Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Certificate Program in Substance Abuse Studies at the UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work.

The Substance Abuse Certificate Program is a four-course specialty certificate program designed to enhance an MSW student’s substance abuse clinical skills.

MSW students can complete the classes through their regular course of study by signing up for classes through their academic advisor.

Professionals may register for any of the courses as continuing education opportunities directly through the Behavior Healthcare Resource Program or for academic course credit through the Friday Center at (919) 966-3587.

The Certificate Program is approved by the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board as meeting the educational requirements (180 hours) for the Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) credential.

Included in this packet is additional information on the program as well as an application of interest. If you have any questions or need additional information or clarification please call (919) 843-3010.

Again, thank you for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Substance Abuse Certification Program
(919) 843-3010
For more information, please contact:

Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program
UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work
325 Pittsboro Street, Suite 469
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3550
919-843-3010
Fax: 919-962-6562

Worth Bolton, MSW, LCAS, CSS
Clinical Instructor
Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program
UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work
325 Pittsboro Street, Suite 469
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3550
919-962-4371
Fax: 919-962-6562
lwbolton@email.unc.edu

Completed applications of interest must be accompanied by a $25.00 processing fee.

This program is a collaborative effort of the Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program and the Continuing Education Program at the School of Social Work at UNC-Chapel Hill, and is supported by the NC Division of MH/DD/SAS, Substance Abuse Section.

The School of Social Work
The school offers both master’s (MSW) and doctor of philosophy (PhD) degrees in social work, as well as ongoing professional education for human service practitioners. Its educational mission recognizes the uniqueness of the region, the struggle of oppressed groups including women and African Americans, the causes and effects of poverty, and the need for provision of services in rural areas.

Substance Abuse Studies Certificate
Providing MSW Students and graduate practitioners with state-of-the-art education to meet the requirements for the Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) credential
**Description**

Social workers provide services to many people struggling with addiction to alcohol or drugs. Substance abuse poses a challenge to our state and the nation as a serious public health issue linked to poverty, violence, and family stress. The School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill offers the Substance Abuse Studies Certificate Program that meets the educational requirements for the Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) credential administered by the NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board. The LCAS is the required credential for providing substance abuse services in the North Carolina public sector, and is quickly becoming the qualification of choice for managed care and insurance companies.

The Substance Abuse Studies program provides a research and practice-based course of study in Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD) prevention, intervention, and treatment. The curriculum is grounded in social work philosophy and incorporates a biopsychosocial-spiritual framework that is strengths-based, culturally competent, and gender sensitive across the life span. The program is designed for MSW graduate students in good standing and community practitioners who hold MSW degrees.

Upon completion of the program requirements, MSW students will graduate with a Specialty in Substance Abuse, and be eligible for reduced requirements for the LCAS after one year of post-graduate clinical practice. Practitioners completing this program will have fulfilled the LCAS requirement for 180 hours of substance abuse specific education and will be eligible to apply for the LCAS credential administered by the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board (NCSAPPB).

**Requirements**

The School of Social Work has developed four courses and one workshop that meet the NCSAPPB requirement of 180 hours of substance abuse specific education for the LCAS credential:

- SOWO 700 ATOD: Abuse & Dependence
- SOWO 760 ATOD: Clinical Practice
- SOWO 701 ATOD: Biomedical Basis
- SOWO 761 ATOD: Diverse Populations
- Field Placement: 2nd year field placement in Substance Abuse with approved Substance Abuse supervisor.

Each course contains content on the 12 core functions and 12 core competencies of substance abuse counseling. The workshop covers specific information on ethics and HIV/AIDS. Courses are held in the evening during the fall, spring, and summer academic semesters. SOWO 700 is the introductory pre/co-requisite for the other courses.

**Registration**

MSW students at UNC-Chapel Hill register for these courses as part of their degree program. For MSW students, each class earns three credit hours and will appear on their transcript.

Masters-level practitioners register for these courses through the School of Social Work’s Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program and Continuing Education. Each class is equivalent to 45 contact hours of substance abuse specific continuing education credit. To receive credit, the course must be completed with an average of 70% or higher; no academic credit or formal grade is earned.

Enrollment each year is limited to 20 students with space available on a space available basis.

Practitioners wishing to enroll in the Substance Abuse Studies Certificate program should submit an application of interest (available from the Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program). Although this application does not guarantee a seat in the courses, practitioners with an application on file will be given priority during registration. Course brochures will be mailed to practitioners approximately 6-8 weeks prior to the start date of each course. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Practitioners desiring to take one or two courses may do so without an application and only as space is available.

**Certificates of Completion**

Social work students and practitioners who successfully complete each course will receive a certificate of completion indicating the number of substance abuse specific credits awarded. Certificates can then be submitted with LCAS application materials to the NCSAPPB. Contact the NCSAPPB at (919) 832-0975 or anna@recanc.com for an application packet outlining all the requirements necessary to obtain this credential.
Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS)

There are several different ways persons may apply to be a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist. Listed below are the criteria for applying to become a Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist. In order to become certified with this credential, the applicant must meet ONE (1) of the following criteria:

Criteria A:

A minimum of a master's degree with a clinical application in a human services field;

1. Two years post-graduate supervised substance abuse counseling experience;
2. Three letters of reference from Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist or a master's level Certified Substance Abuse Counselor;
3. Achievement of a passing score on a master's level written examination administered by the Board;
4. 180 hours of substance abuse specific training as defined in the statute and in policy statement of the Board;
5. Signed verification statements attesting to the intention to adhere fully to the ethical standards of the Board;
6. That the applicant is not and has not engaged in any practice or conduct that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this statute;
7. Payment of fees.

Criteria B:

1. Minimum of a master's degree with clinical application in a human services field;
2. Current certification as a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor;
3. Achievement of a passing score on a master's level written examination administered by the Board;
4. Three letters of reference from Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist or a master's level Certified Substance Abuse Counselor;
5. Signed verification statements attesting to the intention to adhere fully to the ethical standards of the Board;
6. That the applicant is not and has not engaged in any practice or conduct that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this statute;
7. Payment of fees.
Criteria C:

1. Minimum of a master's degree in a human services field with a substance abuse specialty that includes 180 hours of substance abuse specific training / education;
2. One year of post-graduate supervised substance abuse counseling experience;
3. Achievement of a passing score on the written examination administered by the Board;
4. Three letters of reference from Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist or a master's level Certified Substance Abuse Counselor;
5. Signed verification statements attesting to the intention to adhere fully to the ethical standards of the Board;
6. That the applicant is not and has not engaged in any practice or conduct that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this statute;
7. Payment of fees.

Criteria D:

1. The applicant must be a member of a professional discipline granted deemed status by the Board;
   (Deemed status organizations)
2. The applicant must be licensed, certified or otherwise recognized by that discipline as having met the standards of a substance abuse specialist; and
3. Must hold a substance abuse certification from that professional discipline which has been granted deemed status by the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board;
4. Certification may be obtained through the process as described, and by payment of certification fees.

http://www.ncsappb.org/certificationssteve/ccas.htm Retrieved 12/8/08
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School of Social Work

PROGRAM IN SUBSTANCE ABUSE STUDIES
APPLICATION OF INTEREST

Please Print

NAME: _________________________________________________________________

HOME ADDRESS: _____________________________________________________________

CITY: _______________________________ STATE___________ ZIP___________

HOME PHONE: (____) ____________________     E-MAIL: ______________________________

MAIL CORRESPONDENCE TO: _______ WORK _______ HOME

PLACE
OF EMPLOYMENT: ________________________________________________________

POSITION: ______________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ______________________________________________________________

CITY: _______________________________ STATE___________ ZIP___________

WORK PHONE: (____) ________________ WORK FAX: (____)__________________

COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED, DEGREES, & DATES:
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

I AM CURRENTLY A MSW STUDENT _____YES _____NO

If so, when is your expected graduation date? _______________

IF YOU ARE A STUDENT NOT IN THE M.S.W. PROGRAM, PLEASE LIST YOUR
DEPARTMENT, DEGREE TYPE, & EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE:

_______________________________________________________________________

*I AM CURRENTLY A PRACTITIONER _____YES _____NO (See page #3)

TODAY’S DATE: _______________________________
STATEMENT OF INTEREST
Please describe why you are interested in enrolling in the Program and what your long-term goals are in the field of substance abuse.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

DO YOU PLAN ON PURSUING THE LICENSED CLINICAL ADDICTIONS SPECIALIST (LCAS) CREDENTIAL? _______YES  _______NO

IF YOU ARE AN MSW STUDENT, IS YOUR FIELD PLACEMENT AT A SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAM? _______YES  _______NO

IF YOU ARE A STUDENT, WHERE IS YOUR FIELD PLACEMENT?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

HAVE YOU HAD ANY PREVIOUS COURSEWORK OR TRAINING IN SUBSTANCE ABUSE?
___YES  ___NO
IF YES, WHEN/WHERE?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

STUDENTS/PRACTITIONERS: HAVE YOU HAD ANY PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE IN THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE FIELD?
_____YES  _______NO
IF YES, WHEN/WHERE/HOW LONG?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR RESUME WITH THIS APPLICATION
My signature certifies that all the information in this application and on my resume is true and accurate. **(NOTE: Practitioners please read below before signing/sending this application.)

SIGNATURE: _____________________________________    DATE: _______________

PLEASE MAIL THIS APPLICATION, YOUR RESUME AND A CHECK FOR $25.00 (made payable to UNC-CH, School of Social Work)

TO:   Certificate in Substance Abuse Studies Program
      C/O Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program
      UNC-CH, School of Social Work, Suite 469
      325 Pittsboro Street, CB#3550
      Chapel Hill, NC   27599-3550

This $25.00 is an administrative fee used to cover costs associated with the program’s database, course brochures and postage expenses. If you have any questions concerning this application or the program please call (919) 843-3010.

Registration Information
MSW students at UNC-CH register for these courses during their degree program, each class earning 3 credit hours and 45 hours towards LCAS specific education. MSW practitioners register for each course through the Behavioral Healthcare Resource Program, each course offering 45 contact hours of continuing education credit. MSW practitioners will not receive a formal grade on official University record; however, attendance is mandatory and completion of course work is required to receive the full number of contact hours. At present, courses are limited to 20 graduate students with MSW practitioners admitted on a space available basis. Practitioners wanting to pursue this coursework are required to complete an “application of interest” to the program. This application does not guarantee acceptance into the courses. However, those submitting “applications of interest” will then get priority when registering for classes. Registration for each course will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis. Second sections of courses may be added should the demand be high enough. At present, the cost for each course is $300.00.

Students and practitioners interested in pursuing the LCAS credential must contact the NCSAPPB at (919) 832-0975, or anna@recanc.com for an application packet outlining all the requirements necessary to obtain this credential.

**Practitioners, it is your responsibility to insure that your Master’s Degree meets the requirements for the LCAS as defined by the NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board. You will receive documentation from the Certificate in Substance Abuse Studies program that verifies your completion for classes attended. If you have any questions or need clarification on this issue do not hesitate to contact us before submitting your application.