

CAADC APPLICATION

Certified Advanced Alcohol & Drug Counselor

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS – READ CAREFULLY

Prior to applying, all requirements must be met and documented.

Do not apply until all requirements are met.

TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION, CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. Mail: VCB, 298 S. Progress Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17109
- 2. Email: info@vacertboard.org NOTE: Only PDFs are permitted. Photos of applications are not accepted.
- **3. Fax:** 717-540-4458 NOTE: faxing is an unreliable technology. Receiving a confirmation of fax does not indicate it has been received. To confirm receipt of application, email info@vacertboard.org.

REVIEW & APPROVAL PROCESS

- 1. Staff reviews application. Allow up to 10 business days for review and processing.
- Applicant will be emailed if there is any documentation missing or there are questions regarding an application. Applications with pending problems will be held open for one year from date of receipt after which they will be closed.
- 3. An application is considered approved when applicant receives an email from the testing company to register for the examination.
- 4. Follow all instructions to register for the examination provided in the email.
- 5. If you have not heard from VCB regarding your application or received an email from the testing company to register for the examination after 10 business days, email info@vacertboard.org.
- 6. Once you pass the examination, you are certified.
- 7. A certificate will be mailed to you within 10 business days.

CERTIFIED ADVANCED ALCOHOL & DRUG COUNSELOR REQUIREMENTS

All requirements below must be met to apply. All required documentation must be sent in with an application except for the official college transcript which is sent to VCB directly prior to application.

FORMAL EDUCATION

REQUIRED: Minimum master's degree in a relevant field.

It is recommended you obtain documentation approximately three weeks prior to sending in your application. Documentation of master's degree may be mailed to VCB or emailed to info@vacertboard.org by the educational institution prior to application.

The degree must be in a relevant field and from an accredited college/university that is recognized by the US Department of Education or the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. An official transcript sent directly from college/university is required. If the degree is from outside the United States, a degree equivalency must done by an organization that specializes in that process. The applicant is responsible for arranging this process and all costs.

Official transcripts are required and must be sent directly from college/university to VCB prior to application. **Official transcripts may be mailed to VCB or emailed to info@vacertboard.org**.

If you have a sealed official transcript in your possession, you may mail it in the sealed envelope to VCB prior to your application arriving or mail it in with your application.

If you have outstanding debt or other issues which prevent the college/university from releasing your official transcript, you must resolve these issues with the school prior to applying for certification.

CLINICAL WORK EXPERIENCE

REQUIRED: One (1) year of full time or 2000 hours of part-time work experience in the specific AADC domains.

Qualifying work experience is defined as providing primary, direct, clinical, substance use disorder or cooccurring counseling to persons whose primary diagnosis is that of substance use disorder or providing
supervision of said counseling. Applicant must have primary responsibility for providing substance use disorder
counseling in an individual and/or group setting, preparing treatment plans, documenting client progress and is
clinically supervised. No other work experience in the drug and alcohol field can be used for counselor
certification other than what is stated above.

Qualifying work experience can be from multiple employers to accumulate the required years/hours. If the applicant's work experience requirement is not fulfilled from their current employer, they must include **documentation from previous employer(s)** verifying their title, duties and dates employed with their application. <u>DO NOT submit a resume as proof of previous work experience.</u> Applicant must contact previous employers and request detailed documentation of their employment from them.

The applicant must be currently employed as a drug and alcohol counselor at the time of application.

All work experience must have occurred within the last seven (7) years. Volunteer work is not acceptable. Time spent participating in or facilitating mutual support groups is not acceptable.

Examples of positions/titles that typically are not eligible for counselor certification include but are not limited to case managers, technicians, peer and recovery counselors/specialists, intake/admissions workers, drug court/probation and parole professionals, etc.

Clinical internships completed as part of a college degree program may be eligible to use toward the required work experience. Internships must be ones in which the student was providing drug and alcohol counseling as described on page 11 of this application under Work Experience; internships must be well documented by the agency in which the internship occurred; internships must have been supervised; internships must appear on the official college transcript.

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION

REQUIRED: Copy of current counselor job description, obtained from current employer, and which must be signed by both the applicant and their immediate clinical supervisor.

All applicants must include a copy of their current counselor job description. This **document is provided by your employer** and must be signed and dated by the applicant and their immediate clinical supervisor.

Job descriptions determine and verify eligible current work experience. Job description must clearly delineate drug and alcohol counseling as a primary function of the position.

If you have held different counselor positions with your current employer, please provide all relevant job descriptions with the application. For instance, if you started as a counselor assistant, then you were promoted to a Counselor I and then a Counselor II, include all three job descriptions.

In lieu of job description(s), employer may provide an official position description on agency letterhead. This required documentation must include the applicants' dates of employment (to/from) employment status (full-time or part-time), title of position, a detailed description of the duties and responsibilities for the position, and the average number of hours per week the applicant worked.

ON-THE-JOB CLINICAL SUPERVISION

REQUIRED: 100 hours of on-the-job clinical supervision of qualifying work experience with a minimum of 10 hours of clinical supervision in each specific AADC domain.

Supervision is a formal or informal process that is evaluative, clinical, educative, and supportive. It ensures quality of clinical care and extends over time. Supervision includes observation, mentoring, coaching, evaluating, inspiring, and creating an atmosphere that promotes self-motivation, learning, and professional development. In all aspects of the supervision process, ethical and diversity issues must be in the forefront.

VCB has no requirements for who provides clinical supervision. The person providing clinical supervision is at the discretion of the agency.

Clinical supervision can be provided in an individual, one-on-one setting and/or observation of skills or group supervision setting.

Clinical supervision can be provided by more than one supervisor. In this case, provide a copy of page 12 of this application to all the supervisors documenting supervision on your behalf.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

REQUIRED: 180 hours of relevant education/training specific to the ADC domains, including 6 hours in counselor ethics and responsibilities.

Education is defined as formal, structured instruction in the form of workshops, trainings, seminars, in-services, college/university credit courses, and online education.

There is no limit to the amount of online education that may be submitted.

Most three-credit college/university courses count as 45 hours. One training CE/CEU counts as one hour.

Out of state education is acceptable.

All education/training must be documented. College courses are documented with an official college transcript. Trainings are documented with copies of training certificates.

Training certificates must have the applicant's name, title of training, date(s) of training, the number of hours being awarded, and the name of training organization. Training certificates submitted without this required information on them will not be accepted.

If a training title on a certificate of attendance does not clearly indicate the education content, attach a copy of the training description.

Training registration forms and/or training sign-in sheets are not acceptable forms of documentation.

Training must be non-repetitive meaning the same training cannot be claimed more than one time even if the training is taken on different dates from different providers.

Official employer training tracking system/learning management system reports may be acceptable forms of documentation for education/training provided that the report contains the name of the employee/applicant, titles of each training, dates of each training, the number of hours of each training, and is signed by the applicant's supervisor.

There is no time limit on when the education/training was received.

EXAMINATION

REQUIRED: Once application is approved, applicant must pass the IC&RC Examination for Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselors (AADC examination).

Examination information provided on page 6 and on IC&RC's website: www.internationalcredentialing.org.

CERTIFICATION FEE

REQUIRED: \$350.00 (fee includes examination and must accompany certification application)

The fee may be paid by check, money order or with VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

If an employer or organization is paying the fee, they must include the applicants name with the payment.

Fee payment information provided on page 9 of this application. E-receipts will be sent if using a credit card for payment. Receipts for check or money order payments must be requested by applicant to VCB.

Applications received without payment will not be processed.

One-half of the fee is refundable if application is denied or cancelled prior to the examination. No refund will be issued if application is denied or cancelled after examination.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Email addresses provided to VCB must be active accounts that are checked regularly. We will not be able to contact you or register you for the examination without an email address. Please print legibly.

Applicants must either live or work in VA at the time of application.

This certification is an international, reciprocal credential recognized and transferrable to many other states and countries.

APPEAL PROCESS

The purpose of appeal is to determine if VCB accurately reviewed an application that is denied. A letter requesting an appeal must be sent to VCB within 30 days of the notification of VCB's action. An applicant shall be considered notified three days after the relevant date of mailing. The appeal will be sent to the VCB Executive Committee who will thoroughly review the entire application and materials to determine whether or not applicant should have been denied approval. The applicant will be notified in writing as to the findings of the Executive Committee.

FELONIES & DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

While felonies and disciplinary actions from other certification/licensing entities may not prohibit certification, documentation is required to be submitted at the time of application. Certification through VCB does not mean a professional should not disclose this information to potential employers and does not in any way exonerate charges.

REQUESTS TO CHANGE APPLICATION

Professionals who wish to have their application re-reviewed for another credential VCB offers prior to taking the examination or after an unsuccessful attempt at the examination will incur a \$50 application change/review fee.

CERTIFICATION TIME PERIOD

Certification encompasses two calendar years beginning on the date the applicant passes the examination. The certificate issued to the professional lists the following information: name of professional, credential name, date of issue, date of expiration and certification number.

RECERTIFICATION

To maintain the high standards of professional practice and to assure continuing awareness of new knowledge in the field, the Board requires recertification every two years. Professionals should review the Recertification Application for credential specific requirements listed on the Board website well in advance of their expiration date.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

TYPE OF EXAMINATION

The successful completion of an IC&RC examination is required. The examination is computer based, 150 multiple-choice questions, and offered at approved testing sites statewide. Candidates choose the day, time, and site for their examination. Once an application is approved, candidates will receive an email from the testing company with instructions for scheduling their examination.

TIME PERMITTED

Three hours are permitted to complete the examination.

EXAMINATION CONTENT

The examination is developed from the IC&RC Job Analysis which identifies domains and tasks for competent practice. Domains for the examination are: Screening, Assessment, & Engagement; Treatment Planning, Collaboration, & Referral; Counseling & Education; Professional & Ethical Responsibilities.

CANDIDATE GUIDE

The domains, including the task statements per domain, sample examination questions, and a list of references from the IC&RC Job Analysis are included in the Candidate Guide. Candidate Guides are available from the VCB website.

STUDY MATERIAL

Professional study guides and practice exams have been published for the examination. This information can be found on the IC&RC's website at: www.internationalcredentialing.org.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Individuals with disabilities and/or religious obligations that require modifications in examination administration may request specific procedure changes in writing with official documentation to VCB no fewer than 60 days prior to their examination date. Contact VCB on what constitutes official documentation. VCB will coordinate appropriate modifications to the examination process when documentation supports the need.

CANCELLATION/RESCHEDULING POLICY

Candidates are required to arrive on time for their examination. Candidates who arrive late will not be permitted to take the examination and will be charged a \$150.00 cancellation/rescheduling fee. Candidates who cancel or reschedule their examination less than five days prior to their scheduled date will be charged the full examination fee. Candidates who cancel or reschedule more than five days before their scheduled date will be charged a \$25.00 cancellation/rescheduling fee.

RETESTING

Candidates who fail the examination can retest after a 90-day wait period from the date of their last examination. Candidates will be sent instructions and fee information. Candidates have three (3) opportunities to retake an examination. If a candidate fails the examination four (4) times, they must submit a study plan to VCB and wait one-year from the date of the final failed examination before they will be permitted to retest again.

CAADC: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Application can be completed and saved. You may then print the appropriate pages to submit to VCB.

TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

Today's Date (mm/dd/yyyy):	
Applicant Name:	
Print your name as it sho	ould appear on your certificate. Credentials and degrees will not be printed.
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):	SSN (last four):
Have you ever received any disciplinary If yes, provide full details on a separate sheet.	action from another certification/licensing authority? Yes No
Have you read and understood the VCB The Code of Ethical Conduct is located at www.va	Clinical Code of Ethical Conduct? Yes No neertboard.org/ethics.
CONTACT INFORMATION	
Home Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Cell Phone:	
Primary Email:	
<u>REQUIRED</u> : PRINT LEGIE	BLY: EMAIL IS OUR PRIMARY WAY OF COMMUNICATING WITH YOU.
Secondary Email:	
DEMOGRAPHICS	
Data is never released with identifying information	on. It is used to report workforce data to state and federal agencies.
What is your gender?	□ Prefer not to disclose
□ Female	Do you identify as transgender?
□ Male	□ Yes
□ Nonbinary	□ No
□ Prefer to self-describe:	□ Prefer not to disclose
How do you describe your sexual orient	tation or sexual identity?
☐ Heterosexual or straight	
☐ Gay or lesbian	
□ Bisexual	
□ Queer	
☐ Questioning or unsure	
□ Prefer to self-describe:	
☐ Prefer not to disclose	
Which best describes you?	
□ Asian or Pacific Islander	☐ Multiracial or Biracial (please specify):
□ Black or African American	□ Not listed (please specify):
☐ Hispanic or Latino	☐ Prefer not to disclose
□ Native American or Alaska Native	

☐ White or Caucasian

What is your yearly income?	Do you have military experience?
□ Less than \$20,000	□ Active duty
□ \$20,000 to \$34,999	□ Veteran
□ \$35,000 to \$49,999	□ Not Applicable
□ \$50,000 to \$74,999	
□ \$75,000 to \$99,999	
□ Over \$100,000	
□ Unsure	
□ Prefer not to disclose	
Language(s) spoken fluently (check all that apply):	
□ American Sign Language	□ Korean
□ Arabic	□ Polish
□ Chinese	□ Portuguese
□ English	□ Russian
□ French	□ Spanish
□ German	□ Tagalog (Filipino)
□ Indigenous Language	□ Vietnamese
□ Italian	□ Other, please specify:
 Obtain part-time employment/Decrease hours No change Retire Move to a different career/field Unknown 	
PAYMENT INFORMATION	
FEE OF \$350 CAN BE PAID USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING	G (CHECK ONE):
☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Disco Checks & Money Orders made payable to VCB	over American Express
☐ My employer/organization is mailing payment directly to VCE	3.
Number:	
Sec. Code: Exp. Date: Name	on Card:
Billing address: (If different than Home Address)	
Fmail for receipt (if paying by credit card only):	

REQUIRED: Minimum master's degree in a relevant field.
am including a sealed official transcript with my CAADC application. ☐ Yes ☐ No
have ordered an official transcript to be sent to VCB. Yes No
College/University:
Name on Transcript:
Date Transcript Requested:
Delivery Method:
☐ Mailed to VCB☐ Emailed to VCB
CAADC: EDUCATION/TRAINING
REQUIRED: 180 hours of relevant education/training including 6 hours in counselor ethics and responsibilities.
I have included copies of training certificates. □ Yes □ No
I have included a copy of my training tracking system/learning management system report. ☐ Yes ☐ No
My college transcript provides all or some of the relevant education. ☐ Yes ☐ No

CAADC: FORMAL EDUCATION

CAADC: CLINICAL WORK EXPERIENCE & JOB DESCRIPTION

REQUIRED: One (1) year of full-time or 2000 hours of part-time CLINICAL work experience in the specific AADC domains.

REQUIRED: Copy of current counselor job description, which must be signed by both the applicant and their immediate clinical supervisor.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT INFORMA	TION
Employer Name:	
Employer City:	Zip:
Applicant Position/Title:	
Start Date in Current Position:	
How many hours do you work per week?	
Total hours/years worked in current position	on?
I have attached my current counselor job de	escription, dated and signed by both me and my supervisor. \Box Yes \Box No
	ment to fulfill the experience requirement? Yes No (on company letterhead) from previous employer(s) verifying your duties and dates employed
PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT INFORMA Letter (on company letterhead) from previous employe	ATION (IF APPLICABLE) er(s) verifying your title, duties & dates employed must be included with your application.
Organization Name:	
Organization City:	Zip:
Applicant Position/Title:	
Start Date in Position:	End Date in Position:
How many hours did you work per week? _	
Total hours/years worked in previous posit	ion?
Organization Name:	
Organization City:	Zip:
Applicant Position/Title:	
Start Date in Position:	End Date in Position:
How many hours did you work per week? _	
Total hours/years worked in previous positi	ion?

CAADC: ON-THE-JOB CLINICAL SUPERVISION

	QUIRED: 100 hours of on-the-job clinical supervision of qualifying work experience with a nimum of 10 hours of clinical supervision in each specific AADC domain.
Information	below is to be completed by applicant's current and/or previous clinical supervisor(s).
This page is	to document the clinical supervision hours provided to the applicant, not their total work hours.
	urs of clinical supervision should be 100 hours but could be more depending on the applicants' length of t or could be less if the applicant was provided clinical supervision from a previous employer.
Applicants r	nay copy this page and provide it to previous clinical supervisors.
Applicant I	lame:
CLINICAL	SUPERVISOR INFORMATION
Name:	
	tle:
Licenses, C	ertifications and/or Degrees:
Email:	Phone:
Employer I	Name:
Employer	City: Zip:
	SUPERVISION DOCUMENTATION
CLINICAL	SOPERVISION DOCUMENTATION
Clinical Sup	ervision was provided to the above-named applicant in the following Domains:
	DOMAIN EXACT NUMBER OF HOURS
	□ Screening, Assessment, & Engagement
	☐ Treatment Planning, Collaboration, & Referral
	□ Counseling & Education
	□ Professional & Ethical Responsibilities
	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF CLINICAL SUPERVISION:
Supervisor A	Attestation:
•	Attestation: the above-named applicant has been provided with clinical supervision as documented above.

Date

Supervisor Signature

CAADC: ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & RELEASE

This page must be completed by the applicant.

INITIAL EACH STATEMENT

Applicant Name:

RELEASE

I request that the Virginia Certification Board (VCB) grant the credential to me based on the following assurances and documentation:

- I subscribe to and commit myself to professional conduct in keeping with the VCB Code of Ethical Conduct;
- I certify that the information given herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also authorize any necessary investigation and the release of information relative to my application;
- Falsification of any documents will nullify this application and will result in denial or revocation of certification;
- I consent to the release of information contained in my application and any other pertinent data submitted to or collected by VCB to officers, members, and staff of the aforementioned Board;
- I consent to authorize VCB to gather information from third parties regarding education, employment and/or supervision and understand that such communication shall be treated as confidential;
- Allegations of ethical misconduct reported to VCB before, during, or after application for certification is made
 will be investigated by VCB and could result in the nullification of the application or denial or revocation of
 certification.

I have read and understood thi	is Asknowledgements and Balazsa	
Thave read and understood thi	is Acknowledgements and Release.	
I either live or work in Virginia	at least 51% of the time.	
•	oplication fee is refundable if application is denied Il be issued if application is denied or cancelled afte	•
	on is open for a period of one year after the date o hin that year, the application will be closed, and no	
	o have my application re-reviewed for another creansuccessful attempt at the examination I will incur	•
Applicant:	Signature:	Date:

Page must be completed and submitted with the application. Do not submit your application until checklist is reviewed, completed and all documentation is compiled.

Prior to applying, all requirements must be met and documented. Use the table below as a guide for gathering documentation.

Do not submit any documentation with an application that is not listed on the table or the application unless specifically instructed by a staff member. Do not apply until all requirements are met.

REQUIREMENT	DOCUMENTATION	✓
Application page with payment	• Page 8 & 9	
Formal Education page	Page 10	
Education	Official college transcriptCopies of training certificates (if applicable)	
Clinical Work Experience	 Page 11 Previous relevant employment documentation (if needed) 	
Current job description	Obtain from employer	
Supervision page	Page 12	
Notarized Acknowledgement & Release page	Page 13	
Checklist page	Page 14	
Disciplinary Actions?	Include letter of explanation with application	
Convicted of a felony?	Include letter of explanation with application	
Company paying fee?	Include applicant name on payment	
Copy entire application for records		

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- 1. Mail: VCB, 298 S. Progress Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17109
- **2. Email:** <u>info@vacertboard.org</u> *NOTE:* Only PDFs are permitted. Photos of applications are not accepted.
- **3. Fax:** 717-540-4458 NOTE: faxing is an unreliable technology. Receiving a confirmation of fax does not indicate it has been received. To confirm receipt of application, email info@vacertboard.org.

I acknowledge, that to the best of my ability, I have submitted a completed application.		
Signature:	Date:	