

Prevention Credentials

One way that communities can further prevention efforts is to have one or more of the members gain their Prevention Credentials. On the next page is a grid that can show you the four types of credentials and what is required for each. Here are some frequently asked questions for community members:

FAQ

1. Why should a community volunteer seek Prevention Credentials?
 - a. There are several reasons including:
 - i. Whether you are on a coalition or simply have a heart for the work, having credentials gives your work validity. To gain the credentials, you will need to obtain education hours (like those you just received through this course!).
 - ii. As your coalition grows, you may want to apply for funding to further the work. Many grants require that a credentialed individual be involved to receive the funds.
2. What can I do with credentials that I can't do without them?
 - a. Prevention programming requires that the presenter of the education be a credentialed individual.
 - b. You can also help bring other members into effective prevention efforts by knowing the essentials of prevention.
3. As a volunteer, I don't have a lot of time. How much time will it take to earn my credentials?
 - a. Most community members will seek the Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist Assistant (OCPSA). As you can see on the following grid, you will only need 45 education hours (24 hours are covered in this course). Also, you will only need 100 hours of experience. This can be work on a coalition or assisting with prevention programming.

So, what do you do next?

1. Create an account at <https://elicense.ohio.gov>
2. Complete the professional development plan for a Registered Applicant. This is the first step in being credentialed
3. You can review Credential requirements at <http://www.ocdp.ohio.gov/plicensing.stm>
4. Complete the paperwork and pay the registration fee
5. Wait for your approval!

Keep in Mind:

- Keep all training certificates in one location to prove education hours
- If available, also keep agendas for the training
- Free training can be found online at <http://www.ebasedacademy.org/lms/>
- Reach out to other prevention workers either through local agencies or ADAPAO

PREVENTION PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Individuals must complete and submit an appropriate application, fee and all required documentation to be certified/licensed by the Board.

Credential	Degree needed	Work experience hours	Prevention education	To apply
Registered Applicant (RA)	High school diploma/GED	0	0	Completion of Professional Development Plan and online application
Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist Assistant (OCPSA)	High School Diploma/GED	100 hours of prevention related work experience	45 hours of Prevention Education in specific domains	Completion of online application
Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist (OCPS)	Associates degree or higher	2000 hours of prevention work experience (paid or volunteer) 120 must be practical experience in specific domains	120 hours of Prevention Education in specific domains	Completion of online application and successful passing of ICRC Prevention Examination
Ohio Certified Prevention Consultant (OCPC)	Bachelor's degree or higher	6000 hours of paid work experience 4000 of these must be administering or supervising the services	120 hours of Prevention education in specific domains 90 hours of administrative or supervisory education	Completion of online application and successful passing of ICRC Prevention Examination