Accreditation of Addiction Studies Programs
INTRODUCTION

• The National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission was incorporated in 2010 as a result of collaboration between INCASE and NAADAC in an effort to further develop the substance use disorders professions, and advancing the profession through national addiction education standards within the United States
THE MISSION STATEMENT AND PROGRAM APPROVAL PROCESS OF THE NATIONAL ADDICTION STUDIES ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

• Goals for NASAC:
• 1. Quality assurance through the promulgation of program standards.
• 2. The development of articulation networks, transferability and portability of matriculated certificates and degrees.
• 3. Providing a resource for the creation, expansion and upgrading of addictions curricula.
• 4. Ensuring that the classroom, and supervised practicum coursework, is a bridge from science to practice in the preparation of an employable and professionally trained addictions workforce.
Goals continued

• 5. Self-governance of addiction studies within higher education.
• 6. Supporting addiction studies educators to advocate for their existence and needs within their institutional environment.
• 7. Aiding students in moving up their educational and career ladders by providing legitimacy to the curricula and academic programs that they have completed.
• 8. Aiding in the linkage of academic programs to workforce issues and trends, to enhance the employability and career mobility of students and ensuring that curricula serve the needs of various subsets within the addiction field. These include, but may not be limited to: prevention, treatment, recovery support, administration, and research
Goals Continued

- 9. Evaluating areas addressed in the program approval process for required standards.
Role and Value of NASAC Accreditation

- Provide guidance for creating programs
- Self-Assessment of programs to evaluate program goals, curriculum, strengths, and weaknesses
- Peer evaluation and feedback
- Demonstrating to stakeholders that program meets national standards
- Contributes to increasing standardization of academic requirements for the profession
Program Review Process

- Phase 1: Complete Initial Application and return to NASAC
  - www.nasacaccreditation.org
- Phase 2: Selection of an Evaluation Team by NASAC.
- Phase 3: The institution will prepare a preliminary self-study portfolio and submit to the Evaluation Team
- Phase 4: Evaluation team will review packet and make recommendation to NASAC Board of Commissioners.
- Phase 5: NASAC Commissioners will review and make a decision.
Self Study

Portfolio addressing the following

1. Strengths, improvements, opportunities, and threats to the program.

2. Mission and goals of the program

3. Proof of university/college regional accreditation

4. Outlining curriculum and demonstrating how courses in the program cover the required content as specified in the TAP 21 grid
APPEAL PROCESS

• After the normal evaluation process has been completed, and the college/university is denied accreditation, the college may use the following appeal process. The cost of the hearing will be paid by the applicant and shall include: staffing and administrative cost, cost for stenographic recording, and if the school chooses to be represented by counsel, they will also pay for the commission’s counsel for a three hour period