



PEER SUPPORT SERVICE

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PeerSupportBrochure.pdf*

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What is Peer Support Service?

BCTF Peer Support Service (PSS) is designed to provide support to teachers who are on plans of assistance (i.e., have received a less-than-satisfactory teaching evaluation), or who request assistance with their teaching (i.e., self-referral).

Who will provide the service?

The peer support will be provided by teachers, known as BCTF Peer Support Consultants, who have an extensive background in teaching, and training in planning, consultation, classroom observation, analysis, and feedback skills. Peer consultants will offer support in a collaborative and non-judgmental environment. PSS consultants support the growth of a teacher's professional practice, outside of the evaluation process.

How can a member access the service?

An active member who desires help with her or his teaching or is on a plan of assistance may request Peer Support Services by contacting their staff rep or local president, who directs the request to BCTF Peer Support Service staff.

Who will pay for the service?

The cost of the service to a member on a plan of assistance will be the responsibility of the member's school district. The Federation will pay the cost of the service for a member who requests assistance with her or his teaching (i.e., self-referral). Cost-sharing with the district is also negotiated case-by-case.

What is the role of the local in the delivery of the service?

The local president or designate agrees to work with the peer consultant in the delivery of service, and the local agrees to provide or obtain follow-up support, as needed, for the teacher.

What is the responsibility of the school district?

The school district agrees to pay the cost of the service for a teacher on a plan of assistance and to provide follow-up support, as needed, for the teacher. The district also agrees with the following procedures under which Peer Support Service is provided (see next page).



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The service will be provided according to the following procedures and processes:

Peer Support Service may be offered to a member only when her or his school district agrees that it shall not request any evaluation on a member (client) or use any information relating to the member's participation in the Peer Support Service against the member in any disciplinary proceedings, or in any evaluation of the teaching performance of the member. The cost of the service to a member who is on a plan of assistance will be paid by her or his school district, and/or where possible, cost-shared with the BCTF.

A peer consultant will not give reports to any person except as agreed to, in advance, by the member receiving the services, the local president, and the peer consultant. Wherever possible, a peer consultant assigned to assist a member on a plan of assistance will participate in developing the plan of assistance.

Peer consultants may discuss information relating to their work with members of PSS and with appropriate BCTF staff on a privileged communications basis at any time.

In the event that a situation where a peer consultant provided assistance develops into a grievance, no information from the peer consultant will be requested nor will any be offered about the situation. (*Members' Guide to the BCTF*, Policy 30.A.24–32)

For further information

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