



Certified Addictions-Informed Mental Health Professional (CAIMHP) Certification Standards

1.0 Professional Standards

1.1 State or nationally licensed professionals as listed below AND completed all training hours and supervision requirements to be licensed for independent practice in the state they are licensed in (or equivalent if practicing outside of the United States):

- Psychologist (LP or LCP)
- Counselor
 - LCMHC
 - LCP
 - LCPC
 - LMHC
 - LPC
 - LPCC
 - LPCMH
- Social Worker
 - LCSW
 - LCSW-C
 - LICSW
 - LISW
 - LISW-CP
 - LMSW if licensed in Michigan or Nebraska
- LMSW-ACP
- LSCSW
- Marriage and Family Therapist
 - LCMFT
 - LIMFT
 - LMFT
- Addictions Counselor (LCAS)
- Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LCADC or LADAC)
- Chemical Dependency/Substance Abuse Counselor (LCDP or LCSTP)
- Advanced Practice Nurse (APN)
- Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Physician's Assistant (PA)
- Physician (MD)
- Psychiatrist (MD)
- Psychoanalyst (LP)

Canadian Applicants: Licensed professionals who have met the licensure requirements for provincial and territorial regulatory bodies are welcome to apply. If you are unsure if your professional background meets the standards for certification, please email us a copy of your educational background and CV to info@evergreencertifications.com

International Applicants: Please check for a link to standards specific to your country of practice. If no link is available, please email us a copy of your educational background and CV to info@evergreencertifications.com

1.2 By applying for certification, the applicant agrees to adhere to Evergreen Certifications' Professional Code of Ethics, available at www.evergreencertifications.com/codeofethics

2.0 Educational Standards

2.1 The candidate must meet the following education criteria (total minimum of 12 clock hours of continuing education):

Assessment: learn how to:

- Employ effective screening tools, intake questionnaires, rating scales to examine the nature of substance use
- Evaluate biological contributions (such as genetic, biological, and physiological marker)
- Explore social and psychological contributions to substance use (such as trauma, attachment, personality etc.)

Diagnosis understanding the process of diagnosing substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders.

Addiction and the brain relationship: understand the impact of substance abuse and dependency on the development and functioning of the brain.

Classifications: knowledge related to the various types of substances commonly abused and how they are classified.

Types of behavioral addictions: understand the variations in addictive behaviors (including, but not limited to compulsive gambling, compulsive sexual behavior, electronic addictions, etc.)

Comorbidities: understand how to detect when addictive behaviors are co-existing with other mental, personality and behavioral disorders, and physical ailments.

Trauma and addiction: understand the interactions between the impact of traumatic experiences and addiction.

Prevention and Treatment: demonstrate knowledge of prevention models and effective evidence-based treatment models and interventions designed to ensure harm reduction.

Diversity: understand the culture of substance use amongst varying demographics (age, gender, orientation, legal status, ethnicity, etc.)

Ethics and legalities: have awareness of ethical and legal issues and how to address them as a provider.

2.2 Suitable education sources are approved continuing education as documented by certificates of completion from the accredited training organization.

Evergreen Certifications will accept courses that have been completed within 3 years of initial application for certification.

3.0 Clinical Practice Requirement

The candidate must attest that, over the course of their career, he/she has completed a minimum of 100 contact hours with clients who have substance use disorder as co-occurring factor presented during mental health treatment.

4.0 Certification Application Process

1. Submit the following documents:
 - a. A copy of the candidate's professional license
 - b. Copies of completion of training as outline in the Educational Standards
 - c. A signed application form with attestation that the candidate has met all the requirements as detailed herein
2. Payment of certification application fee

Evergreen Certifications will certify candidates who meet the above requirements.

Please note: Certification does not imply endorsement of clinical competency. As a licensed professional, you are responsible for reviewing the scope of practice, including activities that are defined in law as beyond the boundaries of practice in accordance with and in compliance with your profession's standards.

5.0 Renewal of Certification

To maintain certification, a renewal is required. The steps to apply for a 1-year renewal are as follows:

1. Submit the following documents:
 - a. A copy of your professional licensure as well as a completion certificate for six (6) clock hours of continuing education specific to assessment and treatment of substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, suicide/self-injury, psychological trauma

2. Payment of renewal application fee

You can also apply for renewal for 2 or 3 years. Follow the process above, submitting twelve (12) clock hours of training for a 2-year renewal, and eighteen (18) clock hours of training for a 3-year renewal.

Renewal training hours need to have been taken in the time since you were certified or last renewed. Renewals are calculated from the date that your certification was issued.

If you allow your certification to lapse for more than 3 years, you are no longer eligible to renew your certification and instead can reapply for certification.