LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELORS & TRAINERS, INC.

Professional Membership Organization
Advocacy
Education & Training
Certification Examining Board
Testing & Credentialing
Ethical Standards & Conduct
Public Protection

SUPPORTING ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS
LASACT’s Mission

For the past 40 years, LASACT has worked to

Promote & Enhance

Addiction Professionals and Providers

in the areas of

Treatment, Education, Prevention, and Advocacy.
LASACT’S Workforce Development Initiative:

Louisiana Addiction Counselor Training (LACT)

LACT is a Proven Training Program that enables Louisiana Addiction Professionals and allied health professionals to learn, develop, and improve skills for working with individuals and families affected by addiction.

- Addiction Counselor Training (ACT) Model for training Addiction Professionals was developed in Texas, 1974

- Over 20,000 individuals have benefited from ACT course offerings, 431 served in LA with 296 graduates

- Course work encourages personal growth and professional development
LACT Admissions Policy

- LACT is open to all individuals interested in learning more about addiction
- Ideal course work for those interested in becoming Professional Addiction Counselors
- Allied Health Professionals – social workers, nurses, marriage and family therapists
  - benefit substantially from developing specialized addiction skills to better assist their clients
  - can earn credits for a Specialty Certificate in Addiction

Prerequisites for success in LACT:
- a strong desire to study the addiction field
- basic writing, reading, and verbal skills to benefit fully from the training

Training Location
- Training sessions are currently held in Baton Rouge
- With continued growth, LASACT anticipates providing classes in other parts of the State
LASACT holds Approved Educational Provider status (AEP #2) with ADRA, the Louisiana Addictive Disorders Regulatory Authority, which regulates the Addiction Profession in Louisiana.

LACT courses are also approved by the Certification Examining Board (CEB) of LASACT.

Accreditation groups for other professions (i.e. social work, nursing, professional counseling, etc.) may also recognize LACT course work for continuing education credits.

LACT credits may also be used for acquisition and/or renewal of the Substance Abuse Specialty Certificate by allied professionals not regulated by ADRA.
LACT Instructors

LACT instructors are chosen for their ability to facilitate adult learning and skill development.

All instructors must meet the following criteria:

1. Proven current experience in the addictions field
2. Demonstrated mastery of field of expertise
3. Exceptional skills in verbal communications and design of training
4. Advanced academic degrees relevant to their field of experience
LACT Training Philosophy

• The Core Course curriculum is structured, and the instructors are selected, to provide the best training experience possible for students.

• A variety of viewpoints is presented; students are encouraged to think through alternative ideas other than the ones to which they are accustomed.

• The Louisiana Addiction Counselor Training Program exposes students to many differing viewpoints and does not intentionally advocate one particular theory of addiction, treatment, or addiction counseling.

The LACT Program philosophy is based on the belief that a well trained Addiction Professional:

1. Has an adequate understanding of current basic addiction counseling information
2. Demonstrates basic essential counseling skills
3. Is committed to life-long professional learning and personal development

The LACT staff is committed to helping Addiction Professionals and Trainees develop these understandings, skills, and commitments.
By state law, the Addiction Counseling Profession in Louisiana is regulated by the Louisiana Addictive Disorders Regulatory Authority (ADRA).

Also by law, appropriate degrees are required for credentialing as a Professional Addiction Counselor as follows:

- Master’s Degree for Licensed Addiction Counselor (LAC)
- Bachelor’s Degree for Certified Addiction Counselor (CAC)
- Experience in the addiction field for Registered Addiction Counselor (RAC).

Visit the web site of the Addictive Disorders Regulatory Authority (ADRA) - www.la-adra.org - for their contact information and requirements for credentialing at all levels.

Completion of the LACT course of study does **NOT** guarantee automatic credentialing as an Addiction Professional.

- The law requires a total of 270 hours of education, 180 of which must be addiction-specific.
- Completion of the entire LACT course of study provides students with the required 180 hours of addiction-specific training.

Since these hours meet **only a part** of the total education credentialing requirement, students may acquire the additional education hours by attending:

- the LASACT Annual Conference
- LASACT sponsored workshops
- home study courses such as those offered on the LASACT web page - www.lasact.org
The Louisiana Addiction Counselor Training Program is designed on a quarter system:
- year of study consisting of 4 Core Courses
- 1 course offered per quarter
- Courses provide students a comprehensive survey of information essential for developing basic addictions counseling skills

Each Core Course for Addiction Counselor Training is approved for 15 clock hours per weekend, for a total of 45 hours per quarter, or 180 hours for the entire year.

Class sessions are held monthly on the second Friday/Saturday of the month for twelve months:
- However, because of holidays, conflicting events, or natural disasters, this schedule is subject to change
- Class schedule can be found as insert at the end of this booklet

Students may begin classes in the first month of each quarter, i.e. April, July, October, or January:
- Students are encouraged to enroll for the full year’s training to fully benefit from the course work
- New students will not be admitted after the first class session of each quarter

Classes meet from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Fridays and 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays.
LACT Documentation of Training

- Upon completion of each quarter, LACT will issue each student a certificate documenting completion of forty-five (45) hours of training OR the actual number of hours completed if fewer than 45.

- Each student completing the full year of study will be issued a Diploma at a graduation ceremony and a letter verifying one hundred eighty (180) hours of training OR the actual number of hours completed if fewer than 180.
LACT Fee Structure

**Annual Tuition**
- LASACT Members $980.00
- Non-LASACT Members $1,880.00

Tuition may be paid in full upon registration or may be paid monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually as outlined below:

The fee for the first month of instruction for LASACT members is $155; $305 for the first quarter; $530 for first half year. For non-members the fees are double these amounts.

**Monthly Payments after 1st month**
- LASACT Members $75.00
- Non-LASACT Members $150.00

**Quarterly Payments after 1st quarter:**
- LASACT Members $225.00
- Non-LASACT Members $450.00

**Semi-annual Payments after 1st half year:**
- LASACT Members $450.00
- Non-LASACT Members $900.00

LASACT Membership Dues are $90.00 per calendar year.
LACT Financial Assistance

- Betty Breen Memorial Tuition Foundation
- Louisiana Rehabilitation Services
- LASACT Educational Foundation
  501(c)(3)
LACT Course Schedule

#001 Counseling Skills Training
April - June quarter - 45 hours

#002 Counseling Theories
July - September quarter - 45 hours

#003 The Counseling Process
October - December quarter - 45 hours

#004 Addiction Pharmacology
January - March quarter - 45 hours

Cycle repeats every year, beginning in April

A mandatory orientation class for new students only is held at 11 a.m. the first Friday of each quarter.
Louisiana Association of Substance Abuse Counselors & Trainers, Inc.

Professional Membership Organization
Advocacy
Education & Training
Certification Examining Board
Testing & Credentialing
Ethical Standards & Conduct
Public Protection

Supporting Addiction Professionals

www.lasact.org