

Graduate Certificate Program in Addiction Counseling
Department of Human Development and Psychological Counseling
Appalachian State University

Successful completion of the certificate program may benefit you because it demonstrates professional interest and training in the addictions field from a reputable program.

Applicants need to be aware, however, that the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board (NCSAPPB) licensure/certification process for addiction counselors in North Carolina is a separate process from this certificate program. If an applicant wants to be a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) or Certified Substance Abuse Counselor (CSAC) in North Carolina, the applicant would need to contact the board directly for information on this process (ncsappb.org).

Admission Requirements:

Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and complete the ASU Graduate School Application form. Certificate students who apply to transfer into the Clinical Mental Health Counseling masters program need to meet all current admission requirements of the department and the Graduate School.

Sequence of Courses:

Students will receive a certificate that will require the completion of four courses. The following courses are required:

HPC 4570/5560	The Addictive Process
HPC 5570	Counseling the Addicted Person
HPC 6570	The Appalachian Addictions Institute

One of the following courses needs to be taken also:

HPC 5274	Substance Abuse in Family Systems
HPC 5710	Helping the Troubled Employee
HPC 6570	The Appalachian Addictions Institute (can be taken twice)
HPC 6770	Current Issues in Addictions

In their certificate courses, students must receive a grade of a B or better. No courses from other universities will be accepted as substitutes in order to maintain quality control of the material. If a student transfers into the masters' degree program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from the certificate program, upon discretion of the faculty, the full 12 hours may be accepted toward their degree.

Addictions Certificate Advising Information

1. Non-degree seeking students must submit an on-line graduate certificate application to the Graduate School.
2. Enrolled graduate students need to submit a Change of Graduate Program Form to apply to the certificate program. This form can be found here: <https://graduate.appstate.edu/sites/graduate.appstate.edu/files/changeprogram-5.pdf>
3. The certificate will be noted on the transcript when all requirements are completed.
4. If one is in the certificate program and then applies and is admitted to the graduate program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, up to 12 hours can be counted toward their master's degree, but it will not reduce the number of required course hours from 60.
5. No individual studies will be done for any of the certificate classes listed. The only exception is that if a student is in the Addictions Counseling Concentration of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program and has the approval of the Addictions Counseling Coordinator, the student can take an independent study if the required courses have already been taken.
6. While current graduate students can apply to the certificate program, there is no guarantee that they will be able to obtain all the classes required prior to their graduation date. It may be necessary for some students to complete their certificate after they have graduated.
7. The Addictions Institute can be taken twice.
8. The student and advisor needs to submit a graduate certificate program of study approval.
9. Once all certificate courses are completed, the student must submit the online completion of graduate certificate form. Directions are found here: <https://graduate.appstate.edu/enrolled-students/graduation/graduation-app-online>
10. The Graduate School then sends an application to the student (mailed to the address indicated on the completion form) for the actual certificate.
11. Applicants need to be aware, however, that the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board (NCSAPPB) licensure/certification process for addiction counselors in North Carolina is a separate process from this certificate program. If an applicant wants to be a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) or Certified Substance Abuse Counselor (CSAC) in North Carolina, the applicant would need to contact the board directly for information on this process (ncsappb.org).