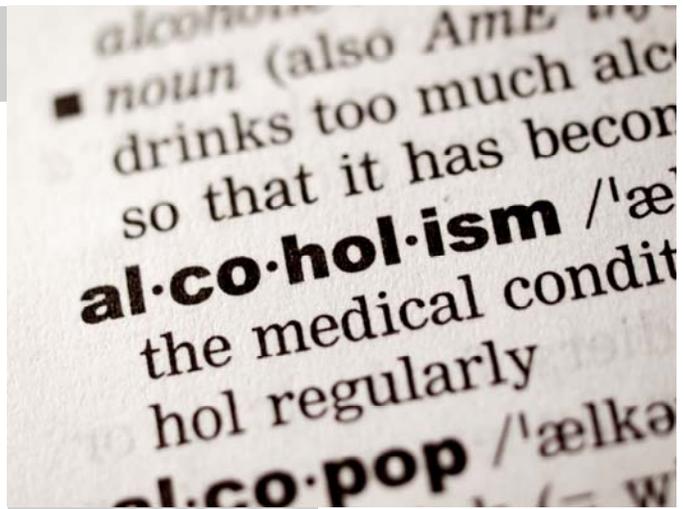


Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors

Occupational Profile



WHAT THEY DO

Counsel and advise individuals with alcohol, tobacco, drug, or other problems, such as gambling and eating disorders. May belong to the Human Services cluster and Counseling and Mental Health Services pathway.

IS THIS FOR YOU?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Social** – You are a "helper". You like being around people and helping them with problems. Socializing is fun for you.
- **Artistic**—You are a "creator". You enjoy things like art, music and books, and express your feelings easily. You don't like rigid rules and structure.
- **Investigative**—You are a "thinker". When you have a problem, you like to analyze it and look at different ways to solve it. You like to work by yourself, and you don't like explaining your ideas to other people.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Achievement** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to use your best abilities. You want to see the results of your work and get a feeling of accomplishment.
- **Relationships** – It's very important to you that you have friendly co-workers. You would like to be of service to others without compromising your sense of right and wrong.

Aptitudes reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

SKILLS YOU NEED

Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Writing
- Speaking
- Critical Thinking
- Active Learning
- Learning Strategies
- Monitoring

Transferable (applicable in other careers):

- Counseling and advising people
- Interviewing people to obtain information
- Planning and giving information and help
- Preparing case reports
- Providing social services
- Treating physical or mental problems

Workplace Skills:

High level

- Coordination
- Instructing
- Persuasion
- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness

Medium level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Negotiation
- Time Management

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/career-exploration-resources>

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2012 Estimated Employment	2022 Projected Employment	2012-22 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,758,205	1,955,480	197,275	1.1	61,665
Community & Social Service Occupations	25,495	30,165	4,670	1.8	1,050
Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors	1,295	1,605	310	2.4	60

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total, All Occupations	19.77	41,122	9.55	19,858	24.88	51,755
Community & Social Service Occupations	19.62	40,811	11.44	23,792	23.71	49,320
Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors	20.86	43,380	13.43	27,941	24.57	51,100

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Master's Degree	None	Moderate-Term On-The-Job

A master's degree is typically required to be licensed as a counselor. In an accredited master's degree program, 48 to 60 semester hours of graduate study, including a period of supervised clinical experience in counseling, are required. Some employers provide training for newly hired counselors. Others may offer time off or tuition assistance to complete a graduate degree. Often counselors must participate in graduate studies, workshops, and personal studies to maintain their certificates and licenses. 49 States and the District of Columbia have some form of counselor licensure that governs the practice of counseling. Requirements typically include the completion of a master's degree in counseling, the accumulation of 2 years or 3,000 hours of supervised clinical experience beyond the master's degree level, the passage of a State-recognized exam, adherence to ethical codes and standards, and the completion of annual continuing education requirements.

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	n.a.
Locating Information	n.a.
Reading for Information	n.a.

This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors Employed?)

Nursing and Residential Care Facilities
Social Assistance
Ambulatory Health Care Services
State Government
Hospitals

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

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