

What does it mean to be a CPRP?

Practitioners all over the U.S. and Canada consider the CPRP the crowning achievement of their career. More than any other credential or degree, the CPRP signifies a deep commitment to the principles of person-centered recovery that form the core of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation ethos. It also reflects a compassion for the persons under their care, and a commitment to the dignity and maximum recovery of each one. And, it is all the more meaningful because it isn't easy.

In order to obtain the Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation credential, practitioners must go through a rigorous application process that includes reviewing work experience, education, and training in psychiatric rehabilitation. Before they may take the exam, all applicants must demonstrate basic eligibility through an appropriate combination of classroom and on-the-job learning plus paid work experience. Application details are documented and verified by program staff.

Additionally, all practitioners must sign and agree to abide by the Practitioners Code of Ethics and go through a criminal background check. Those found to have violated the Code are subject to sanctions by an Ethics Review Panel, including supervision or revocation of the credential.

Applicants must then pass a comprehensive written examination. The 3-hour exam includes 150 questions that challenge the applicants' knowledge in seven practice domains: Interpersonal Competencies; Professional Role Competencies; Community Resources; Assessment, Planning, and Outcomes; System Competencies; Interventions; and Diversity.

Once they have passed the exam, CPRPs must demonstrate continued competence in the field by renewing the credential every three years, through participation in 60 hours of continuing education and training, teaching, publishing, and/or other professional activities. They must also renew their agreement to abide by the Code of Ethics.

At every step, the Certification Commission ensures that program policies and the examination itself adhere to the highest standards for both validity and fairness. Thus, a CPRP can be proud not only of his or her individual accomplishment, but as a member of a competent and ethical profession.

U.S. Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA)
601 Global Way, Suite 106
Linthicum, MD 21090
(410) 789-7054
www.uspra.org/certification