

## **The Addiction Studies Program at John Jay College of Criminal Justice**

**addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu**

The Addiction Studies Program (ASP) in the Department of Psychology provides education for students interested in the substance abuse counseling and counseling fields. Our program offers the education requirements for the Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) Certificate and the Addiction Studies Minor for Bachelor of Arts students.

Students are eligible for the Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor Trainee (CASAC-T) once they complete our program and additional professional Development Hours required by the state. Bachelor of Arts (BA), Master of Arts (MA), and non-degree students are eligible for our program.

Our certificate program is licensed by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) and allows students to complete the first step in gaining the CASAC credential. With our certificate program, students fulfill the education requirements necessary for the CASAC and also have the opportunity to be eligible for entry-level substance abuse counseling positions once they complete the program.

The CASAC-T indicates that students are working towards the CASAC. Students who earn the CASAC-T can be counted as mental health professionals at OASAS certified substance abuse programs, thus making it desirable for students interested in careers in substance abuse counseling, counseling, psychology, and social work. This profession typically has many employment opportunities.

### **Admissions Information:**

Students need to be registered as John Jay students in order to sign up for required courses. Registered BA and MA students sign up for courses as they would any other course. However, non-degree students have their own application. Please follow the application information provided: <https://new.jjay.cuny.edu/admissions/non-degree-visiting-students>

### **Addiction Studies Program Requirements**

#### **Addiction Studies Minor**

BA students in the Addiction Studies program are encouraged to minor in Addiction Studies. To declare the ASP minor, online at <https://doitapps2.jjay.cuny.edu/declaration-minor/stud-login.php> or students can go to Jay Express Services and complete the declaration of minor form. Jay Express is located in L.79.00 New Building. The Addiction Studies minor is NOT required for the CASAC-T

#### **CASAC-T Certificate**

Students interested in gaining the CASAC-T certificate must be a registered student of John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Registered BA and MA students sign up for courses as they normally would. Non-degree students must have at least a high school diploma and the relevant documents required by the John Jay College Office of Admissions.

### **Addiction Studies Program Courses**

Students are required to complete all 8 of the classes listed below for the CASAC-T Certificate. The Addiction Studies minor requires students to complete any 6 of the 8 classes below. This program can be completed in a year; however, students generally finish in 1 ½ to 2 years. The duration of the program depends on class availability and scheduling, which are subject to change every semester. If you are having trouble signing up for a course, please email [addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu)

### **Addiction Studies Courses**

Students are required to complete all 8 of the classes listed below for the CASAC-T Certificate:

ANT 110/SOC 110: Drug Use and Abuse

PSY 161: Chemical Dependency and the Dysfunctional Family

PSY 255: Group Dynamics in Chemical Dependency Counseling

PSY 266: Understanding Addiction through Research

PSY 268: Therapeutic Interventions in Chemical Dependency

PSY 331/CSL 331: Assessment and Clinical Evaluation in Chemical Dependency Counseling

PSY 350/CSL 350: Advanced Topics in Chemical Dependency Counseling

PSY 480: Ethical and Professional Issues in Chemical Dependency Counseling

### **Guidelines for obtaining the CASAC Credential**

Once students have completed the 8 courses, students should email their unofficial transcript to the Addictions Studies Program at [addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu). Additionally students will need to complete the additional one time trainings required by the state

[https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2024/02/one\\_time\\_requirements\\_casac\\_1.pdf](https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2024/02/one_time_requirements_casac_1.pdf)

Please send in all the certificates of completion to the addictions studies email detailing how each of the one time requirements have been met.

Once the courses and one time trainings completion has been verified by the Addictions Studies Program, the Addiction Studies Program will provide students with the CASAC-T Certificate of Completion. Students will then need to send this document along with an application form to OASAS to receive the full CASAC-T credential. The Addiction Studies Program can assist students through this process. After earning the CASAC-T, students are eligible to work as mental health professionals in OASAS certified substance abuse programs. The next step is to fulfill the 300-hour training requirement at an OASAS-certified treatment program.

The CASAC

The website is:

<https://oasas.ny.gov/credentialing/casac>

There are now two categories you can apply for, CASAC trainee (CASAC-T) or CASAC Provisional (CASAC-P).

The CASAC-T requirement is to complete the 350 educational hours and additional continuing education trainings.

The provisional CASAC has the additional requirements that you are currently working in the substance abuse field or have a letter that you are being hired and have a B.A. in the human services.

Once you have completed the 8 required CASAC courses, you are eligible to apply for the CASAC-T or P.

To apply for the CASAC-T or P, you must now create an account at the OASAS portal. You will need a copy of your John Jay College transcript and a letter of completion of the CASAC program. You can obtain that by emailing a copy of your transcript showing completion of the 8 required CASAC courses to:  
[addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu)

The OASAS website listed above gives you clear instructions how to proceed. It will include a criminal background check.

To apply for the CASAC:

If you have a human services major, you need 4000 hours of work in a certified OASAS facility supervised by a qualified mental health professional.

You must pass an examination given by OASAS. (Details are listed on the website.).

Two letters attesting to competence and ethical conduct by supervisors.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **1. Do I need to register for the CASAC Program?**

No – you can just start taking the 8 CASAC courses and once all 8 are completed you email your unofficial transcript along with the certificates of completion from the one time training requirements to [addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu)

#### **2. Do I need to register for the Addiction Studies Minor to get the CASAC-T?**

No, you are encouraged to register for the minor as you will meet the criteria (6 of the 8 courses) on the way to obtaining the CASAC-T but this is not required.

#### **3. I am a MA student; can I still get the CASAC-T?**

Yes, a few MA level courses may be substituted for the 8 listed above.

- CRJ 714 Social Aspects of Alcohol and Drug Use
- PSY 714 Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
- PSY 730 Ethical Issues in Forensic Mental Health

MA students must then also complete five undergraduate courses in the John Jay CASAC program, in addition to credits required for their MA program. Additional undergraduate courses required for the credential include PSY 161 (Chemical Dependency and the Dysfunctional Family), PSY 268 (Therapeutic Interventions in Chemical Dependency), PSY 255 (Group

Dynamics in Chemical Dependency Counseling), PSY 331 (Assessment and Clinical Evaluation in Chemical Dependency Counseling) and PSY/CSL 350 (Advanced Topics in Chemical Dependency Counseling).

**4. Does the Addiction Studies Program help with internships and job placements?**

While we will forward information we receive the addictions studies listserv, the Addiction Studies Program does not help with internships and job placements. Students are encouraged to contact Career Services <https://www.jjay.cuny.edu/student-life/career-building-job-search/career-learning-lab> or [internships@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:internships@jjay.cuny.edu)

**5. Where do I get more information about who to get my CASAC license?**

CASAC licensure is overseen by the state of New York. You can contact the OASAS office for more information at <https://oasas.ny.gov/credentialing/casac>

**6. Are all the courses offered online?**

No, while many of the courses are offered online this is not an online program.

**7. Are all the courses offered every semester?**

No, we generally try and offer all 8 courses over the course of spring and fall semesters but make sure to plan your schedule with some flexibility as depending upon class enrollment all classes may not be offered each year. With prior approval from the Addiction Studies Program you may be able to take a course at another CUNY campus if it is not being offered at John Jay.

**8. I took some Addiction Studies courses at my previous college – do they count?**

They may. The 8 courses at John Jay each meet a certain area of the state requirements. We would have to see if the courses you took are equivalent to the ones we offer. You will need to email a course description and syllabus to the Addiction Studies Program for them to decide if the course you took is equivalent to one of ours.

**9. I just found out about the Addiction Studies Program and am about to graduate, what can I do?**

If you have not completed all 8 courses by the time you graduated, you can reapply as a non degree student and take the remaining class <https://www.jjay.cuny.edu/admissions/non-degree-visiting-students>