



ANSWERING AN URGENT STATE NEED

By the end of the decade, positions in behavioral health are expected to increase nearly 28% with more than 1,500 annual openings. Microcredentials provide an on-ramp for students to begin learning, receive training, work in the field, and earn credit toward a degree.

Development of behavioral health education programs has been a focus of the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) since 2021. In 2023 CCCS received \$15 million through Senate Bill 22-181 to provide rapid accelerated training that equips individuals for entry or advancement in behavioral health care. As a result, five microcredentials are now available to prepare students to work in behavioral health care within a year or less, providing them with flexibility to continue their education and gain work experience.

*Behavioral Health microcredentials prepare students to work
in behavioral health care within a year or less.*



Learners earn a digital badge upon completion of each microcredential.

CCCS badges are industry-recognized credentials that validate core employability and technical skills. Our partnership with the Colorado Behavioral Health Administration ensures that individuals who successfully complete the Qualified Behavioral Health Assistant program will be considered qualified to serve as part of a Medicaid care team.



Flexibility for the Learner's Journey

With coursework offered both online and in person, the Behavioral Health microcredentials stack into an associate or bachelor's degree of applied science.

The Pathway can begin in high school through Career & Technical Education programming with the Qualified Behavioral Health microcredential.



Job Examples

- Addiction Counseling Assistant - \$18/hr
- Behavioral Health Assistant - \$16-\$18/hr
- Patient Navigator - \$20/hr
- Peer Support Specialist - \$18/hr



Use this QR code or visit
bit.ly/CO-BEH to learn more.

CCCS partnered with the Colorado Behavioral Health Administration and the Education Design Lab to seek input from learners, earners, employers, Medicaid, and education providers to inform the development of the Behavioral Health microcredentials. In addition, the Rural Mental Health Development Project seeks to train workforce for the community while also addressing the behavioral health workforce needs of rural colleges.