

# INTERESTED IN HIGHER EDUCATION ADDICTION STUDIES ACCREDITATION?



## Why the National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission (NASAC)?

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) and its Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) encouraged the two primary groups representing academic educators and counselors to create a single higher education addiction studies curricula accreditation body to assess academic programs in addiction studies at regionally accredited institutions of higher education.

The International Coalition for Addiction Studies Education (INCASE) and NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals formed an alliance to establish the National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission (NASAC) to offer a single standard for higher education addiction studies programs.

NASAC is specific to accrediting addiction studies education programs and focuses on competent, knowledgeable, and evidence-based practices, as laid out by the National Addiction Studies Standards Curriculum Committee (NASSCC).

NASAC is one of only two organizations that accredit addiction studies programs. Of these programs, NASAC is the only accrediting body that accredits all academic degree levels for addiction studies education and represents addiction-focused education (1-year addiction certificate, and associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree levels).

## Why become accredited through NASAC?

Accreditation serves multiple roles and provides value to programs seeking accreditation:

- Accreditation standards can be used as guidance for creating an addiction studies education program meeting national standards.
- The process of accreditation requires the program to engage in self-assessment presenting the program with the occasion to evaluate its program goals, curriculum, strengths and weakness.
- Peer evaluation of programs creates an opportunity for program members to receive feedback from educators of similar programs.
- Programs that are accredited can demonstrate to key stake holders (students, legislators, future employers, and others) that their program meets national standards.
- NASAC accreditation contributes to increase the standardization of the academic requirements in the addiction workforce.

## Learn more about how to become NASAC Accredited:

Visit [www.nasacaccreditation.org](http://www.nasacaccreditation.org), e-mail [admin@nasacaccreditation.org](mailto:admin@nasacaccreditation.org), call **703-741-7686**, fax **703-741-7698**, or mail NASAC at **NASAC, 44 Canal Center Plaza, Ste 301, Alexandria, VA 22314.**