



CAPS

COMMUNITY AUTISM PEER SPECIALIST
(CAPS) PROGRAM



Want to use your lived experiences to help others on the Autism Spectrum? Apply for the Spring 2022 CAPS Training Program!

What is the Community Autism Peer Specialist (CAPS) Training?

The CAPS Training is for individuals on the Spectrum who wish to use their lived experience to support their peers. The training provides necessary knowledge, skills, and credentials to work as a CAPS in Pennsylvania delivering peer support services. The training focuses on self-advocacy, empowerment, and community inclusion as core values.

Through a mixture of reading, self-reflection, group activities, and job-shadowing, trainees gain the skills to share their personal experiences as a tool to empower others on the Spectrum to achieve their personal goals in the community.

Individuals will complete 75 hours of training. The training will include virtual and in-person classroom instruction, self-paced learning activities (homework), and virtual field observations (job shadowing) of an existing peer support program.

Completion of this training provides graduates with the credentials to qualify for future positions as a CAPS, as well as providing valuable educational experiences applicable to a variety of roles in the field of Autism advocacy, services, and supports.

CAPS Training/Position Requirements:

- **Lived Experience:** Individuals who are 18 years of age or older with a diagnosis of autism
- **Education/Employment History:**
 - ▶ A high school diploma or GED from an accredited institution
 - ▶ Within the past three years:
 - Maintained at least 12 months of successful full or part-time paid or voluntary work experience
 - or**
 - Obtained at least 24 credit hours of post-secondary education
- **Two professional references are required.** References can be past employers, educators, or other individuals who can speak to your skills and fit for this training program.

Training Details

Date and Times: While the training will be held between April 25 - May 13, 2022, the training will not take place every day. Please be prepared to be available 9 am - 5 pm. The full training schedule will be available at a later date.

Location: In Philadelphia and virtually. More details will be provided to participants.

Note on Covid-19 Protocols: Participants may be required to wear masks, maintain social distance when possible, symptom screening and/or testing expectations.

Interested Individuals can:

- **Rolling admission until all slots are filled!**
Apply online at: <https://bit.ly/CAPSTraining2022>
- **Email the paper application to:** phillyap@drexel.edu



For more information, please contact:

 **Website:** www.phillyautismproject.org/peer/

 **Email:** phillyap@drexel.edu

 **Phone:** 215-571-3209 or 215-571-3152