

# Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Entry Course

## 12-Week Basic Counseling Skills Course



Richmond Area Multi-Services Inc. (RAMS), in partnership with San Francisco State University (SFSU), is offering a 12-week basic peer counseling course to individuals and family members with personal experience in receiving behavioral/mental health services, with the aim of reaching underserved San Francisco communities.

The goal is to equip students with the knowledge & skills for entry level peer specialist/counseling roles in the community behavioral health system or to further their careers in the field.

### Supportive Learning

Classes are designed to utilize each student's unique experience to further enhance the course topics discussed in class. Students have the opportunity to enrich their knowledge through an 8-hour job shadowing experience at an assigned behavioral health agency in San Francisco.

Course Instructor and student advisor are on-hand to provide support services for the duration of the term as well as assist in career planning upon completion of the course.

### Career Planning Assistance

Assistance is available for developing cover letters & resumes and interviewing skills. Coursework includes effective workplace communication and networking opportunities with potential employers.

Employment assistance/placement services are also provided by RAMS Hire-Ability Employment Services Program.

### Featuring Interactive Classes, Job Shadowing, and Career Planning Assistance



### Expert Lecturers

Classes are conducted by field experts who will discuss a range of topics grounded in the wellness and recovery model.

# Make a **Difference** by Becoming a **Peer Counselor**

## Resources

As a SFSU student, you will have access to the University's Libraries at the Downtown & Main Campus, Computer Labs, Student Health Services, Disability Programs and Resource Center, and Childcare Center as well as the College of Health & Human Services Student Resource Center.

## Credit Course

Successful completion of the course is equivalent to three (3) transferable credit units from San Francisco State University.

## Financial Support

This course is being offered for FREE! All students who successfully complete the course will be eligible to receive a stipend.

## Spring 2017 Entry Course

The Spring 2017 Entry Course will take place from **March 21, 2017 to June 8, 2017**.

Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10AM-2PM at San Francisco State University Downtown Campus: 835 Market St. Campus is ADA accessible.

Funded by the Mental Health Services Act

 [www.ramsinc.org](http://www.ramsinc.org)



## Spring 2017 Key Dates

**Application Release: January 12, 2017**  
**Informational Open Houses: January 25, 3-5PM & January 31, 10AM-12PM at 1282 Market St**  
**Application Due: Tuesday, February 21 @ 5PM**  
**Acceptances Sent: Week of March 1, 2017**  
**First Day of Instruction: March 21, 2017**  
**Graduation: June 8, 2017**

## Application & Minimum Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age
- San Francisco resident
- Completed High School education or GED
- Able to commit to attending classes for 12 weeks
- Program is intended for individuals (or family members) with personal experience in the community behavioral/mental health system

To apply, interested participants must submit a complete application packet, which is available at [www.ramsinc.org/peer.php](http://www.ramsinc.org/peer.php)

## Questions?

You may contact us at [certificate@ramsinc.org](mailto:certificate@ramsinc.org) or by phone at (415) 579-3021 x102.