



ALASKA  
REGISTERED  
APPRENTICESHIP  
*Earn. Learn. Succeed.*

Earn while *you* Learn

BECOME A

# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

COUNSELOR TODAY

Earn a State of Alaska Counselor  
Technician Certification the first year and  
a Behavioral Health Counselor I and a  
Chemical Dependency Counselor I  
Certification the second year.



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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## WHAT IS THE PROGRAM?

The Behavioral Health Counselor (BHC) Apprenticeship is a full-time on-the-job learning (OJL) program under qualified mentors, combined with related technical instruction via online or correspondence and in-person. The Behavioral Health Counseling program is a 2-year time-based program. Upon completion of the program, the apprentice will receive a United States Department of Labor Certificate of Completion that is recognized nationwide. Additionally, the apprentice will earn the following certifications:

- State of Alaska Counselor Technician (Year 1)
- State of Alaska Behavioral Health Counselor I (Year 2)
- State of Alaska Chemical Dependency Counselor I (Year 2)

## WHY SHOULD I APPLY?

**BUILD YOUR SKILLS:** Learn the fundamentals of being a competent Behavioral Health Counselor to provide an increased level of care for your clients.

**DEVELOP A CAREER:** Earn certifications as stepping stones to specialization and continued professional growth. Earn college credits that can decrease your time in attaining a college degree in counseling.

**LEARN AT YOUR PACE:** Online, correspondence, and in-person classroom delivery enables you to create a flexible study schedule based on your work and additional responsibilities.

## WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM?

The BHC programs is great for employees already working with individuals who require additional support to sustain a functional day to day life. These adults or adolescents may be recovering from substance abuse or physical or mental abuse, and they may have physical and mental health disorders that require support and treatment. The program is also suited for counselors who work in schools.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN IN THE PROGRAM?

As an apprentice, you will be mentored by a qualified mentor at your workplace for the OJL. You will also take the following classes either online, by correspondence, or in-person: Confidentiality; Documentation; Infectious Diseases; HIV/AIDS; Introduction to Addictive Behavior; Crisis Intervention; Introduction to Client Centered Counseling; Introduction to Group Counseling; Working with Diverse Populations; Community Resources Use & Case Management; Recovery, Health, & Wellness I and II; Prevention & Community Development; Introduction to Family Systems; Co-Occurring Disorders (Introduction and Advanced); NAADAC Ethics; Psycho-Physiology; Motivational Interviewing; DSM Practice Application; ASAM Practice; Conducting Therapeutic Groups; Community Development & Approach to Prevention; Traditional Health Based Practices; Case Study/Clinical Case Management; Applied Crisis Management; and Family Systems II.

## HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

As an apprentice, you are a full-time employee and will be earning wages and benefits from your employer! The cost of the related instruction classes may be covered by your employer or by state or federal workforce funding if you are eligible.