



# What is a CASAC?

A **Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC)** is a person who provides alcohol and substance abuse counseling services in an approved work setting.

## What does a CASAC do?

CASACs are trained in Diagnostic Assessment, Evaluation, Intervention, Referral, Alcoholism and/or Substance Abuse Counseling in both individual and group settings.

## Where do CASACs work?

Alcohol and substance abuse affect all populations. CASACs work in social services, healthcare, education, mental health, and even corporate settings.

## Why become a CASAC?

Increase your jobs prospects upon graduation by becoming credentialed. Within one year you can become a CASAC-Trainee, which allows you to work as a intern and gain valuable counseling experience, as you work toward your degree.

## Who can become a CASAC?

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have earned at least a High School Diploma or a General Equivalency Diploma (GED)
- Reside or work in New York State at least 51% of the time





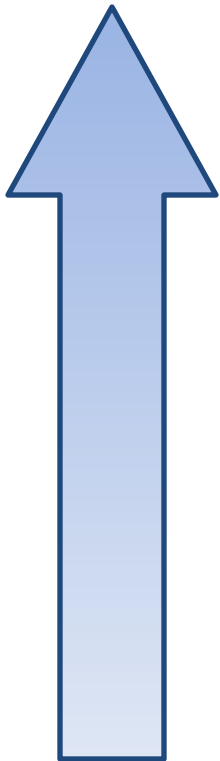
# Career Opportunities

The demand for CASACs in Queens remains extremely high now with growth expected in the years to come. According to the government registry over 647,213 people in Queens, Nassau, & Suffolk counties are coping with some sort of substance abuse addiction/ dependence problem and only 1,024 CASACs registered to care for them. There is an especially high demand for bilingual CASACs .

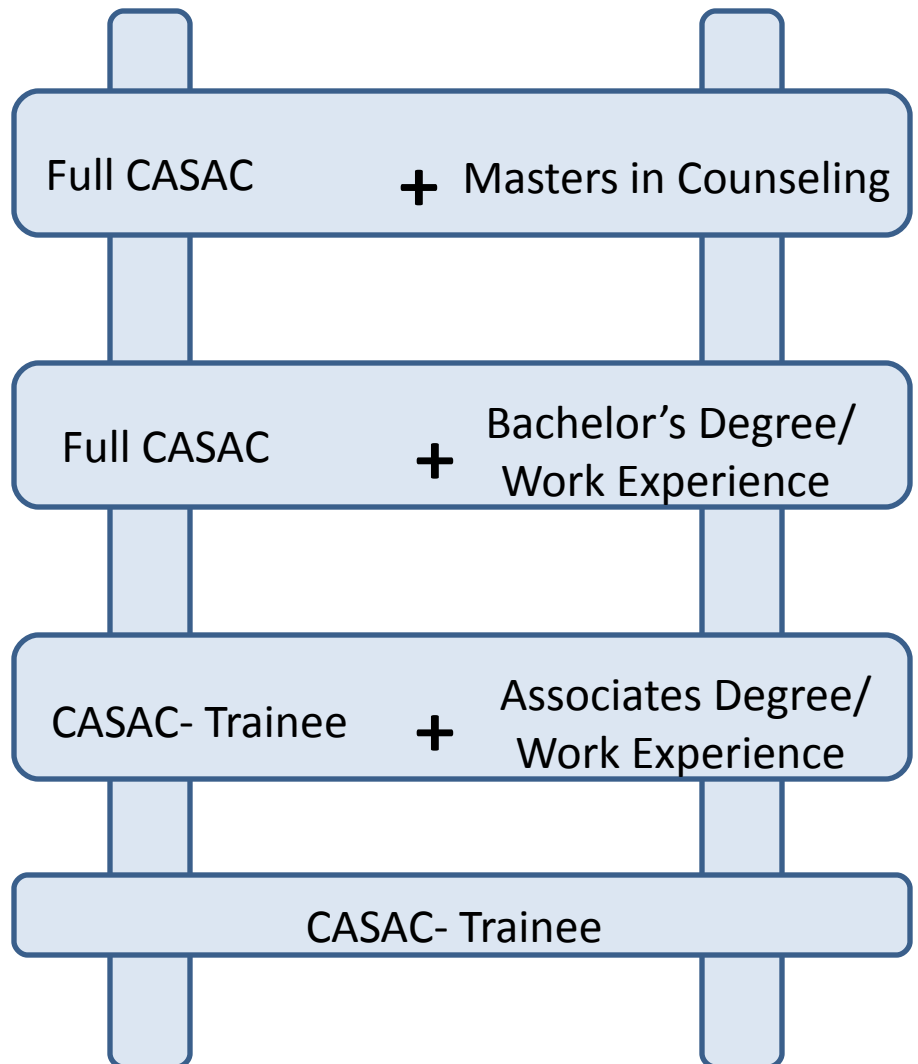
## Career Ladder

### Salary

\$50,000



\$18,000





# Path to become a CASAC?

## 350 hours of Education

<p>CASAC Course- Part A LaGuardia Continuing Education Sat 9am-5pm &amp; Wed 6-9pm September – February \$2265</p>	<p>CASAC Course- Part B LaGuardia Continuing Education Sat 9am-5pm &amp; Wed 6-9pm February -July \$2265</p>
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## Apply to become a CASAC-Trainee\*

As a CASAC-Trainee you counsel as a paid intern supervised by a full CASAC as you gain work experience.

## 6,000 hours of work experience (Approximately 3 Years)

Bachelor's degree in an approved field can count as 2,000 hrs of work exp.  
Prior work experience in the field can also reduce the number of hrs needed  
A minimum of 2,000 hours of work experience must be paid

## Become a full CASAC

Take written and oral exam given by given by NY Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)



**\*CASAC- Trainee Internship** –Community Partnership Referrals and Resources (CPRR) will offer internship assistance to students who exhibit exceptional aptitude and classroom skill in addition to maintaining a high GPA. Internships will be offered after completing 350 hours of coursework, or in some cases while completing the second module. With appropriate coursework, these internships can also be used to fulfill the cooperative education's internship requirement as well as your CASAC credential.



# How do you get started?

The CASAC Counselor Course, Part A & B fulfill the 350 hour educational requirement within one year. The courses do not have to be taken in order, student can start with part B in February. Courses are offered at LaGuardia Community College in partnership with Community Partnership Referrals and Resources (CPRR) and are approved by the New York State Office of Substance Abuse Services (OASAS).

CASAC Course, Part A	CASAC Course, Part B
September – February Sat 9am-5pm & Wed 6-9pm	February –July Sat 9am-5pm & Wed 6-9pm
Physical Pharmacological Aspects (46 hrs); HIV/AIDS Communicable & Sexually Transmitted Infections (12 hrs); Diversity of Treatment Approaches (30 hrs); Self Help/12 Step (9 hrs); Human Growth & Development (6 hrs), Vocational and Educational Training (18 hrs) and Relapse Prevention (14 hrs). \$2265	Special Populations (44 hrs), Counselor Wellness (6 hrs), Counselor/Client Relationships (12 hrs); Community Education (18 hrs); Counseling Skills (20 hrs), Individual Counseling Skills (20 hrs), Family/Significant Others (16 hrs); Assessment & Evaluation (20 hrs), Planning, & Documentation (20 hrs), Case Mgt (12 hrs), Confidentiality & Legal Issues (12 hrs), Ethics (12 hrs) \$2265

For more information and an enrollment application please visit the Career and Professional Programs in **C235** or call **718-482-5125**



## How do I pay for the course?

As a non-credit course, the CASAC program doesn't qualify for traditional financial aid.

Students, who qualify, can obtain financial assistance from the Veterans Administration (VA) or the office of Vocational Services for Individuals with Disabilities (VESID). Corporation and unions may pay/reimburse for CASAC courses as part of professional development. Please call our office at 718-482-5125 for eligibility assistance.

Payment plans are available to all students.

