

Overview of the New RSAE & RSAS Certifications



The Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification Federation (CACCF) is pleased to announce a new credential in relation to the Registered Substance Abuse Expert (RSAE) Program. We would ask that you distribute this to your professional membership as a new offering in the Substance Disorders Expert area.

The RSAE Program provides Organizations, Unions, Employees, Safety-Sensitive Industries, and Communities, the peace of mind of knowing that competence and quality are paramount when addressing Substance Use Issues.

This newest set of credentials are intended to provide organizations and industry a qualified standard for all clinicians' working within safety-sensitive environments where SAE activities are occurring (drug-testing, follow-up, clinical assessments, and treatment of substance use issues). **Currently, there are NO standards and NO regulations in place.** This newest set of credentials will now provide the SAE Industry with a qualified professional environment.

Many individuals' are using **a C-SAE or a C-SAP designation, which is not based upon any externally licensed formal evaluation process** and is simply an internal provider program offering without the backing of a licensed professional qualified body. Additionally, for those individuals that are Psychologists' and Clinical Social Workers, this Registration shows clear evidence of their expertise in the Substance Disorders area.

The CACCF is currently the only organization in Canada able to offer a qualified professional certification in the Substance Disorder's area. **The RSAE Program is recognized by the CACCF as the National Standard of programming in the Substance Disorders field as it relates to Safety-Sensitive Work Environments.**

Purpose of the RSAE Program

The purpose of the RSAE Program is to train and certify addiction professionals in the assessment, treatment, and monitoring of employees for substance abuse. The primary focus is upon employees working in high risk or safety-sensitive occupations.

CACCF Facts at a Glance

- Offering unique certifications to counsellors since 1985
- Credible certification body in Canada with representation across all Canadian provinces and territories
- Active member of the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) certifying body
- International standards widely respected and abided by in the addiction profession
- Hailed by leading authorities throughout the world as the symbol of quality assurance

Reasons for CACCF Certification

Among the many reasons to become certified are:

- To assure to the public a minimum level of competency for quality service by alcoholism and drug addiction counsellors
- To give professional recognition to qualified alcohol and drug addiction counsellors through a process that examines demonstrated work competency
- To assure an ongoing opportunity for alcohol and drug counsellors to further their professional development and education in the field
- To enable alcohol and drug counsellors to become eligible for reimbursement for the professional health care services.
- CACCF will be actively marketing all RSAE Services across multiple industries and ALL active members will be listed and accessible from the CACCF website for corporations to access

Criteria and Requirements for Training and Certification

There are two levels of registration:

- Registered Substance Abuse Expert (RSAE)
- Registered Substance Abuse Supervisor (RSAS)

RSAE

ICADC, ICCDP, ICCDPD, ICCAC or ICCS (Administered by CACCF or any IC & RC Board *) **or** practitioners holding a degree and registration in psychology, medicine, nursing or social work with a minimum of three years (6000 hours) in the addiction field. For Provisional Status there is a requirement of one year (2000 hours) in the addictions field.

RSAS

- All of the RSAE qualifications with a minimum of five years' experience in the substance abuse field. All educational requirements must be at a Master's level or above.

All RSAE/RSAS Members will need to re-certify every two years with 40 hours of continued educational units.

Return on investment is often returned within 3-4 assessments for either the RSAE or RSAS Credentialed Professional.