Chapter 246-811 WAC

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONALS AND CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONALS TRAINEES

WAC

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DEFINITIONS

WAC 246-811-010 Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly states otherwise.

(1) Approved school means any college or university accredited by a national or regional accrediting body recognized by the commission on recognition of postsecondary accreditation, at the time the applicant completed the required education or other educational programs approved by the secretary.

(2) Certified chemical dependency professional (CDP) means an individual certified in chemical dependency counseling under chapter 18.205 RCW.

(3) Certified chemical dependency professional trainee (CDPT) means an individual working toward the education and experience requirements for certification as a chemical dependency professional, and who has been credentialed as a CDPT under chapter 18.205 RCW.

(4) Core competencies of chemical dependency counseling means competency in the following nationally recognized areas:
   (a) Knowledge;
   (b) Skills;
   (c) Attitudes of professional practice, including assessment and diagnosis of chemical dependency;
   (d) Chemical dependency treatment planning and referral;
   (e) Patient and family education in the disease of chemical dependency;
   (f) Individual and group counseling with alcoholic and drug addicted individuals; and
   (g) Relapse prevention counseling, and case management.

All oriented to assist alcohol and drug addicted patient to achieve and maintain abstinence from mood-altering substances and develop independent support systems.

(5) Direct supervision means the supervisor is on the premises and available for immediate consultation.

(6) Enrolled means participating in an approved school and progressing toward the completion of the course work, or completion of the course work to be certified as a chemical dependency professional as described in WAC 246-811-030 (2)(a) through (w).
(7) Individual formal meetings means a meeting with an approved supervisor, involving one approved supervisor and no more than four supervisees.

(8) Official transcript means the transcript from an approved college or school, in an envelope readily identified as having been sealed by the school.

(9) Related field means health education, behavioral science, sociology, psychology, marriage and family therapy, mental health counseling, social work, psychiatry, nursing, divinity, criminal justice, and counseling education.

WAC 246-811-020 Sexual misconduct. (1) The definitions and prohibitions on sexual misconduct described in chapter 246-16 WAC apply to chemical dependency professionals and a chemical dependency professional trainee except WAC 246-16-100 (3) and (4).

(2) A chemical dependency professional or a chemical dependency professional trainee shall never engage, or attempt to engage, in the activities listed in WAC 246-16-100(1) with a former patient, former client or former key party.

WAC 246-811-030 Educational requirements. (1) The minimum education requirements for a chemical dependency professional are:

(a) An associate's degree in human services or related field from an approved school; or

(b) Successful completion of ninety quarter or sixty semester college credits in courses from an approved school.

(2) At least forty-five quarter or thirty semester credits must be in courses relating to the chemical dependency profession and shall include the following topics specific to alcohol and drug addicted individuals:

(a) Understanding addiction;

(b) Pharmacological actions of alcohol and other drugs;

(c) Substance abuse and addiction treatment methods;

(d) Understanding addiction placement, continuing care, and discharge criteria, including American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria;

(e) Cultural diversity including people with disabilities and its implication for treatment;

(f) Chemical dependency clinical evaluation (screening and referral to include comorbidity);

(g) HIV/AIDS brief risk intervention for the chemically dependent;

(h) Chemical dependency treatment planning;

(i) Referral and use of community resources;

(j) Service coordination (implementing the treatment plan, consulting, continuing assessment and treatment planning);

(k) Individual counseling;

(l) Group counseling;

(m) Chemical dependency counseling for families, couples and significant others;

(n) Client, family and community education;

(o) Developmental psychology;

(p) Psychopathology/abnormal psychology;

(q) Documentation, to include, screening, intake, assessment, treatment plan, clinical reports, clinical progress notes, discharge summaries, and other client related data;

(r) Chemical dependency confidentiality;

(s) Professional and ethical responsibilities;

(t) Relapse prevention;

(u) Adolescent chemical dependency assessment and treatment;

(v) Chemical dependency case management; and

(w) Chemical dependency rules and regulations.

(3) All applicants, including individuals who are licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW, Psychologists under chapter 18.83 RCW; and Advance nurse practitioner under chapter 18.79 RCW, must meet the requirements in subsection (2) of this section.

WAC 246-811-045 Accumulation of experience. (1) The department of health will issue a CDPT certificate to an individual who:

(a) Submits an application on forms the department provides;

(b) Includes written documentation to meet the eligibility criteria;

(c) Declares that he or she is enrolled in an approved school and gaining the experience required to receive a CDP credential;

(d) Submit evidence of completion of four clock hours of AIDS education. The requirement of WAC 246-811-030 (2)(g) will satisfy this requirement.

(2) A CDPT must submit a signed declaration with their annual renewal that states they are enrolled in an approved education program, or have completed the educational requirements, and are obtaining the experience requirements for a CDP credential.

(3) A CDPT certificate can only be renewed four times.

EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

WAC 246-811-045 Accumulation of experience. (1) The department of health will consider experience in the field of chemical dependency up to seven years prior to the date of application.

(2) Accumulation of the experience hours is not required to be consecutive. Experience that will count toward certification must meet the requirements outlined in WAC 246-811-046 through 246-811-049.

(3) Supervised experience is the practice as referred to in RCW 18.205.090 (1)(c) and is the experience received under an approved supervisor. A practicum or internship taken while acquiring the degree or semester/quarter hours is applicable.

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WAC 246-811-046 Number of experience hours required for certification as a chemical dependency professional. You will be required to complete one thousand to two thousand five hundred hours of supervised experience depending upon your formal education.

1. Two thousand five hundred hours of chemical dependency counseling as defined in RCW 18.205.020(3), for individuals who possess an associate degree; or
2. Two thousand hours of chemical dependency counseling for individuals who possess a baccalaureate degree in human services or a related field from an approved school; or
3. One thousand five hundred hours of chemical dependency counseling for individuals who possess a master or doctoral degree in human services or a related field from an approved school; or
4. One thousand hours of chemical dependency counseling for individuals who are licensed as advanced registered nurse practitioners under chapter 18.79 RCW, marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors, advanced social workers, and independent clinical social workers under chapter 18.225 RCW or licensed as a psychologist under chapter 18.83 RCW.

WAC 246-811-047 Competency—Experience requirements. (1) It is the intent that an individual applying for a chemical dependency professional certificate has become competent in the core competencies of chemical counseling, as defined in WAC 246-811-010(5), through the experience requirement.

2. Individuals must have experiences to gain the core competencies of chemical dependency counseling listed in (a) through (i) of this subsection.
   (a) Two hundred hours of clinical evaluation. One hundred hours of the two hundred must be face-to-face patient contact hours.
   (b) Six hundred hours of face-to-face counseling to include:
      Individual counseling;
      Group counseling;
      Counseling family, couples, and significant others.
   (c) Fifty hours of discussion of professional and ethical responsibilities.
   (d) Transdisciplinary foundations:
      Understanding addiction;
      Treatment knowledge;
      Application to practice;
      Professional readiness.
   (e) Treatment planning.
   (f) Referral.
   (g) Service coordination.
   (h) Client, family, and community education.
   (i) Documentation, to include, screening, intake, assessment, treatment plan, clinical reports, clinical progress notes, discharge summaries, and other client related data.

3. Eight hundred fifty hours of experience must be divided among subsection (2)(a) through (c) of this subsection, the remaining experience hours must be divided among subsection (2)(d) through (i) of this subsection as determined by the supervisor.

WAC 246-811-048 Supervision requirements. (1) All of the experience must be under an approved supervisor as defined in WAC 246-811-049.

2. A chemical dependency professional trainee (CDPT) can provide chemical dependency assessment, counseling, and case management to patients consistent with his or her education, training, and experience as documented by the approved supervisor.
   (a) The first fifty hours of any face-to-face patient contact must be under direct observation of an approved supervisor or a chemical dependency professional.
   (b) An approved supervisor or designated certified chemical dependency professional must provide direct supervision when a CDPT is providing clinical services to patients until the approved supervisor documents in the employee file that the CDPT has obtained the necessary education, training, and experience.
   (3) Approved supervisors must attest to the department of the supervised person's satisfactory progress in becoming proficient in the addiction counseling competencies as listed in WAC 246-811-047 (2)(a) through (i) on forms provided by the department.

WAC 246-811-049 Approved supervisor requirements. (1) An approved supervisor is a certified chemical dependency professional (CDP) or a person who meets or exceeds the requirements of a certified CDP in the state of Washington, and who would be eligible to take the examination required for certification.

2. An approved supervisor has at least four thousand hours of experience in a state approved chemical dependency treatment agency in addition to the supervised experience hours required to become a CDP.

3. Twenty-eight clock hours of recognized supervisory training may be substituted for one thousand hours of experience.

4. An approved supervisor is not a blood or legal relative, significant other, cohabitant of the supervisee, or someone who has acted as the supervisee's primary counselor.

5. A chemical dependency professional trainee (CDPT) must receive documentation of his or her approved supervisor's qualifications before training begins.

6. An approved supervisor or other certified CDP must review and sign all CDPT clinical documentation.

7. An approved supervisor is responsible for all patients assigned to the CDPT they supervise.
EXAMINATION

WAC 246-811-060 Examination requirements for a chemical dependency certification professional. (1) All applicants must take and pass the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor (NAADAC) National Certification Examination for Addiction Counselors or International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) Certified Addiction Counselor Level II or higher examination.

(2) The department will accept the passing score set by the testing company.

(3) The application and application fee must be submitted to the department at least ninety days prior to the scheduled examination date. All other supporting documents, including verification of education and experience, must be submitted at least sixty days prior to the examination date.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-060, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/19/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(7), 00-01-122, § 246-811-060, filed 12/17/99, effective 1/17/00.]

NATIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

WAC 246-811-070 National certification. (1) A person who is certified through the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) or the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC), is considered to meet the experience requirements of WAC 246-811-046.

(2) A person who is certified through NAADAC or ICRC is considered to have met the requirements of WAC 246-811-030 pertaining to the forty-five quarter or thirty semester credits in courses covering the subject content described in WAC 246-811-030(2). Verification of the additional forty-five quarter or thirty semester credits will be required upon application to the department.

(3) Verification of certification must be sent directly to the department from NAADAC or ICRC.


AIDS REQUIREMENT

WAC 246-811-075 AIDS prevention and information education requirements. Chemical dependency professional applicants and chemical dependency professional trainee applicants must complete four clock hours of AIDS education as required in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 8.


EXPIRED CREDENTIAL

WAC 246-811-080 What happens if my certification expires? (1) If the chemical dependency professional (CDP) or chemical dependency certification trainee (CDPT) certification has expired for five years or less, the individual must meet the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2.

(2) If a CDP certification has lapsed for more than five years, the applicant must demonstrate continued competency and must pass an examination, if an examination was not successfully passed for the initial certification. In addition, the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2, must be met.

(3) If a CDPT certification has lapsed for more than five years, the applicant must meet the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2.


CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONAL RETIRED ACTIVE CREDENTIAL

WAC 246-811-081 Retired active chemical dependency professional (CDP) credential. A certified CDP may obtain a retired active credential. Refer to the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 5.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-081, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.250. 02-07-083, § 246-811-081, filed 3/19/02, effective 4/19/02.]

CLIENT DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

WAC 246-811-100 Disclosure statement requirements. (1) The following information must be printed on all disclosure statements provided to counseling clients in language that can be easily understood by the client:

(a) Name of firm, agency, business, or chemical dependency professional's practice.

(b) Employment address and telephone number.

(c) Name, credential, and credential number.

(d) Billing information, including:

(i) Client's cost per each counseling session;

(ii) Billing practices, including any advance payments and refunds.

(e) A list of the acts of unprofessional conduct in RCW 18.130.180 including the name, address, and contact telephone number within the department of health.

(2) The CDP or CDPT and the client must sign and date a statement indicating that the client has been given a copy of the required disclosure information, and the client has read and understands the information provided.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-100, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(15), 00-12-102, § 246-811-090, filed 6/7/00, effective 7/8/00.]

WAC 246-811-090 A chemical dependency professional and a chemical dependency professional trainee must provide client disclosure information. A chemical dependency professional and a chemical dependency professional trainee must provide disclosure information to each client prior to the delivery of certified services (WAC 388-805-325). Disclosure information may be printed in a format of the chemical dependency professional's choosing or in a general format used by a state approved treatment facility.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-090, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(15), 00-12-102, § 246-811-090, filed 6/7/00, effective 7/8/00.]
WAC 246-811-110 Failure to provide client disclosure information. Failure to provide to the client any of the disclosure information required by WAC 246-811-090 and 246-811-100 constitutes an act of unprofessional conduct as defined in RCW 18.130.180(7) and may be grounds for disciplinary action.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-110, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(15); 00-12-102, § 246-811-110, filed 6/7/00, effective 7/8/00.]

CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONALS

WAC 246-811-200 Continuing competency definitions. (1) Continuing education means a program or course (including distance learning), seminars, or workshops, professional conferences approved by an industry recognized local, state, national, international organization or institution of higher learning.

(2) Professional development activities means addiction competencies as outlined in WAC 246-811-047, including: Clinical evaluation, individual counseling, group counseling, counseling family, couples, and significant others, professional and ethical responsibilities, understanding addiction, treatment knowledge, application to practice, professional readiness, treatment planning, referral, service coordination, client, family, and community education, screening, intake, assessment, clinical reports, clinical progress notes, discharge summaries, and other client related data.

(3) Industry recognized is any local, state, national, international organization, or institution of higher learning, including, but not limited to, the following organizations:

(a) National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC);
(b) National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP);
(c) International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC);
(d) Northwest Indian alcohol/drug specialist certification board;
(e) Institutions of higher learning that are accredited by a national or regional accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation; or
(f) Division of alcohol and substance abuse (DASA).

(4) Distance learning is industry recognized education obtained to enhance proficiency in one or more of the professional development activities as outlined in subsection (2) of this section, through sources such as, internet course work, satellite downlink resources, telecourses, or correspondence courses.

(5) Agency sponsored training is training provided by an agency that is not limited to people working within that agency and is a professional development activity as outlined in subsection (2) of this section.

(6) In-service training is training provided by an agency that is limited to people working within that agency and is a professional development activity as outlined in subsection (2) of this section.

(7) Continuing competency enhancement plan is a plan showing the goals the CDP will develop to continue proficiency in their profession. The plan will be based on core competencies as listed in WAC 246-811-047. The plan will be developed on forms provided by the department.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-200, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(12). 02-07-084, § 246-811-200, filed 3/19/02, effective 4/19/02.]

WAC 246-811-210 Purpose of a continuing competency program. To enhance the professional competency of the chemical dependency professional. A successful continuing competency program focuses on all aspects of professional practice to ensure that the practitioner is competent to provide safe and quality care to patients. The purpose of the professional development activities is to broaden the experience that a CDP may undertake to maintain competency.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-210, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(12). 02-07-084, § 246-811-210, filed 3/19/02, effective 4/19/02.]

WAC 246-811-220 Continuing competency program requirements. (1) A chemical dependency professional must complete an enhancement plan, as described in WAC 246-811-200(7);

(2) Twenty-eight hours of continuing education, as described in WAC 246-811-240; and

(3) Twelve hours of other professional development activities as described in WAC 246-811-047 and 246-811-200(2).

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-220, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(12). 02-07-084, § 246-811-220, filed 3/19/02, effective 4/19/02.]

WAC 246-811-230 Continuing competency reporting period. A chemical dependency professional must complete the continuing competency program requirements every two years. A CDP must develop and implement the plan upon initial certification, and every two years thereafter.


WAC 246-811-240 Number of continuing education hours required. A chemical dependency professional must complete twenty-eight hours of continuing education every two years. At least fourteen hours must be completed in one or more of the topic areas as described in WAC 246-811-030 (2)(a) through (w). At least four hours must be in professional ethics and law. The additional ten hours shall be in areas relating to the various phases of their professional career.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.205 RCW. 09-14-111, § 246-811-240, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/1/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.205.060(12). 02-07-084, § 246-811-240, filed 3/19/02, effective 4/19/02.]

WAC 246-811-250 Acceptable continuing education. (1) Programs having a featured instructor, speaker(s) or panel that is industry recognized;

(2) Distance learning programs;

(3) Agency sponsored trainings;

(4) Course work at institutions of higher learning that are accredited by a national or regional accrediting body recognized by the commission on recognition of postsecondary accreditation; or
(5) In-service training programs limited to seven hours per reporting period.

WAC 246-811-260 Completion of the twelve hours of other professional development activities. (1) A chemical dependency professional (CDP) may obtain hours through the following:
   (a) Practicum;
   (b) Peer-review including serving on a formal peer review panel or committee, or individual review of a sole provider, where the purpose of the review is to determine whether appropriate treatment was rendered;
   (c) Public presentation including preparing and presenting lectures or education that contribute to the professional competence of a CDP. The CDP may accumulate the same number of hours obtained for continuing education purposes by attendees as required in WAC 246-12-220. The hours for presenting a specific topic lecture or education may only be used for continuing education credit once during each reporting period;
   (d) Publication of writings;
   (e) Other activities as determined by the CDP’s supervisor;
   (f) Continuing education; these continuing education hours are in addition to the twenty-eight hours of continuing education as listed in WAC 246-811-240.
(2) All documentation must include the dates the continuing competency activity that took place, and if appropriate, the title of the course, the location of the course, and the name of the instructor.

WAC 246-811-270 Acceptable audit documentation for continuing education, professional development activities, and the enhancement plan. (1) Acceptable documentation must be specific to the program completed and include:
   (a) Transcripts, letters from course instructors, or certificate of completion;
   (b) Written report by the CDP explaining how they achieved the competencies in WAC 246-811-047; or
   (c) Signed agreement between parties involved.
(2) A chemical dependency professional must comply with the requirements of chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7.

WAC 246-811-990 Chemical dependency professional and chemical dependency professional trainee—Fees and renewal cycle. (1) A chemical dependency professional (CDP) certificate must be renewed every year on the practitioner's birthday as provided in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2.