Hello!

Everything around us is constantly changing...but as the Academy experiences growth, one thing that never changes is our desire to represent its membership with the highest standards of integrity. The CAS focus is treating the addictions, knowing the latest in research, counseling therapies and techniques, participating in continuing education - and confirming our commitment to provide the very best care to those who need us most.

This issue will feature...

Meet a New Staff Member

Mary Beth Frost is the Academy's CAS Renewal Coordinator. She joined the staff of the Academy in December 2010 and is the "go to person" for CAS renewal assistance and information.

Meet a Member of the Certification Board

TAP-21...What Is It?

An Article from the Institute of Credentialing Excellence - "Professional Credentials...a Valuable Asset..."

CEU Provider Highlight

CEU's - Listing of Approved Providers

Thank you for representing the American Academy with professional integrity and the highest of standards in addiction services.

Enjoy your summer!

Cheri

Invite Colleagues to Make Application for the Certified Addiction Specialist (CAS) Certification

Minimum Eligibility Requirements
For CAS Certification

Since 1989, the American Academy of Health Care Providers in the Addictive Disorders has offered the Certified Addiction Specialist (CAS) certification to qualified professionals in the field of addictive disorders with specializations in five areas: alcohol addiction, drug addiction, eating disorders, sex addiction and gambling addiction.

Are You Eligible?

✓ Applicants with master’s or doctorate degrees must have:
  Three years of clinically supervised experience providing addiction services.

✓ Applicants with bachelor’s degrees or without degrees must have:
  Five years of clinically supervised experience providing addiction services.

A Two-Step Process:

1. Submit application forms with documentation.

2. Pass the online exam after approval of the application.

For information, visit www.americanacademy.org.
It has been such a privilege to join the staff at the American Academy! As the CAS renewal coordinator, I am here to assist you and answer your questions. Here are a few common questions and concerns from members that have come up over the past months:

I can’t get in! If you have forgotten your password and are unable to access the ‘Members Only’ section of the Academy website, please contact me and I will promptly send a new password via email. This will enable you to access beneficial online information.

I’m so confused! If you are slightly computer challenged, please call me so I can help you get comfortable with our user-friendly website. Once you become familiar with it, I think you will love the convenient features, including a list of pre-approved continuing education opportunities, member documents and online payment options.

For a quick, efficient renewal process, please avoid these things that raise red flags at the Academy and delay your renewal:

1) A lack of addiction-specific CEU’s: You must take courses that provide information about a particular substance or disorder. Examples – “Alcohol the Chemical,” “Bulimia & Anorexia,” “Tobacco Myths,” etc.

2) A missing or unsigned Code of Ethics and Conduct form: We cannot process your return without this!

3) Certificates with vague titles: When courses have vague titles, please explain what was taught and how the material relates to addiction counseling. When you submit a certificate from a conference, please include the syllabus. The Academy cannot give you 20 credits for a two-day conference entitled “Professionals Conference” or “Leadership Training” without further verification that the training is related to addiction counseling.

4) Certificates that are incomplete: Inspect the continuing education certificates you receive. They must include the agency’s letterhead or official seal, the date, your name and the presenter’s name and signature.

5) Incorrect contact information: Please update your phone number, email address and mailing address so you don’t miss important information from the Academy. You can update your profile on the Members Only section of the Academy’s website or by contacting our office.

Please contact my office via phone or email (mbfrost@americanacademy.org) Monday through Thursday from 8:30 – 4:00 Central Time. I am looking forward to hearing from you!

Mary Beth Frost – CAS Renewal Coordinator

TAP-21 ...What Is It?

Whether you are a “seasoned” CAS or a new applicant, you may be confused by the TAP-21 Addiction Counseling Competencies. The TAP-21 category was added this past year as a continuing education guideline for renewals and initial applications.

TAP-21 is simply a list of knowledge, skills and attitudes that Certified Addiction Specialists should master to do their work effectively.


For a quick overview, go to:

- Introduction to the Transdisciplinary Foundations (page 14)
- Introduction to the Practice Dimensions (page 168)
- Appendix B – The Competencies: A complete list and brief explanation of each of the 123 competencies (pages 185-187)

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Dessa Bergen-Cico, Ph.D., is an assistant professor in the Department of Public Health and Nutrition, and lead faculty of Addiction Studies at Syracuse University. She is the United States coordinator for the Council of Europe’s Transatlantic Training Initiative: Effective Governance of Coherent Drug Policies and teaches international courses on drug policy. Dessa holds a research appointment at the Syracuse Veterans Affairs Medical Center and has worked in the field of alcohol and other drug prevention and treatment for over 20 years.

Prior to becoming a member of the Syracuse University faculty, she served as the director of a sexual assault services center and director of substance abuse prevention and counseling programs. In addition to her research on the effects of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse, Dessa teaches and studies the benefits of cognitive behavioral stress reduction and mindfulness-based practices for those affected by violence, trauma, anxiety, and substance abuse.

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS ARE A VALUABLE ASSET FOR JOB SEEKERS AS ECONOMY RECOVERS

Credentials are an effective way to advance within the fastest growing professions

Washington, DC - Attaining professional credentials from an accredited credentialing body can help job seekers take advantage of recent positive employment forecasts and the continued economic recovery. The industries with the highest projected growth over the next decade offer greater opportunities for professionals with valid credentials.

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the greatest job growth over the coming decade will be in health care, science & technology, educational services, and construction. Health care and social assistance will generate more than four million new jobs between 2008 and 2018. Professional, scientific, and technical services will generate more than 2.6 million new jobs, and educational services will generate more than 1.6 million jobs in this same time frame. Each of these industries calls for professionals with highly specialized skills.

President Obama stated in his weekly radio address on February 26th that investments in education are critical for our nation’s future. The same rings true for Americans as individuals: investments in continuing education and attaining professional credentials will be critical to secure jobs and advance in their careers. This conclusion was supported during the first meeting of the President’s Council on Job Creation and Competitiveness, where executives of companies like GE, Intel, Comcast, and others met to discuss strengthening employment in the United States. Leaders at the February 24th meeting agreed that the return of jobs to the US will rely on a workforce with the right skills, from the factory floor to the board room. More....ICE ARTICLE 31511.htm

About the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) Established in 1977, ICE (formerly the National Organization for Competency Assurance) is the leading international membership organization representing the credentialing community. ICE fulfills its mission through the delivery of education and training programs, in setting quality standards for credentialing, and by providing accreditation services through its accreditation division, the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). The ICE membership is composed of credentialing organizations, testing companies, and individual professional development consultants. ICE and NCCA are based in Washington, DC. For further information, please visit www.credentialingexcellence.org.
Academy invites continuing education providers to submit an application. Application Forms: http://www.americanacademy.org/resources/CEProvider.aspx

The North American Training Institute
ONLINE/WEB-BASED COURSES
Discount Available to Academy Members Only

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Approved by the American Psychological Association, NASW, et al... for a complete listing of approvals visit: https://nati.org/oll/ceapprovals.aspx