

# **Addiction Studies Program Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: Does John Jay College offer the CASAC (Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor) Certificate?**

A: No. The college offers the coursework that counts towards CASAC training. The CASAC is issued by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS). However, you will be eligible for the CASAC-T when you complete our program. Visit OASAS at <https://www.oasas.ny.gov/>.

**Q: What is the CASAC-T?**

A: The CASAC-T stands for CASAC-Trainee. Once a student has completed the necessary coursework in the Addiction Studies Program, they will receive the CASAC-T. After receiving the CASAC-T, students should obtain the necessary paid full-time supervised experience at an OASAS licensed treatment center by a counselor with a CASAC. The CASAC-T allows students to receive the paid supervised experience. An internship is not required for the CASAC-T.

**Q: How do I declare the addiction studies minor?**

A: To declare or change your minor, you would need to fill out the Declaration of Minor form. This form can be found at Jay Express or Registrar and also online at J-Stop. To access the form on J-Stop, go to [jstop.jjay.cuny.edu](http://jstop.jjay.cuny.edu). Click My JJC on the far right and scroll down to "Change My Info". You should be able to access the PDF of the form. You can also access the form by coming to our office at the Psychology Department on the 10th Floor New Building.

**Q: Do I have to submit a formal application to enroll in the Addiction Studies Program?**

A: No formal application is required to enroll in the Addiction Studies Program. However, it is recommended that you send the Addiction Studies Program an email, stating your status (BA, MA, or non-degree student) to [addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu)

**Q: Do I have to take the courses in the suggested order?**

A: You do not have to take the courses in the suggested order, but you must start with PSY/ANT 110 before taking any other course in the program. The prerequisite for the upper level courses PSY 331, 350, and 480 is now PSY 268; while you don't have to take all the course in the suggested sequence, it is recommended.

**Q: How long does it take to complete the Addiction Studies program?**

A: The program can be completed in one year, taking four of the courses each semester. However, this depends on the classes offered each semester. Students of the current program have finished in 1 ½ to 2 years. If there are issues regarding signing up for classes, our coordinator Dr. Yalisove can be of assistance.

**Q: I am currently taking Addiction Studies courses, but will graduate before I finish the program. Can I complete the Addiction Studies Program after I graduate?**

A: Yes. You can finish the program after you graduate. You will, however, have to reapply to the college as a non-degree student. A link to the non-degree application process is here [http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/sites/default/files/contentgroups/admissions/Non\\_Degree\\_Application.pdf](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/sites/default/files/contentgroups/admissions/Non_Degree_Application.pdf). In addition, tuition for non-degree students is considerably more than it is for full-time or part-time students. A link to the college tuition rates is here <http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/undergraduate-tuition-fees>

**Q: What kind of training [requirements] does someone have to obtain to earn the CASAC?**

A: Training requirements consist of four parts:

1. Classroom Education: This consists of completing the 8 courses offered by the John Jay College Addiction Studies Program.
2. Clinical Experience: This consists of completing 300 hours with an OASAS licensed treatment program under the supervision of a counselor holding a CASAC. This may be fulfilled by taking the John Jay Internship courses as long as they meet the previously mentioned requirements.
3. Work Experience: Two years of paid full-time work experience at an OASAS licensed treatment program supervised by a counselor holding a CASAC. Times differ for those holding a BA and an MA.
4. CASAC Examination: Completing and passing the CASAC written examination.

Details of the process can be obtained at the OASAS website:

<https://www.oasas.ny.gov/sqa/credentialing/casacreq.cfm>

**Q: How long will it take me to obtain my CASAC?**

A: It takes between 3-4 years to obtain the CASAC, which includes time to obtain the classroom education (which the Addiction Studies Program offers), the clinical experience, and passing the written examination.

**Q: Does the program offer financial aid for non-degree students who are enrolled in the Addiction Studies Program?**

A. Unfortunately, there is no financial aid for non-degree students.

**Q: I obtained my degree from John Jay College 15 years ago and took some Addiction Studies courses then. Will I receive credit for those courses toward completion of the Addiction Studies Program?**

A: Courses taken more than 10 years ago are not credited toward completion of the Addiction Studies Program.

**Q: Where can I get more information about the Addiction Studies Program?**

A: You can email the program faculty at [addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:addictionstudiesprogram@jjay.cuny.edu).

Alternatively, you can call us at (212) 237- 8533. An addiction studies faculty member will respond to your questions within one week after you send your email or leave a voicemail

message. You can also make an appointment with an addiction studies faculty member to discuss the program and the CASAC process by sending an email, calling, or visiting us at our office in the Psychology Department on the 10th Floor New Building.

**Q: I completed all of the requirements for the Addiction Studies Certificate program. Now, what do I do to obtain my CASAC-T?**

A: Contact the Addiction Studies Program by email. Send us a copy of your transcript and a mailing address. We will then send you your Addiction Studies Certificate and a letter stating that you completed the Addiction Studies Certificate Program. In addition, the letter provides information where you can send your application to obtain your CASAC-T.

**Q: I contacted the Addiction Studies program over a week ago and no one has replied to me. Who can I contact?**

A: We're sorry that no one replied to you. Unfortunately, like most colleges, our funding for support staff has been considerably reduced, which sometimes makes it hard for a staff member to reply in a timely manner. The best suggestion is to call and email again. We are OK with students pestering us for information because we want to make sure that you get the assistance you need.