



What is the Substance Abuse program?

HCC offers an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) and a certificate program in Substance Abuse Counseling. The programs' core courses are drawn from disciplines in Substance Abuse Counseling, Psychology, and Human Services. Students are prepared to seek a career in a variety of clinical settings, both outpatient and residential, that are dedicated to alleviation of substance abuse (alcohol and/or drug abuse). The certificate curriculum is designed to meet the educational requirements of the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists, allowing students to apply for entry level positions as a Trainee. The certificate is also a direct gateway to the associate degree. The associate degree prepares graduates to seek a state credential as a Certified Supervised Counselor-Alcohol and Drug (CSC-AD), while working under the supervision of a board-approved alcohol and drug counselor.

Where do Substance Abuse Counselors work?

Substance abuse is defined as a pattern of harmful use of any substance for mood-altering purposes. "Substances" can include alcohol and other illegal or legal drugs (i.e. prescription drugs). Substance abuse counselors can be found in many types of organizations. However,

they are mainly found in hospitals, clinics, and long-term inpatient centers, and outpatient treatment and recovery centers. Substance abuse counselors assist clients in their recovery to lead a healthy, more fulfilling life.

What is the employment outlook for this career field?

The employment outlook in this field is positive. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 23% increase in jobs in through 2026. Substance abuse counselors are in high demand as a result of the nationwide crisis in opioid addiction. The State of Maryland has declared a State of Emergency in response to the problem.

Note: Students who have been convicted of certain crimes may be precluded from employment in this field. Please discuss concerns with the program coordinator.

What are the average earnings?

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics the median annual wage for Substance Abuse Counselors who have earned a:

- Trainee Certificate can earn approximately \$28,000-\$30,000 per year
- Associates Degree can earn approximately \$33,000-\$40,000 per year

- Bachelor's Degree can earn approximately \$42,000-\$52,000 per year
- Master's Degree can earn approximately \$45,000-\$68,000 per year

Neighboring Washington D.C. is in the top five jurisdictions in which Substance Abuse Counselors earn highest wages.

What are the certification requirements?

In Maryland, the Maryland Board of Professionals and Counselors is responsible for awarding credentials for professionals to work in the field. HCC's Substance Abuse Certificate program offers courses that are required for successful application and approval of Alcohol and Drug Counselor Trainee status from the state of Maryland. Trainee status may be granted prior to completion of the certificate program. Documentation of progress toward completion of the educational and experiential requirements is needed for renewal every two years.

The Associate degree is intended to provide the course work necessary for the status of Certified Supervised Counselor-Alcohol and Drug (CSC-AD), which may be awarded upon successful application to the Maryland Board of Professionals and Counselors. Applicants for this credential must pass two exams and submit a criminal background check to the Board. Work occurs under close supervision of a board-approved alcohol and drug counselor supervisor in an agency certified or licensed by the state.

Students who intend to work in a state other than Maryland should check with the state licensing board in that state. Most states and some countries participate in reciprocity with this specific credential, meaning that those with certification from the state of Maryland are able to transfer this credential if they relocate and gain employment.

The degree of independence and responsibility as a substance abuse professional increases with the completion of a bachelor's or master's degree.

Why should I choose HCC?

With HCC's renewed commitment to help combat this national and statewide crisis against addiction, HCC has revamped and relaunched the Substance Abuse program to help be a part of the solution. HCC prides itself on offering high quality, challenging courses taught by highly edu-

cated faculty in relatively small classes. Students are assigned to faculty advisors, who assist them in choosing courses that fit with their choice of transfer institution and/or career choices.

A.A.S. Degree

Substance Abuse Counseling

The Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Substance Abuse Counseling is designated to prepare students to pursue a career or continue on to a four-year bachelor's degree program. The program complements existing offerings at HCC in Human Services and Psychology. The curriculum is designed to meet the educational requirements of the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists and to prepare students to seek a state credential as a Certified Supervised Counselor-Alcohol and Drug (CSC-AD). The associate degree prepares graduates to work with clients facing substance dependency or abuse in a variety of clinical settings, both outpatient and residential, under the supervision of a board-approved alcohol and drug supervisor.

**General Education Requirements 18-19 credits
Arts/Humanities**

Select one course from the approved General Education course list3

Behavioral/Social Sciences

PSY 101 General Psychology3

Biological/Physical Science

BIO 110 Human Biology3

Diversity

Select one course from the approved General Education course list..... 3

English

ENG 101 English Composition3

(ELL 101 English Composition for English Language Learners is an approved substitution for ENG 101)

**A minimum grade of "C" or better is required for ENG-101 and ELL-101*

Mathematics

Select one course from the approved General Education course list.....3-4

Program Requirements 27 credits

CDC 203 Ethics in Counseling.....3

CDC 210 Medical Aspects of Chemical Dependency3

CDC 212 Interviewing and Counseling.....3

CDC 220 Addictions Treatment Delivery.....3

HST 103 Introduction to Human Services and Social Work.....3

HST 207 Social Work with Individuals3

HST 208 Social Work with Groups.....3

PSY 204 Developmental Psychology: Lifespan Human Development3

PSY 206 Abnormal Psychology3

Internship/Practicum 6 credits

Internship/Practicum - Six semester credits (180 hours per course) are required by the State of Maryland for Licensure. Students unable to complete this will be offered other coursework to receive their degree but will not be eligible for state Licensure.



CDC 269	Internship I.....	3
CDC 270	Internship II.....	3

Restrictive Electives 8-9 credits

Please select 8-9 restricted elective credits from the following courses:

ADJ 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice.....3

HEA 105 First Aid3

HST 201 Understanding Diversity in the Helping Profession.....3

SPD 103 Public Speaking3

STU 106 Professionalism in the Workplace..... 1

Degree Requirement..... 60

Certificate Substance Abuse Counseling

The Certificate in Substance Abuse Counseling prepares students for job preparation in entry-level positions in alcohol and drug counseling and the curriculum is a pathway to the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Substance Abuse Counseling. The course work is designed to meet the educational requirements of the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists of Alcohol and Drug Trainee.

Program Requirements 24 credits

HST 103 Introduction to Human Services and Social Work..... 3

HST 207 Social Work with Individuals 3

OR

HST 208 Social Work with Groups..... 3

PSY 101 General Psychology 3

PSY 204 Developmental Psychology: Lifespan Human Development 3

PSY 206 Abnormal Psychology 3

CDC 203 Ethics in Counseling..... 3

CDC 210 Medical Aspects of Chemical Dependency 3

CDC 220 Addictions Treatment Delivery..... 3

CDC 220 Addictions Treatment Delivery..... 3

Certificate Requirement 24

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www.hagerstowncc.edu/substanceabuse