

Vermont Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program for Paraprofessionals (VTBHWET-Para)

Are you interested in:

- Working with children, adolescent and transitional age youth on mental health and wellbeing?
- Increasing your skills, knowledge and capacity in behavioral health?
- Becoming a mental health worker, peer support specialist, integrative health and wellness coach, and other behavioral health paraprofessional?

BHWET-Para is federally funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to develop and expand community-based experiential training to increase the skills and knowledge of individuals preparing to become mental health workers, peer support specialists, and other behavioral health paraprofessionals.

Program Eligibility:

- US citizens, non-citizen nationals, or individuals lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the US.
- At a minimum, applicants must have a high school diploma or GED (if interested in taking the National Board Certification Exam, additional educational requirements apply).
- Individuals interested in behavioral health work with children, adolescents, and transitional age youth.

Program Details:

- One academic year (September to August) – online and two in-person day long sessions
- Complete Community Health Worker Training (including 40 hours of field placement)*
- Complete Integrative Health and Wellness Coach Training (including 50 hours of summer work)
- Obtain National Provider Identification (NPI) number upon completion of the program
- Participate in program evaluation and complete surveys along the academic year
- \$6,000 stipend (if you are a current UVM student or employee, other federal financial aid policies might apply)**
- Tuition support available

*If you recently completed the Community Health Worker Training, you enter directly into the Integrative Health and Wellness Coach Training.

National Board Certification Exam Requirements:

Participants have the option to take a Health and Wellness Coach National Board Certification Exam at the completion of the program. The following two requirements must be met before taking the exam:

- Complete Integrative Health and Wellness Coach Training
- Minimum of 60 college credits, an associate's degree or higher, OR 4,000 hours of work experience (approximately two years).

**Federal financial aid policies require that all estimated financial assistance be factored into the overall financial aid award offer. This includes amounts awarded as stipends to support living expenses that are not considered compensation. If you apply for Federal financial aid by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the maximum amount of Federal loan funding you may borrow, if eligible, will be your total Cost of Attendance, less the VTBHWET-Para stipend, if offered to you, and less any other aid you are receiving, which might include tuition remission, outside scholarships, etc. For more information about Cost of Attendance and the types of aid that may be available to you, please visit www.uvm.edu/studentfinancialservices

Spots are limited.

Questions & more information:

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