



ADP BULLETIN

Title

Accreditation of Certifying Organizations

Deputy Director Approval	Function:	Issue Date:	Issue No.
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this Bulletin is to inform all Certifying Organizations (CO) approved by the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) and all alcohol and other drug (AOD) programs licensed and/or certified by ADP that as of April 1, 2013 there are seven CO's approved by ADP to register and certify individuals to provide AOD counseling. All AOD counselors currently registered or certified with a CO no longer approved by ADP will need to re-register with one of the seven approved CO's to continue providing counseling services.

DISCUSSION

ADP has determined that the following CO's are not accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and are no longer approved by ADP to register and certify AOD counselors:

Certifying Organizations no longer approved by ADP

1. Association of Christian Alcohol Drug Counselors
2. California Certification Board of Chemical Dependency Counselors
3. Center for Criminality & Addiction Research, Training & Application Forensic Addictions Corrections Treatment

The unapproved CO's have been notified by ADP that they are no longer approved to register and certify AOD counselors as of the dates identified above. Each CO has been directed to send notification within five (5) working days from receiving written notification from ADP to each counselor informing him/her of his/her rights and responsibilities as specified in regulations.

This Bulletin also serves as notification to the counselors of the unapproved CO's. ADP has incorporated a 15-day grace period into the six month deadline in case counselors do not receive a letter from their CO. All AOD counselors registered and certified with these organizations must re-register with an approved organization prior to the expiration of their certification or registration, or within the six (6) month deadline (whichever is sooner). Please refer to the chart for the identified final deadlines for each unapproved CO.

REFERENCES

CCR, Title 9, Section 13035(d)(1-4)

"(d) If any of the certifying organizations specified in this regulation fails to comply with the requirements of this regulation, within five (5) working days following receipt of written notification by the Department that it is no longer approved to certify AOD counselors, the certifying organization shall send written notification to each AOD counselor registered with or certified by the certifying organization, informing him/her of his/her rights and responsibilities, including the following:

- (1) Before expiration of his/her certification or within six (6) months of the notice (whichever is sooner), the counselor shall register with one of the other certifying organizations listed in (a) of this regulation;
- (2) For purposes of this Chapter, the AOD counselor's certification remains valid until it expires only if the certified counselor re-registers as required by (d)(1) of this regulation;
- (3) The new certifying organization shall give credit for any continuing education credits earned while certified by the former certifying organization; and
- (4) The new certifying organization shall give registrants sufficient credit for education and experience completed to place the registrant at an equivalent level in the new certifying organization."

BACKGROUND

Within six (6) months from their date of hire any individual providing AOD counseling in a licensed or certified AOD program must be registered or certified by an approved CO, or be professionally licensed*.

Any counselor who is certified or registered with any one of the non-approved CO's must become registered with one of the currently approved CO's identified below:

* Professionally licensed is defined in CCR, Title 9, Section 13015, as a physician licensed by the Medical Board of California; or a psychologist licensed by the Board of Psychology; or a clinical social worker or marriage and family therapist licensed by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences, or an intern registered with the California Board of Psychology or the California Board of Behavioral Sciences. No other licenses are accepted.

- **American Academy of Health Care Providers in the Addictive Disorders (AAHCPAD)**
Accredited Program - Certified Addiction Specialist
 731 South Highway 101, Suite 1E
 Solana Beach, CA 92075
 (888)-429-3701
- **Board for Certification of Addiction Specialists**
 Affiliated with the California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources (CAARR)
Accredited Program - Certified Alcoholism & Other Drug Addictions Recovery Specialist
 2400 Marconi Avenue
 P.O. Box 214127
 Sacramento, CA 95821
 Office: (916) 338-9460
www.caarr.org
- **Breining Institute**
Accredited Program - Registered Addiction Specialist
 8894 Greenback Lane
 Orangevale, CA 95662
 (916) 987-2007
www.breining.edu
- **California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators**
Accredited Program - Certified Addiction Treatment Counselor
 5230 Clark Avenue, Suite 3
 Lakewood, CA 90712
 Phone: 707-722-2331
 Fax: 562-866-2540
www.caade.org
- **California Association of Drinking Driver Treatment Programs (CADDTP)**
Accredited Program - Certified Alcohol & Other Drug Counselor
 1731 Howe Avenue, PMB #352
 Sacramento, CA 95825-2209
 (800) 464-3597
www.caddtp.org
- **California Certification Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors Affiliated with the California Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (CAADAC)**
Accredited Program - Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor
 3400 Bradshaw Road, Suite B
 Sacramento, CA 95827
 Phone: (916) 368-9412
www.caadac.org
- **Indian Alcoholism Commission of California, Inc.**
Accredited Program - Certified Substance Abuse Counselor
 448 Red Cliff Drive, Suite 12
 Redding, CA 96002
 Phone: (530) 221-0705
www.iaccinc.net

The new CO's must give credit for any continuing education credits the AOD counselor earned while certified by the former certifying organization; and the new CO must give registrants sufficient credit for education and experience completed to place the registrant at an equivalent level in the new certifying organization. Not all remaining approved CO's offer the same level of certifications or have the same requirements. Transferring counselors should view the options offered by the approved CO's before re-registering.

All individual AOD counselors failing to become registered or certified with one of the approved certifying organizations in the appropriate time frames will not hold a valid registration or certification and must not provide AOD counseling services in any program licensed or certified by ADP, or any program with Drug Medi-Cal certification from the Department of Health Care Services.

Regulations require licensed and certified AOD programs to ensure that their counseling staff are appropriately registered and/or certified at all times by an approved certifying organization, or appropriately professionally licensed. In addition, AOD programs must continue to meet the regulatory requirement that 30 percent of the staff providing AOD counseling are certified or professionally licensed. AOD programs must also demonstrate that their registered AOD counselors do not exceed the five year registration limit (from the date of initial registration). AOD programs failing to ensure compliance with these requirements will be cited appropriately.

QUESTIONS/MAINTENANCE

If you have questions regarding this Bulletin, please contact the Licensing and Certification Division at 916-322-2911. This Bulletin is available on the ADP Web page at www.adp.ca.gov.

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