clinicians in Promoting PrEP

This **half-day training** will prepare non-clinical health and human services providers to educate their communities about PrEP, work with clinical providers to expand access to PrEP and provide support to clients who are taking PrEP.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Deliver culturally relevant educational messages about PrEP to clients who may benefit from this intervention;
- Discuss the efficacy of PrEP in terms that clients can understand;
- Refer clients to a host of NYS, NYC, national and local resources regarding PrEP including the PrEP/PEP Voluntary Provider Directory;
- Identify resources to assist clients with reimbursement for PrEP medication, medical appointments, HIV/STD testing and other prevention tools such as condoms, sterile syringes, etc.;
- Integrate messages about PrEP into HIV/STD testing and other prevention services offered by the organization;
- Assist clients on PrEP with behavioral counseling and support daily adherence to the medication; and
- Partner with local providers that prescribe PrEP to promote easy access to PrEP.

**Audience:** Non-clinical health and human services staff who are:

- Involved in offering HIV testing, harm reduction counseling, prevention services, community outreach or adherence support;
- Working with individuals at high risk for HIV who have an opportunity to provide education or support regarding PrEP;
- Working in clinical settings who may have an opportunity to provide education or support around PrEP; and
- Peer Workers who work with people at risk with HIV and STDs.

**Prerequisite:** Participants should have prior basic training on HIV and STDs.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 3.5 hours
Safer Injecting and Wound Care

This **one-day training** will build participant knowledge and skills to work with clients around safer injection practices and complications associated with injecting. This course will provide an overview of the basic anatomy of veins and arteries; the supplies and equipment used to inject drugs; common injections practices; basic care for injection-related infections and wounds, and harm reduction strategies for working with substance users and people who inject drugs.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Describe wounds and infections commonly associated with injection drug use;
- List the risk considerations for different injection sites (arms, hands, neck or groin) and methods;
- Identify strategies to prevent injection related infections and injuries;
- Describe basic wound care, and “red flags” requiring medical attention;
- Recognize strengths of substance users that can be used to promote evidence-based practices and reduce infection and fatal incidence; and
- Provide harm reduction counseling messages tailored to clients’ unique drug-using circumstances to more effectively engage PWIDs.

**Prerequisites:** It is strongly recommended that participants complete the course, **Harm Reduction Approach Overview** (full day or webinar) or have some experience with harm reduction services prior to attending this course.

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Hours:** 6.5 hours
Surviving and Thriving: Older Gay Men and MSM Living with HIV

This **one-day training** will prepare non-physician health and human services providers to support older gay men and MSM with retention in medical care, achieving viral suppression and promoting behaviors that will prevent transmission of HIV to their partners.

**As a result of this training, participants will be able to:**

- Recall NYS-specific data which demonstrate the disproportionate impact of HIV on older gay men and MSM living with HIV/AIDS;
- Define retention in HIV care and viral suppression and explore specific challenges for older gay men and MSM;
- Define high impact HIV prevention and explore implications for older MSM;
- Recall how experiences related to “coming out”, stigma, social isolation, presence or absence of family/peer support and co-morbidities can impact participation in health care and prevention;
- Discuss options for health insurance coverage for older adults living with HIV; and
- List the ways a provider can support or enhance a client’s personal and social assets to ensure linkage to care, retention in care and treatment adherence.

**Prerequisite:** It is strongly recommended that participants have previous training in basic HIV and have taken the following AIDS Institute training: "**Overview of HIV Infection and AIDS**" (training offered at www.hivtrainingny.org) and have attended the training “**Working with Older Adults Living with HIV.**”

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Length:** 6.5 hours
Transgender Health 102: Addressing Barriers to Care for Transgender People

This **one-day training** will provide an overview of the role of the non-medical provider in addressing the barriers to accessing health care that transgender and gender non-conforming people routinely face. This course will address participants’ values, attitudes, and beliefs about transgender people, and review best practices for creating a welcoming and safe environment for transgender clients. It will also help participants to improve communication skills needed to effectively engage a wide range of transgender people who are at risk for or living with HIV, STIs and/or Hepatitis C (HCV).

**As a result of this training, peer participants will be able to:**

- Define gender, gender anatomy and other sexuality terms, identities, and concepts used in transgender communities including transitioning;
- Identify personal values, attitudes and beliefs regarding transgender people;
- Describe barriers to prevention, treatment, and care for transgender individuals and why they are disproportionately at risk for HIV, STIs, HCV and other health issues;
- List at least three resiliencies (personal and social, modifiable and non-modifiable) that positively affect health outcomes for transgender people;
- State the concrete steps their agencies can take to remove structural barriers to care for transgender people (including non-inclusive intake forms, registration processes and ways to ensure a safe welcoming environment); and
- Demonstrate the ability to conduct a transgender-affirming risk assessment.

**Prerequisite:** Must have attended “LGBT Cultural Competency” or “Sex, Gender and HIV” offered by AIDS Institute Education and Training or equivalent course. Please visit [www.hivtrainingny.org](http://www.hivtrainingny.org).

**Format:** Face to Face

**Training Length:** 6.5
Webinar: Health Promotion for Older Adults Living with HIV

This two-hour webinar will provide an overview of how HIV progresses and affects the overall health of older adults. This information will then be related to how service providers can play a role in promoting and helping older adults living with HIV stay linked to care and maintain viral load suppression.

As a result of this training, peer participants will be able to:

- Recall some common characteristics and challenges older adults living with HIV face and how it affects the health of older adults living with HIV;
- State why HIV is different in older adults in comparison to their younger counterparts; and
- Describe how service providers can help older adults living with HIV maintain continuity of care.

Prerequisite: Although there is no prerequisite for this course, it is strongly suggested that participants have previous training in basic HIV and have taken the following AIDS Institute training: "Overview of HIV Infection and AIDS" (training offered at www.hivtrainingny.org).

Format: Online Webinar

Training Length: 2.0 hours
Webinar: Sexual Health of Older Adults

This two-hour webinar is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of sexual activity among older adults and the need for effective and tailored HIV/STI prevention messages to help improve sexual health. Data on the sexual activity and function of older adults will be provided from a number of sources, including ACRIA’s research with older adults.

As a result of this training, peer participants will be able to:

- Define the difference between sexual activity and sexual function of older adults;
- Recall reasons why providers need to develop tailored prevention messages for older adult clients;
- Discuss how prevention message burnout and the lack of age-appropriate messaging interferes with prevention campaigns targeting older adults; and
- Identify primary and secondary strategies that providers can use with their clients to help improve the sexual health of older adults and minimize sexual risk.

Prerequisite: None.

Format: Online Webinar

Training Length: 2.0 hours