

## Comparison of SUDP/T vs. Alternative Training vs. Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist Enhancement

Substance Use Disorder Professional, Substance Use Disorder Professional Trainee	Alternative training education requirements	Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist Enhancement
<p><a href="#">Chapter 18.205 RCW</a> <a href="#">Chapter 246-811 WAC</a></p> <p><b>EDUCATION:</b> Applicants must have an associate degree in human services or related field, or successful completion of 90 quarter or 60 semester college credits in courses from an approved school - see WAC 246-811-010(9).</p> <p>At least 45 quarter or 30 semester credits must be in courses relating to the substance use disorder profession and must include the topics listed in WAC 246-811-030. Specific topics include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding addiction;</li> <li>Pharmacological actions of alcohol and other drugs;</li> <li>Substance abuse and addiction treatment methods;</li> <li>Understanding addiction placement, continuing care, and discharge criteria, including American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria;</li> <li>Cultural diversity, including people with disabilities, and its implication for treatment;</li> <li>Substance use clinical evaluation;</li> <li>HIV/AIDS brief risk intervention for people with substance use disorder;</li> <li>Substance use disorder treatment planning;</li> <li>Referral and use of community resources;</li> </ol>	<p>The alternative training education requirements is for applicants with a license in good standing in one of the following credentials, as outlined in WAC 246-811-076:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Psychologist under RCW 18.83.</li> <li>Marriage and family therapists, mental health counselor, advanced social worker, or independent clinical social worker under RCW 18.225.</li> <li>Osteopathic physician under chapter 18.57 RCW.</li> <li>Osteopathic physician assistant under chapter 18.57A RCW;</li> <li>Physician under chapter 18.71 RCW; or</li> <li>Physician assistant under chapter 18.71A RCW.</li> </ul> <p><b>EDUCATION:</b> Requirements include 15 quarter or 10 semester college credits from an approved school in the courses specific to alcohol- and drug-addicted people for each of the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey of addiction;</li> <li>Treatment of addiction;</li> <li>Pharmacology;</li> <li>Physiology of addiction;</li> </ol>	<p>The Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist is an enhancement available to be added to the license of specific counselors under <a href="#">RCW 18.205.105</a> (1) which allows them to provide substance use disorder treatment with some limitations. It is not available as a stand-alone credential, applicants must already possess one of the qualified license types to be eligible to apply.</p> <p><b>Who is eligible:</b> You must already be fully licensed with one of the qualified license types in <a href="#">RCW 18.205.105</a>(1) to be eligible for the Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist Enhancement. Note that you must have the full license, Associates who are under supervision and gaining hours for licensure are not eligible for the enhancement.</p> <p><b>License Type qualified for the Co-Occurring Enhancement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Psychologist licensed <a href="#">under 18.83 RCW</a></li> <li>Independent Clinical Social Worker licensed <a href="#">under 18.225 RCW</a></li> <li>Marriage and Family Therapist licensed <a href="#">under 18.225 RCW</a></li> <li>Mental Health Counselor licensed <a href="#">under 18.225 RCW</a></li> <li>Agency Affiliated Counselor (AAC)* registered <a href="#">under 18.19 RCW</a></li> </ul> <p>*AACs must meet additional requirements of a Master’s degree in a</p>

<p>j) Service coordination;  k) Individual counseling;  l) Group counseling;  m) Substance use disorder 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) Substance use disorder confidentiality;  s) Professional and ethical responsibilities;  t) Relapse prevention;  u) Adolescent substance use disorder assessment and treatment;  v) Substance use disorder case management; and  w) Substance use disorder rules and regulations.</p> <p>Official transcript means the transcript from an approved college or school, in an envelope readily identified as having been sealed by the school. The transcript must include the degree and date posted. Transcripts not in English must have an official translation and educational evaluation.</p> <p>Applicants must complete the course topic identification form. Official transcripts must verify course topics. If course topics do not clearly identify courses, applicants will be asked for course syllabi.</p> <p><b>EXPERIENCE:</b> The required number of supervision hours is based on the applicant's level of formal education. This includes:</p>	<p>5. American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria;  6. Individual, group, family addiction counseling; and  7. Substance use disorder law and ethics.</p> <p>Applicants must complete course topic identification forms. Official transcripts must verify course topics. If course topics don't clearly identify the course, applicants will be asked for course syllabi.</p> <p>National certification acceptable for alternative training</p> <p>Applicants with one of the credentials listed in WAC 246-811-076 may meet the education and supervised experience requirements if the applicant also possesses one or more of the qualifying national certifications listed in WAC 246-811-078 (2). The national certification must be active and in good standing, with a verification form completed by the approved supervisor. See Approved Supervisor Requirements - WAC 246-811-049. Applicants' supervisors must also make a statement as to their qualifications, using a form provided by the department.</p> <p><b>EXPERIENCE:</b>  The required number of supervision hours is based on the applicant's level of formal education. This includes:</p>	<p>counseling related field and have 2 years of supervised experience. <a href="#">RCW 18.205.105</a> (1)(e)</p> <p><b>EDUCATION/TRAINING:</b>  To obtain the co-occurring specialist applicants must complete a 60-hour training course specifically relating to substance use treatment and approved by the department. Other training courses and college courses do not count toward the requirements, it is the completion of a full course not an aggregate of courses.</p> <p>The training course consists of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 30 hours in understanding the disease pattern of addiction and the pharmacology of alcohol and other drugs; and</li> <li>2. 30 hours in understanding addiction placement, continuing care, and discharge criteria including the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria; treatment planning specific to substance abuse; relapse prevention; and confidentiality issues specific to substance use disorder treatment.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">List of approved Co-Occurring Educational Providers:</a></li> </ul> <p><b>EXPERIENCE:</b>  To meet the educational component of the co-occurring specialist, the applicant must obtain experience hours under a licensed</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two thousand five hundred hours of substance use disorder (SUD) counseling for applicants with an associate degree.</li> <li>• Two thousand hours of SUD counseling for applicants with a baccalaureate degree.</li> <li>• Fifteen hundred hours of SUD counseling for applicants with a master’s or doctoral degree.</li> <li>• One thousand hours of SUD counseling for people who are licensed in one of the approved professions for the alternative track in WAC 246-811-076.</li> </ul> <p>Eight hundred and fifty hours of experience including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two hundred hours of clinical evaluation</li> <li>• One hundred of the 200 hours must be face-to-face patient contact.</li> <li>• Six hundred hours of face-to-face counseling to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Individual counseling</li> <li>○ Group counseling</li> <li>○ Counseling families, couples and significant others</li> <li>○ Fifty hours of discussion of professional and ethical responsibilities.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The remaining experience hours must be divided among WAC 246-811-047(2)(d) through (i) as determined by the supervisor.</p> <p>All of the experience must be under an approved supervisor as defined by WAC 246-811-049.</p> <p>The first 50 hours of any face-to-face patient contact must be under direct observation of an approved supervisor or a substance use disorder professional.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two thousand five hundred hours of substance use disorder (SUD) counseling for applicants with an associate degree.</li> <li>• Two thousand hours of SUD counseling for applicants with a baccalaureate degree.</li> <li>• Fifteen hundred hours of SUD counseling for applicants with a master’s or doctoral degree.</li> <li>• One thousand hours of SUD counseling for people who are licensed in one of the approved professions for the alternative track in WAC 246-811-076.</li> </ul> <p>Eight hundred and fifty hours of experience including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two hundred hours of clinical evaluation</li> <li>• One hundred of the 200 hours must be face-to-face patient contact.</li> <li>• Six hundred hours of face-to-face counseling to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Individual counseling</li> <li>○ Group counseling</li> <li>○ Counseling families, couples and significant others</li> <li>○ Fifty hours of discussion of professional and ethical responsibilities.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The remaining experience hours must be divided among WAC 246-811-047(2)(d) through (i) as determined by the supervisor.</p> <p>All of the experience must be under an approved supervisor as defined by WAC 246-811-049.</p>	<p>Substance Use Disorder Professional or someone who meets the requirements to become an SUDP and would be eligible to take the exam required for certification.</p> <p>The experience requirement for a Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist enhancement consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80 hours of supervised experience for an applicant with fewer than 5 years of experience under their primary license; or</li> <li>• 40 hours of supervised experience for an applicant with more than 5 years of experience under their primary license.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>What are the practice limitations on a Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist?</u></b></p> <p>A person who has obtained a co-occurring disorder specialist enhancement may provide substance use disorder counseling services equal in scope with those provided by a Substance Use Disorder Professional with the following limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist may only provide substance use disorder counseling if they are employed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An agency that provides counseling services;</li> <li>○ A federally qualified health center; or</li> <li>○ A hospital.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Following intake and assessment, they may provide substance use disorder treatment only to clients diagnosed with</li> </ul>
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<p>Accumulation of the experience hours is not required to be consecutive.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The department will accept only experience that has been completed within seven years of the application date.</p> <p>If you have been licensed in good standing and without a disqualifying criminal history in another state for over five years the department doesn't require you to obtain proof of supervision hours. If you have been licensed for less than five years or if you have disciplinary or criminal history then you would be required to have your previous supervisor(s) sign our forms to verify your supervised experience. If you are a substance use disorder professional trainee you must submit your supervised hours to obtain full licensure.</p> <p><b>EXAM:</b></p> <p>The National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) level one or higher or the Intentional Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) level two or higher exam is required for certification. Verification must be sent directly from NAADAC or ICRC, or from the state in which applicants passed the exam. If the</p>	<p>The first 50 hours of any face-to-face patient contact must be under direct observation of an approved supervisor or a substance use disorder professional.</p> <p>Accumulation of the experience hours is not required to be consecutive.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The department will accept only experience that has been completed within seven years of the application date.</p> <p>If you have been licensed in good standing and without a disqualifying criminal history in another state for over five years the department doesn't require you to obtain proof of supervision hours. If you have been licensed for less than five years or if you have disciplinary or criminal history then you would be required to have your previous supervisor(s) sign our forms to verify your supervised experience. If you are a substance use disorder professional trainee you must submit your supervised hours to obtain full licensure.</p> <p><b>EXAM:</b></p> <p>The National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) level one or higher or the Intentional Certification and</p>	<p>a substance use disorder <u>and</u> a mental health disorder; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to providing substance use disorder treatment to a client assessed to be in need of 2.1 or higher level care according to American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria, the co-occurring disorder specialist must make a reasonable effort to refer and connect the client to the appropriate care setting as indicated by their assessed ASAM level of care. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If an enhancement holder is unable to refer a client to the appropriate level of care based on ASAM criteria, then the enhancement holder must substantiate the level of care or type of service chosen in the clinical record. <a href="#">WAC 246-804-040</a>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>FEE, RENEWAL, CONT ED: <a href="#">WAC 246-804-990</a> or <a href="#">on the fee page</a>. The enhancement is not a license, so it does not need to be renewed, however individuals must maintain their primary qualifying license to be able to work as a Co-Occurring Disorder Specialist. There are no continuing education requirements for the co-occurring enhancement, but you must maintain the CE requirements of your qualifying license.</p> <p><b>EXAM:</b></p> <p>Applicants for the co-occurring disorder specialist enhancement must take and pass the <a href="#">National Association of Alcoholism and</a></p>
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<p>exam was administered as part of an applicant's education, the school must verify the scores.</p>	<p>Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) level two or higher exam is required for certification. Verification must be sent directly from NAADAC or ICRC, or from the state in which applicants passed the exam. If the exam was administered as part of an applicant's education, the school must verify the scores.</p>	<p><u><a href="#">Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC)</a></u> Level 1 or higher exam after they complete the 60-hour training course specifically relating to substance use treatment which is approved by the department.</p> <p><b>Approval Process</b>  Applicants must complete and submit the full application to the department for review. Once we approve the applicant's education and supervised experience, we'll send notification via email to the applicant with instructions on registering for the exam.</p> <p>If you completed the approved education course and are requesting approval to sit for the exam before completing the supervised hours, you'll need to contact the course provider for approval.</p>
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