

Tony Evers  
Governor



DIVISION OF CARE AND TREATMENT SERVICES

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Karen E. Timberlake  
Secretary

**State of Wisconsin**  
Department of Health Services

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May 18, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

In recognition of the extensive impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our lives and the national economy, the Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) is announcing a set of new exemptions to recertification requirements for certified peer specialists (CPS) and certified parent peer specialists (CPPS) for 2021. These exemptions were determined in consultation with Access to Independence, Inc.

DCTS is offering a one-time waiver of the continuing education hours requirements for those recertifying as CPS and/or CPPS in 2021, including those who missed the CPS recertification deadline extension related to COVID-19 initially set as February 28, 2021.

If you are a CPS scheduled to recertify on August 30, 2021, a CPPS scheduled to recertify on July 30, 2021, or a CPS/CPPS who missed the February 28, 2021, deadline for submitting your recertification, you are invited to submit an application for recertification by August 30, 2021. You may submit information on continuing education hours you completed, but you are not required to do so.

**Future recertification applications (2022 and beyond) will require continuing education hours.**

Additionally, in recognition of the economic hardships many have endured throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, you are not required to pay the \$50 recertification fee. Please indicate on the application that you are not able to pay the fee at this time, and the fee will be paid to UW-Milwaukee School of Continuing Education by DCTS on your behalf.

All CPS recertifying on August 30, 2021, will receive a new certificate from DCTS with an expiration date of August 30, 2023. All CPPS recertifying on August 30, 2021, will receive a new certificate from DCTS with an expiration date of January 30, 2023.

This exemption letter does not automatically recertify a CPS/CPPS covered by the exemptions described in this letter. This exemption letter only extends the dates by which CPS/CPPS are considered certified until August 30, 2021, regardless of the expiration date on their most recent certificate. It is the responsibility of each CPS and CPPS to send in the required forms and/or payment by August 30, 2021, in order to recertify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenya Bright".

Kenya Bright  
Integrated Services Section Supervisor  
Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery