
Continuing Education Requirements for First Responder Peer Supporters who have completed the 16 Hour Foundational Peer Support Training.

The Ohio Revised Code 2317.023 regarding First Responder Peer Support Privileged Testimonial Communications states in section (E) To receive the testimonial privilege established under division (B) of this section, a peer support team member must complete not less than eight hours of basic peer support training every two years.

Ohio Revised Code Section 4113.42 states:

(B) An employer or organization that appoints a peer support team, or an advisor designated by an employer or organization under division (F) of section 2317.023 of the Revised Code, shall keep a roster of the peer support team members that make up each peer support team maintained by the employer or organization. The employer, organization, or advisor shall do both of the following in the roster: (1) Identify each peer support team member providing services at the time the roster is created by first and last name; (2) Identify whether the member is in compliance with the peer support training requirements necessary for the testimonial privilege described in section 2317.023 of the Revised Code.

If you are not in compliance with the 8 hour CEU's you do not have privileged communication under the ORC. You cannot act in any capacity as a Peer Supporter with Privileged Communication. If you meet with anyone as a peer, you must let them know you do not have Privileged Communication status.

According to the law, if you do not have the 8 hours of CEU's, there is not a grace period, therefore you are not in compliance and will not have privileged communication. Each department can decide if they want to reinstate you. Lapse of peer support privilege is not addressed in the ORC.

Each department can determine if there is a grace period. Some suggestions for consideration:

EMS CEU's- The deadline may be extended, but only in very specific emergency circumstances. The request must be made prior to the deadline.

CPT - The deadline may be extended, but only in very specific emergency circumstances. The request must be made prior to the deadline.

Once the expiration date or extension date passes, the person should retake a 16 Hour foundational peer support training to be compliant with the ORC.

Attached is the ORC for your review.