

# Chemical Dependency Counseling Certificate Joint Program in Counseling & Social Work

## PROGRAM CONTACT:

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## Program Questions & Answers

**1) WHAT IS IT?** The joint program in Chemical Dependency Counseling is a 12-credit-hour certificate sponsored by the Counseling and Social Work programs at Cleveland State University. Chemical dependency counseling is a vital specialization for counselors, social workers, and psychologists in Ohio. The state of Ohio now licenses Chemical Dependency professionals in their own right (see list of licenses below). This certificate program explicitly covers all 270 required academic hours in the content areas designated by the board (see also question #8).

**2) WHO IS THE CERTIFICATE DESIGNED FOR?** The certificate is designed for current students in the master's programs in counseling and social work or graduates from accredited programs in counseling (CACREP accreditation) and social work (NASW accreditation).

**3) WHO ELSE CAN TAKE THE COURSES?** Those holding an undergraduate degree in a behavioral science (including psychology, social work, human services, criminology, sociology and education) can take these courses toward the academic hours required for licensure as a chemical dependency counselor. Non-master's students will need an additional 100 contact hours (approximately 7 semester credit hours) of training in addition to the experience requirements. Seniors in the behavioral sciences may also take these courses as electives.

**4) HOW DOES THE CERTIFICATE WORK?** Students enrolling in the first course fill out a form to declare their intent to complete the entire certificate. Once the student has completed the courses and the master's degree they are awarded the certificate. This will cover all academic content required for all levels of licensure by the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board (OCDPB). The board's rules can be viewed at <http://ocdp.ohio.gov/>.

**5) IS THERE ANOTHER WAY TO GET LICENSED?** Yes there is. Non-master's level applicants can use these courses in addition to other courses or continuing education to complete the academic requirements.

**6) HOW IS THE JOB MARKET?** An assessment conducted by the Ohio Workforce Development Center (July 2005) indicated that 74% of addiction professionals in Ohio

are age 40 and older; 43% are 50 and older. Most of these senior practitioners worked their way through the old experience-based curriculum and will be retiring between now and 2018 making the job market robust.

## **7) WHAT ARE THE COURSES AND COURSE SCHEDULE?**

The entire certificate will be offered fall and spring of every year in the following schedule.

### *Fall Semesters*

*CNS 501: Chemical Dependency: Assessment, Prevention, Treatment (4 credits)  
SATURDAYS 9AM-1-PM*

*SWK 692: Group Work Practice (3 credits)  
MONDAYS 4pm-7pm in Fall Semester*

*SWK 694: Theories and Procedures in Addictions Studies (3 credits)  
MONDAYS 7PM-10PM in Fall Semester*

### *Spring Semesters*

*CNS 503: Legal Ethical Issues in Substance Dependence (1 credit hour)  
SATURDAY FORMAT (3 Saturdays for 4 hours each)*

*CNS 502: Pharmacology of Addiction 1 credit hour)  
SATURDAY FORMAT (3 Saturdays for 4 hours each)*

*SWK 692: Group Work Practice (3 credits)  
MONDAYS 7pm-10pm in Spring Semester*

*SWK 694: Theories and Procedures in Addictions Studies (3 credits)  
MONDAYS 4PM-7PM in Spring Semester*

## **8) WHAT ARE THE NEW LEVELS OF LICENSURE FOR CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY COUNSELING AND REQUIREMENTS?**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY COUNSELORS**

#### **CDCA: Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant**

- Currently employed or volunteering in a chemical dependency position where the twelve core functions are used under supervision.
- Forty (40) hours of approved education in chemical dependency counseling/clinical methods.
- [CDCA Application & Checklist](#)

## **LCDC II: Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor II**

- An Associate's degree in a behavioral science OR a Bachelor's degree in any field.
- Three years (6,000 hours) of chemical dependency counseling related paid or volunteer work experience. An Associate's degree in a behavioral science may be substituted for 1,000 hours of work experience. A Bachelor's degree in a behavioral science may be substituted for 2,000 hours of work experience.
- 270 hours of chemical dependency education in nine specific content areas.
- 330 practical experience hours in the twelve core functions. This may be completed as part of your work experience requirements.
- Successful completion of the AODA written examination and the CPM oral examination. [Examination Information](#)
- [LCDC II Application & Checklist](#)

## **LCDC III: Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor III**

- A minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a behavioral science.
- Two years (4,000 hours) of chemical dependency counseling related paid work experience. A Master's degree in a behavioral science may be substituted for 2,000 hours of work experience.
- 270 hours of chemical dependency education in nine specific content areas.
- 330 practical experience hours in the twelve core functions. This may be completed as part of your work experience requirements.
- Successful completion of the AODA written examination and the CPM oral examination. [Examination Information](#)
- [LCDC III Application & Checklist](#)

## **LICDC: Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor**

- A minimum of a Master's degree in a behavioral science with documentation of coursework in ten specific content areas.
- Three years (6,000 hours) of chemical dependency counseling related paid work experience of which two years (4,000 hours) must be clinical supervisory experience.
- 270 hours of chemical dependency education in nine specific content areas.
- 30 hours of clinical supervisory education in four specific content areas.
- 330 practical experience hours in the twelve core functions. This may be completed as part of your work experience requirements.
- Successful completion of the AODA written examination, the CPM oral examination and the CS written examination. [Examination Information](#)
- [LICDC Application & Checklist](#)
- [Conversion Application and Checklist](#)

**9) IS THE PROGRAM ACCREDITED BY THE NEW BOARD?** The board just began accrediting programs April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. We are currently preparing our accreditation report to be submitted July 2008.