



*Bulletin 13-03*

## **Continuing Education**

The primary purpose of continuing education is to maintain and enhance the quality of substance abuse treatment services provided to the general public. ***This is best accomplished by restricting continuing education to professional development courses that directly address the counseling and treatment of substance abuse and related disorders.***

### **Acceptable Continuing Education Providers**

There are many different types of CEU providers. However, not all of them are qualified to teach [or provide trainings] that pertain to the alcohol and other drug counseling field, i.e. trainings that directly address the counseling and treatment of substance abuse and related disorders. Many individuals have submitted various trainings that either marginally relates to AOD counselor training courses, or does not meet these standards at all. CADTP will only accept CEUs from its network of Approved CEU Providers (listed on our website), your employer, other California Certification Organizations, a government agency, or an organization contracted by a government agency.

### **Acceptable Continuing Education Topics**

In order to renew certification, CADTP requires each certified AOD Counselor to complete a minimum of forth (40) hours of continuing education, including three (3) hours of Ethics & Confidentiality, during each two year period of certification. Topics must meet the standards established in §13055, Chapter 8, Division 4, Title 9, California Code of Regulations requirements:

- Curriculum contained in TAP 21
- Ethics & Confidentiality
  - Some confusion seems to exist on these topics. Many people are attending one or the other. Some have attended these topics as it relates to different fields. All counselors must attend at least 3 hours of Ethics & Confidentiality. This may be done in one three hour course, but the CEU certificate must indicate both topics. One may decide to attend a two hour course of Ethics and a one hour course of Confidentiality. This would be acceptable, so long as both topics are covered in at least 3 hours of time. Ethics courses must be on AOD Code of Ethics; Confidentiality must be on the federal regulations 42 CFR Part 2 and/or HIPPA.
- Provision of Services to special populations as it relates to AOD Counseling (e.g., PTSD, individuals with disabilities, etc.)
- Communicable diseases including tuberculosis, HIV disease and Hepatitis C as they relate to AOD Counseling
- Prevention of Sexual Harassment
- Driving Under the Influence

## **Unacceptable Continuing Education Topics**

Not all topics relate to counseling persons in AOD services. All CEUs submitted to CADTP are subject to approval. Just because it says CEU on the document doesn't mean it meets CADTP standards. Listed below are some examples of unacceptable CEUs.

- Improving Customer Service - while important to your employer it is not a counseling issue
- Communication Skills - unless it relates to AOD counseling, proof will be required
- Law & Ethics (or jurisprudence) - good topic, but too general, must be on AOD Code of Ethics
- Confidentiality of persons in Anger Management, or in Social Services - not the same as in AOD
- Diabetes or other health education - unless the curriculum specifically relates to counseling those with the health issue and Substance Use Disorders, in which case proof will be required
- CPR and/or First Aid - while these are important skills and your employer may require you to be certified in CPR/First Aid these are not counseling topics

## **Continuing Education Topics for Counselor Supervision (CS) Credential**

Six hours of Continuing Education on supervision topics are required every two years to maintain the CAODC-CS credential. These are inclusive, not additional to the 40 hours required for CAODC. What exactly are supervision CEU topics? These are subjects that help the supervisor mentor counselors in the AOD field. Topics or issues which help the supervisor run the program seem to miss the mark here. While those subjects are important to the business they don't help the supervisor mentor, coach or train their counselor subordinates.

At the 2013 Fall Forum CADTP highlighted a couple topics which would count towards the CS Credential. We will make every effort to continue to do so at future forums. Here are some topics which may apply to the CS Credential.

- Counselor Burnout recognition and prevention
- Courses which help the supervisor assist counselors in developing, learning, and using specific counseling skills - such as the 12 core functions
- Sexual Harassment Prevention for supervisors
- Policy & Procedures - including disciplinary guidelines for violations
- Title 9 compliance

For more information please feel free to contact the CADTP Certification office.

**CADTP**

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