

# Emphasis in Addictions Counseling

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Frostburg State University offers an **Emphasis in Addictions Counseling** to help prepare you to become a *Certified Associate Counselor – Alcohol and Drug* in the state of Maryland. This emphasis program provides the *educational requirements* set forth by the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (<https://health.maryland.gov/bopc/Pages/cacad.aspx>) for persons seeking to become certified as an addictions counselor at the Bachelor's level. (Please note the additional state requirements listed below.) This emphasis is open to majors in Psychology and Social Work.

## **Educational Requirements** Complete all of these courses (min. 36 credit hours):

PSYC 208 Lifespan Development

PSYC 317 Abnormal Psychology

PSYC 385 Group Counseling

PSYC 386 Physiology of Chemical Dependence

PSYC 387 Addictions Treatment Delivery

PSYC 388 Topics in Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders

PSYC 389 Ethics for the Addictions Counselor

PSYC 406 Theories of Counseling

PSYC 410 Individual Counseling: Evidence-Based Practice

PSYC 492/495 Internship Seminar/Internship in Psychology\*

Placement in an addictions-related internship: Internship Seminar (PSYC 492) 3 credits AND Internship in Psychology (PSYC 495) minimum 6 credits.

\*In place of this, Social Work students can enroll in SOWK 495, Internship in Social Work (12 credits), with placement in an addictions-related internship.

## **Additional requirements for Maryland State Certification**

The *Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists* oversees the process of certifying addictions counselors in Maryland.

### **Certified Associate Counselor–Alcohol and Drug (CAC-AD):**

- Bachelor's degree in a health or human services counseling field.
- 33 credit hours of specific courses in alcohol and drug counselor training.

Completing the FSU Psychology degree program AND taking the alcohol and drug counselor training courses required for the Addictions Emphasis are **the first steps** in meeting certification requirements.

### **Other requirements include:**

- Supervised Clinical Experience: Not less than 1 year with a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical experience in alcohol and drug counseling with a Board-approved alcohol and drug supervisor.

- Three professional references.
- Examinations: Must pass both the NCAC Level II exam and the Maryland law exam.
- A Criminal History Records Check (CHRC).

For more information, see <https://health.maryland.gov/bopc/Pages/cacad.aspx> or search “MD Board CAC-AD” and look for the official State of Maryland site. Also see [COMAR 10.58.07.06](#) for a complete description of requirements.

Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists  
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