

Counseling and Applied Psychological Science (Substance Abuse and Addictions), BS

LSCAPSAABS

In 2020, 45% of young adults, ages 19 to 30, reported using an illicit drug in the past year --- an eight-point increase since 2015.* In response to increasing demand, this concentration prepares students for the licensed substance abuse technician credential, to assist individuals who struggle with addictions.

Program description

Counseling and applied psychological science is a specialty promoting psychological well-being.


The substance abuse and addictions concentration of the BS program in counseling and applied psychological science provides coursework in counseling skills and techniques as they relate to substance abuse and addictions. Students acquire the necessary skills in screening, assessing, diagnosing and planning treatment of patients afflicted with substance abuse, addictions and related disorders.

While this program does not make students license-eligible counselors, the coursework meets the requirements for the Licensed Substance Abuse Technician credential through the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners (<https://www.azbbhe.us/node/553>).

*Schulenberg, J. E., Patrick, M. E., Johnston, L. D., O'Malley, P. M., Bachman, J. G., and Miech, R. A. (2021). Monitoring the Future national survey results on drug use, 1975-2020: Volume II, College students and adults ages 19-60. Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

At a glance

- College/School: [College of Integrative Sciences and Arts](#)

- **Location:** [Polytechnic](#) or [Online, ASU Local](#)
- **Second language requirement:** No
- **First required math course:** MAT 119 - Finite Mathematics or MAT 170 Precalculus
- **Math intensity:** Moderate 

Required courses (Major Map)

[2024 - 2025 Major Map \(on-campus\)](#)

[2024 - 2025 Major Map \(online\)](#)

[Major Map \(Archives\)](#)

Concurrent program options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Admission requirements

General university admission requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

[First-year](#) | [Transfer](#) | [International](#) | [Readmission](#)

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should visit the [Change of Major form](#) for information about how to change a major to this program.

Attend online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program's ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

ASU Local

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with [ASU Local](#), an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support.

Transfer options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use [MyPath2ASU®](#) to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has [transfer partnerships](#) in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey.

Global opportunities

Global experience

To make a positive impact in the lives of others, students must understand the diverse set of experiences, backgrounds and cultures that shape the people with whom they wish to work. Through [Global Education programs](#), students gain firsthand understanding of a wide range of cultures and communities, and they acquire a unique global perspective, enabling them to impact the world.

Career opportunities

The projected job growth for substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors is estimated to increase by 23% between 2023 and 2033. A licensed substance abuse technician is at the entry level of serving clients who struggle with substance use and addictions. The LSAT assists substance abuse counselors in prevention and intervention efforts with individuals, groups and organizations. The LSAT credential prepares students for careers in substance abuse treatment clinics, community centers, social services and education settings under the supervision of licensed mental health professionals.

Example job titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience and geographical location may affect pay scales. Some jobs also may require advanced degrees, certifications or state-specific licensure.

Career	*Growth	*Median salary
<u>Addictions Counselor</u> ☀	18.4%	\$49,710
<u>Advocate</u> ☀	8.6%	\$38,520
<u>Community Health Worker</u> ☀	14.1%	\$46,190
<u>Counselor (General)</u> ☀	17.2%	\$43,390
<u>Health Technician (General)</u> ☀	6.6%	\$44,990
<u>Mental Health Counselor</u> ☀	18.4%	\$49,710
<u>Substance Abuse Social Worker</u> ☀	10.6%	\$51,240

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook

Professional licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the [ASU professional licensure](#) webpage.

Contact information

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