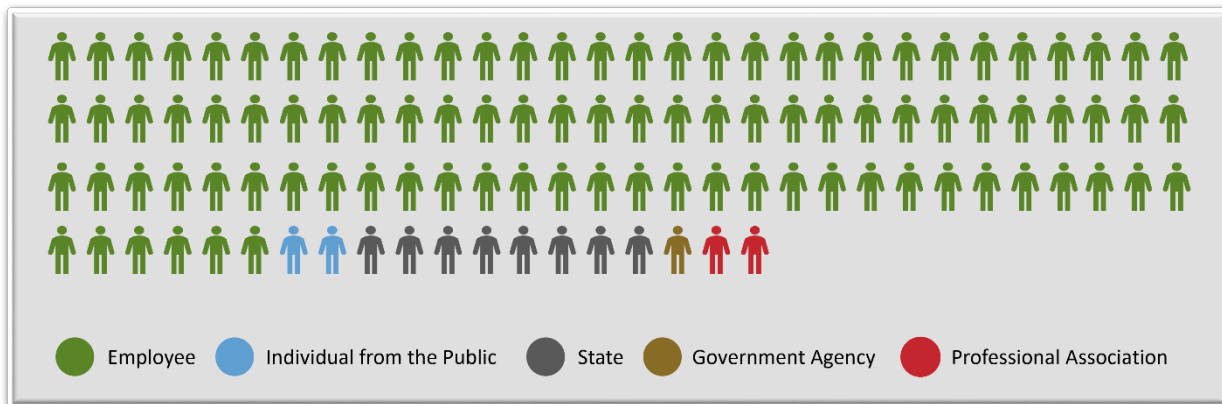


VA STANDARD OF PRACTICE FOR PEER SPECIALISTS Comment Count Report

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is establishing VA's standard of practice for Peer Specialist; this will be a standardized set of services that all VA Peer Specialists can perform if their VA medical facility performs such services, and they have the education, training, and skill to perform the services.

On March 12, 2024, VA posted the proposed VA standard of practice for Peer Specialists in the Federal Register ([89 FR 17898](#)) for public comment and within VA's intranet for VA employee comment. VA also sent letters to the state oversight bodies for Peer Specialists with the proposed VA standard of practice and an opportunity for them to comment directly to VA on the proposed standard. VA requested that all comments on the Federal Register, VA's intranet site, and from the states be provided within 60 days. The comment period closed on May 13, 2024, and VA received 109 comments in total.



VA received 96 comments from VA employees, 2 comments from individuals from the public, 1 comment from a government agency, and 2 comments from professional organizations. As of May 13, 2024, VA received comments from 8 out of the 48 state oversight bodies for Peer Specialists; however, VA will continue to actively engage with states.

VA will review all comments received and make appropriate revisions to the VA standard of practice for Peer Specialists in light of the comments, to include those that help VA meet its mission and goals through evidence-based practice and alternatives.

VA will post a collective response to all comments in a final report on <https://www.va.gov/standardsofpractice> once the VA standard of practice for Peer Specialists is published in Veterans Health Administration Directive 1900, which will be available at <https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/publications.cfm?pub=1>.