

# PREVENTION FIRST

Substance Use Prevention Professional Development

## YPE SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE OVERVIEW

### The Benefits

Delivering a successful Youth Prevention Education (YPE) program requires complex skills that are sometimes overlooked. To be successful at YPE facilitation and to make the most impact on the students you work with, there are a variety of skills you need that go beyond just facilitating lessons.

The YPE Specialist Certificate process will allow you to engage in professional development specific to those skills and allow you to reflect on what you learned and how you can integrate that knowledge into your work as a YPE facilitator.

### YPE Specialist Certificate Requirements

<b>Facilitation Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possess at least one year of paid experience as a substance use prevention professional in an IDHS Substance Use Prevention Program funded organization.</li><li>• Have implemented at least three complete program cycles of a SUPP-approved YPE program before applying.</li></ul>
<b>Self-Study Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the <a href="#">Youth Prevention Education and Classroom Culture Resource Guide</a></li><li>• Read the <a href="#">Delivering Culturally Responsive Prevention Services Resource Guide</a></li></ul>
<b>Training Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">AOD Effects and Trends</a> (online)</li><li>• <a href="#">The Dynamic Adolescent Brain</a> (online)</li><li>• <a href="#">Facilitating Prevention Education Curricula</a> (online)</li><li>• Foundations of Youth Prevention Education (classroom or virtual classroom)</li><li>• Model Program Curriculum Training for all curricula being implemented.</li><li>• Effective Group Facilitation (classroom)</li></ul>
<b>Skills and Knowledge Assessments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete a <a href="#">YPE Facilitation Skills Self-Assessment</a></li><li>• Obtain at least one lesson observation from a supervisor, school partner, mentor, or peer using the <a href="#">YPE Fidelity Assessment</a> tool and process.</li><li>• Respond to the questions on the application to help assess your knowledge of the information learned and identify growth opportunities.</li></ul>
<b>Coaching Session</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• At least one coaching session with a Prevention First TTA specialist to review assessments and discuss additional growth opportunities.</li></ul>

### The Process for Obtaining a YPE Specialist Certificate

1. After completing all the requirements, complete the [YPE Specialist Certificate Application](#). This is an open application with no deadline.
2. Submit the completed application to [providerservices@prevention.org](mailto:providerservices@prevention.org) with the subject line: YPE Specialist Application. Make sure to attach the following documents:
  - Model Program Curriculum Training certificates
  - Completed YPE Fidelity Assessment
  - Completed YPE Facilitation Skills Self-Assessment
3. Your application will be reviewed within two weeks from the date of receipt.
4. A Prevention First TTA Specialist will reach out to you regarding the status of your application.
  - If approved, a TTA Specialist will schedule the coaching session with you.
  - If not approved, the TTA Specialist will let you know the required next steps.
5. Attend at least one Coaching Session with a Prevention First SUP TTA Specialist.
6. All those who receive their YPE Specialist Certificate will be recognized in the SUPP Prevention On the Move quarterly newsletter and on Groupsite.

For questions about the YPE Specialist Certificate, please contact Cher Hanson.  
Email: [providerservices@prevention.org](mailto:providerservices@prevention.org) or call 312.909.9768.