



Millions of people are afflicted with an alcohol or drug abuse disorder, and often, members of the clergy are the first point of contact for those seeking help. To most effectively counsel these people, NAADAC, in partnership with the National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA), has created a Certificate in Spiritual Caregiving program for those professionals who wish to learn more about addiction and their role in recovery. This certificate is specifically meant to deepen the understanding of addiction for pastoral and community leaders.

This special certificate program is ideally suited for faith leaders that will:

- enhance the basic knowledge about addiction and its impact on family members including children and youth
- provide opportunities to learn about treatment and recovery resources in the community
- enhance skills at recognizing alcohol and drug addiction
- provide tools and strategies to help children, youth and families living
- with addicted parents or spouses.

Note: This is a certificate program and not a certification. Certificate programs recognize proficiency in a particular skill area but don't allow a person to practice without certification or licensure.

Eligibility Requirements

- Have documentation of six hours of training provided by a pastoral counselor or other professional based on the curriculum in Spiritual Caregiving to help Addicted Persons and Families,
- Complete required Readings which are available below or at www.nacoa.org
- Have evidence of contacts and visits with three treatment/recovery organizations in your community. (Complete the information on the Community Resources and Reflection sheet listed below)
- Attend an open Alcoholics Anonymous meeting and an open Al-Anon meeting, and write a reflection about both of your experiences
- Complete the application
- Remit certificate fee of \$90
- Take an online examination based on the required readings.

Applications will be reviewed (if complete) and approved within 4-6 weeks of receipt. You must submit an e-mail address to be notified of a user name and password to access the online examination and complete the final stage of this process.

Upon completion of the examination you will be able to download a certificate of completion indicating you have successfully completed the process.

Please contact NACoA at 301.468.0985 if you do not have online capabilities.

Downloads

- [Welcome Letter for Those Thinking of Applying for the Certificate](#)
- [Certificate Application](#)
- [Certificate Community Resources and Reflections Sheet](#)
- [Certificate List of Required Readings](#)