

# Substance Use & Addictions Specialist Program



Providing MSW students and graduate practitioners with state-of-the-art education to meet the requirements for the Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) credential

## LEARN



## PRACTICE



## ENGAGE



## Description

Substance use disorders pose a challenge to our state and the nation as a serious public health issue linked to poverty, violence, family stress, and a host of individual psychiatric concerns. The UNC School of Social Work offers the Substance Use & Addictions Specialist (SUAS) program that meets the educational requirements for the Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) credential administered by the NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board (NCSAPPB). The LCAS is the required credential for providing substance use prevention and treatment services in the North Carolina public sector, and is quickly becoming the qualification of choice for managed care and insurance companies.

The Substance Use & Addictions Specialist 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 from UNC Chapel Hill.

Upon completion of the program requirements, MSW students will graduate with a specialty in Substance Use & Addictions, 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 use specific education and will be eligible to apply for the LCAS credential administered by the NCSAPPB.

## Requirements

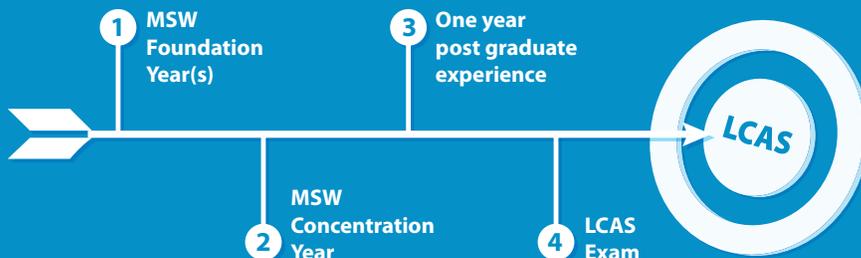
The School of Social Work has developed four courses and two workshops that meet the NCSAPPB requirement of 180 hours of substance abuse specific education for the LCAS credential. Further LCAS information can be found at [ncsappb.org](http://ncsappb.org).



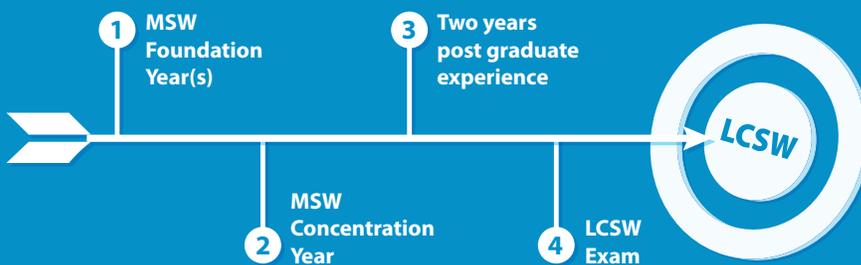
2016 Substance Use & Addictions Specialist program graduates and instructors.

Through the SUAS program, you can become a licensed clinician up to a full year ahead of an LCSW. Once getting your LCSW on top of your LCAS, you will be demonstrably more marketable.

### LCAS Track



### LCSW Track



*"The SUAS program provided me with the knowledge and skills I needed to work with children and families in need. The professors provided us with an interactive learning experience that left us well prepared to serve our community. I will be forever grateful for the confidence the SUAS program gave me in my career in CPS."*



– Erica Mayes-Gordon



*"The SUAS program provided me with extraordinary support, council, and encouragement during my time at UNC. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to receive the best social work education available in North Carolina, and for all the skills you taught me in and out the classroom. All the faculty and staff at the UNC School of Social Work are superstars, and I am very grateful for life bringing us together."*

– Daniel Ball

## For More Information

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### 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, the causes and effects of poverty, and the need for universal access to services.

Program administration is provided by Behavioral Health Springboard at the School of Social Work at UNC-Chapel Hill.



*Mental Health,  
Developmental Disabilities,  
and Substance Abuse Services*  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

This program is partially funded by the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Fund (CFDA #93.959) as a project of the NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse Services.



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