

Substance Abuse Counselor

INDUSTRY FACTS



What do substance abuse counselors do?

Everyone has their vices. Those unhealthy (but generally harmless) habits we develop over time. But

left unchecked, those innocuous behaviors can transform into devastating addictions. Substance abuse counselors are compassionate, patient, understanding, and possess excellent interpersonal skills. They're also the first—and often last—line of defense for people struggling with drug and alcohol dependencies. Here's a breakdown of their responsibilities:

- Evaluating clients' mental and physical health, addiction, or problematic behavior
- Assessing patients' readiness for treatment
- Developing, recommending, and reviewing treatment goals and plans with clients and their families
- Assisting patients in developing skills and behaviors necessary to recover from their addiction
- Working with clients to identify behaviors or situations that interfere with their recovery
- Teaching clients' family members about addiction



Where do they work?

Substance abuse counselors work in a variety of environments that range from mental health centers and community centers to prisons and private practices.

How much do they earn?

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, the average salary for this role is \$44,000*. Remember that salaries vary based on location, facility, and experience level.

How's the job outlook?

Employment of substance abuse counselors is projected to grow 22% through 2028, much faster than other occupations.

"I was very impressed with what CareerStep had to offer. Affordable pricing for a comprehensive program, combined with the support and flexibility I needed. A perfect choice!"

JESSICA C., CAREERSTEP LEARNER

JUNE, 2020

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PROGRAM DETAILS

Improve Your Life

When it comes to career training, you'll find a lot of posers out there. Con artists that'll try to impress you with fancy hyperbole. But through all the noise, the distinct sound of success can be heard. Your success. All it takes is a little push. A nudge in the right direction—and your whole life could change. New doors opened. New worlds discovered. New opportunities explored. With CareerStep, it all could happen in as little as 4 months

Prepare For A Better Job

Addiction is a tragic illness. An illness that impacts all our lives in one way or another. Are you compassionate? Empathetic? Do you possess excellent interpersonal skills? Then you'll probably find working as a substance abuse counselor to be incredibly rewarding.

Learn Your Way (From Home)

With online training, you can absorb more knowledge and learn more skills—fast.

- Study on a schedule that fits your life
- Progress at a pace that matches your learning style
- Adjust the time and effort you devote to your coursework each day

Receive Coaching and Guidance

When you train with CareerStep, we back you every step of the way—from enrollment through course completion.

- Learner support
- Technical support
- Career support (interview coaching and resume reviews)

Program Modules and Approximate Completion Hours

Module Name
Fundamentals of Substance Abuse and Addiction
Classifying, Assessing, and Treatment Planning of Substance Abuse and Addiction
Substance Abuse and Addiction Basic Treatment Regimens
Substance Abuse and Addiction Relapse Prevention
Application of Group and Family Systems to Substance Abuse and Addiction
Solution-Focused Therapy Strategies
Other Therapy Strategies for Treatment of Substance Abuse and Addiction

TOTAL HOURS = 525

*Job market and salary data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/> [02/21]