

**The Texas Certification Board
of Addiction Professionals**

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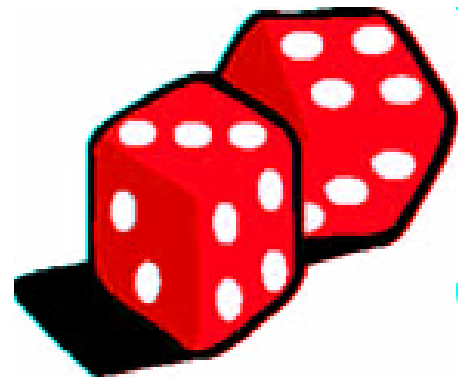
The Texas System for Certification of

**CERTIFIED
COMPULSIVE GAMBLING
COUNSELORS**

APPLICATION PACKAGE

Revised January 2012

**TEXAS CERTIFICATION BOARD OF
ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS**
401 Ranch Road 620 South, Ste. 310
Austin, TX 78734
Tel: (512) 708-0629
Fax: (888) 506-8123
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**Certification Criteria
and other information for**

Certified Compulsive Gambling Counselor

AS AUTHORIZED BY THE

TEXAS CERTIFICATION BOARD OF ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS

Revised Edition

January 2012

Original Prepared by:

Texas Certification Board of Addiction Professionals

401 Ranch Road 620 South, Ste. 310

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REVISION AND CHANGE: All or any part of this handbook is subject to change as deemed necessary by TCBAP. Proposed revisions and changes will be posted in the association newsletter or mailed to all CCGC credentialed members .

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TEXAS SYSTEM FOR CERTIFICATION OF CERTIFIED COMPULSIVE GAMBLING COUNSELORS

Statement of Purpose

The Compulsive Gambling Counselor credential upgrades and standardizes qualifications of those working in the field of addiction counseling. The following CCGC credentialing guidelines have been developed by the **Texas Certification Board of Addiction Professionals (TCBAP)**. The CCGC credential will separate those counselors who are content with a status quo existence from those who continue to achieve a higher level of excellence within the addiction profession. A counselor's "level of expertise" can now be clearly defined.

Statutory Limitations

Certification as an CCGC is not to be construed as authorization to charge or collect fees for services rendered if to do so conflicts with any statutory limitations. Where the statute requires that an CCGC be supervised by a licensed provider, they shall be so supervised.

Principles

Certain important principles have emerged in regard to this credential.

- Principle 1.** This certification is based on a combination of competency and knowledge about addiction counseling, to include academic achievement.
- Principle 2.** Authority for this certification comes from professionals working in the field of addiction counseling who share a common concern for standards of competency.
- Principle 3.** Persons having addiction counseling skills and utilizing them in positions other than those called counselors may be certified. The basic requirement for certification is performance of addiction counseling and academic achievement.
- Principle 4.** Application for this certification is entirely voluntary.
- Principle 5.** Certification is offered to both member and non-members of the Texas Association of Addiction Professionals.

Authority

The authority of the Certification Board is derived from those persons who are dedicated to service as counselors and who are most affected by certification. This authority is embodied in the statewide association of alcohol and drug abuse counselors, the Texas Association of Addiction Professionals, Inc. Recognition of this certification is voluntary. The credibility of this certification results from the standards that are maintained, the performance level established by the Certification Board, and most importantly, the professional competency and integrity of Compulsive Gambling Counselors.

Certified Compulsive Gambling Counselor

Individuals who apply for certification as a CCGC come from greatly varied backgrounds. In recognition of that fact, the requirements for formal training, work and other experiences are designed to be flexible, while at the same time being stringent enough to ensure high quality and professionalism. The minimum requirements for certification of a CCGC shall include academic achievement, work experience, and formal training, including the following:

A. Academic Achievement: All applicants for certification as a CCGC must be currently certified as an Alcohol Drug Counselor (ADC), Advanced Addiction Counselor (AAC), or Certified Chemical Dependency Specialist (CCDS).

B. Formal Training: All applicants must complete a minimum of thirty (30) classroom hours of training in Gambling I and Gambling II domains, with at least fifteen hours in each domain.

C. Ethics: All applicants must sign and agree to comply with the ethical principles as set forth in the Texas System of Certification of the Certified Compulsive Gambling Counselor.

D. Letters of Recommendation: All applicants must present two (2) letters of recommendation from a licensed or certified colleague.

E. Reciprocity: This credential **will not** have reciprocity with other International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Inc. (ICRC/AODA) member boards.

Fees for Certification

The following fee structure shall apply for all individuals who apply for certification as an CCGC.

Original Application Fee \$125.00
Application Packet Fee \$15.00

Requirements for Recertification

The CCGC certification shall be issued for a period of two (2) years, therefore requiring an individual to recertify every two (2) years on that same date. The requirements for recertification shall be as follows:

1. Currently active in the field of addiction counseling.
2. Absent of any ethical or malpractice violations.
3. Completion of six (6) hours of continuing education related to gambling counseling.
4. Submission of an application including a signed copy of the ethical standards for Compulsive Gambling Counselors.
5. The fee for recertification shall be \$100.00.

GAMBLING I: OUTLINE OF DOMAINS

A. Communication: 1 hour

Be able to communicate in a variety of situations to assure that the needs of each type of gambler and their families/significant others are met and that continuity of care is maintained through collaboration with other health care professionals.

B. Knowledge: 3 hours

Have a working knowledge of the six different gamblers: treatment and rehabilitation/recovery.

C. Assessment and Evaluation: 4 hours

Each counselor will be required to demonstrate knowledge of appropriate services to meet the needs of the gambling patient, with the ability to evaluate and assess the needs and problem stages of the patient in therapy.

D. Treatment Planning: 2 hours

Actively involve patients in the development of the individualized treatment plans.

E. Information and Referral: 1 hour

Appropriately recognize and refer each patient to proper agencies, in order to meet the needs and issues that require ongoing therapeutic interventions.

F. Counseling and Treatment: 4 hours

Have knowledge of and possess skills of CCGC counseling techniques.

GAMBLING II: OUTLINE OF DOMAINS

A. Gambling Ethics: 3 hours

Be able to understand the ethics involved with the subworld of gambling and yet abide to standards as set forth in the counseling field.

B. Gambling Family Issues: 3 hours

Be able to recognize and demonstrate to the CCGC patient the effects of gambling on all aspects of the family life and create solutions to solve them.

C. Adolescent Gambling: 3 hours

Appropriately recognize adolescent gambling activities beyond the scope of a typical adolescent behavior and to work with this special group of patients.

D. Cultural Gambling Issues: 3 hours

Be able to learn the cultural triggers/activities based on social, economic and cultural heritage of given populations.

E. Treatment Techniques: 3 hours

To learn the latest techniques and thought processes which can help counselors to deal with physical and mental stimulations in gambling.

CERTIFIED COMPULSIVE GAMBLING COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Work Phone _____ **Home Phone** _____

Fax Number _____ **Social Security No.** _____

Email _____ **Gender** _____ **D.O.B.** _____

Ethnic Origin

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | African American | <input type="checkbox"/> | American Indian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian American | <input type="checkbox"/> | Caucasian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hispanic | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other _____ |

Texas Counseling License Type _____ **Number** _____ **Expires** _____

Health Care Licenses/State Certifications (Please list type and expiration date) _____

Have you ever undergone a disciplinary action for violation of any Code of Ethics?
YES _____ NO _____ (If YES, please attach letter of explanation)

Education

Associate's Degree (Type & Date Awarded) _____

Undergraduate Degree (Type & Date Awarded) _____

Graduate Degree (Type & Date Awarded) _____

Doctorate Degree (Type & Date Awarded) _____

Specialized Training in Chemical Dependency Counseling (Schools, Seminars, Workshops, etc.)

Enclosures

- _____ Certification Application
- _____ Signed Statement of Understanding
- _____ Signed Code of Ethics
- _____ Documentation of education hours
- _____ Letters of reference

CCGC Fees

_____ Certification Fee.....\$125.00
 _____ Application Packet Fee.....\$15.00

Payment Information

_____ I have enclosed a check or money order payable to TCBAP
 _____ I authorize TCBAP to charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____
 _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ American Express _____ Discover
 Card No. _____ Exp Date _____ CVC _____
 Cardholder Name _____
 Cardholder Signature _____

I understand that my credit card billing statement will show charges from "TAAP".

ASSURANCES AND RELEASES

TCBAP may request further information from all persons listed on the application form, in order to verify training, employment, etc. This information is not available to others outside the certification process without the written consent of the applicant.

"I give my permission for the TCBAP and staff to investigate my background as it relates to information contained in this application for certification. I understand that intentionally false or misleading statements, or intentional omissions, shall result in denial or revocation of certification."

"I consent to the release of information contained in my application file, and other pertinent data submitted to, or collected by the TCBAP, to officers, members, and staff of the aforementioned board."

"I further agree to hold the TCBAP, its officers, board members, employees, and examiners free from civil liability for damages or complaints by reason of any action that is within the scope of the performance of their duties which they may take in connection with this application and subsequent examinations, and/or the failure of TCBAP to issue certification."

"I hereby affirm that the information provided on this form is correct and that I believe I am qualified for the certification for which I am applying."

Applicant Signature

Credentials

____/____/____

Date

Return Completed Application to:
TCBAP, 401 Ranch Road 620 South, Ste. 310, Austin, TX 78734

ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR COMPULSIVE GAMBLING COUNSELORS

The Texas Association of Addiction Professionals is comprised of professional compulsive gambling counselors and other addiction professionals who, as responsible health-care professionals, believe in the dignity and worth of human beings. In the practice of their profession they assert that the ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence and justice must guide their professional and societal expectations, obligations and conduct. As professionals dedicated to the treatment of chemical dependent clients and their families, they believe that they can effectively treat its individual and familial manifestations. Addiction Professionals dedicate themselves to the promotion of the best interests of their society, their clients, their profession and their colleagues.

SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES

Principle 1: Nondiscrimination. The compulsive gambling counselor must not discriminate against clients or professionals based on race, religion, age, sex, handicaps, national origin, sexual orientation or economic condition.

Principle 2: Responsibility. The compulsive gambling counselor must espouse objectivity and integrity, and maintain the highest standards in the services the counselor offers.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor, as teacher, must recognize the counselor's primary obligation to help others acquire knowledge and skill in dealing with the disease of chemical dependency.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor, as practitioner, must accept the professional challenge and responsibility deriving from the counselor's work.

Principle 3: Competence. The compulsive gambling counselor must recognize that the profession is founded on national standards of competency which promote the best interests of society, the client, the counselor and the profession as a whole. The counselor must recognize the need for ongoing education as a component of professional competency.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must prevent the practice of alcoholism and drug abuse counseling by unqualified and/or unauthorized persons.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor who is aware of unethical conduct or unprofessional modes of practice must report such violations to the appropriate certifying authority.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor must recognize boundaries and limitations of a counselor's competencies and not offer services or use techniques outside of these professional competencies.
- d) The compulsive gambling counselor must recognize the effect of impairment on professional techniques and must be willing to seek appropriate treatment for oneself or for a colleague. The counselor must support peer assistance programs in this respect.

Principle 4: Legal Standards and Moral Standards. The compulsive gambling counselor must uphold the legal and accepted moral codes which pertain to professional conduct, legal and accepted moral codes of our society.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must not claim either directly or by implication, professional qualifications/affiliations that the counselor does not possess.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor must not use the affiliation with the Texas Association of Addiction Professionals for purposes that are not consistent with the stated purposes of the association.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor must not associate with or permit the counselor's name to be used in connection with any services or products in a way that is incorrect or misleading.
- d) The compulsive gambling counselor associated with the development or promotion of books or other products offered for commercial sale must be responsible for ensuring that such books or products are presented in a professional and factual way.
- e) The compulsive gambling counselor must obey civil and criminal laws, and commit no act involving moral turpitude of which would bring discredit to the profession.

Principle 5: Public Statements. The compulsive gambling counselor must respect the limits of present knowledge in public statements concerning alcoholism and other forms of drug addiction.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor who represents the field of alcoholism and drug abuse counseling to clients, other professionals, or to the general public must report fairly and accurately the appropriate information.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor must acknowledge and document materials and techniques used.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor who conducts training in alcoholism and drug abuse counseling skills or techniques must indicate to the audience the requisite training/qualification to properly perform those skills and techniques.

Principle 6: Publication Credit. The compulsive gambling counselor must assign credit to all who have contributed to the published material and for the work upon which the publication is based.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must recognize joint authorship, major contributions of professional character made by several persons to a common project. The author who has made the principal contribution to a publication must be identified as a first listed.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor must acknowledge in footnotes or an introductory statement minor contributions of a professional character, extensive clerical or similar assistance and other minor contributions.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor must acknowledge, through specific citations, unpublished, as well as published, materials that have direct influences the research or writing.
- d) The compulsive gambling counselor who compiles and edits for publication the contributions of others must list oneself as editor, along with the names of those others who have contributed.

Principle 7: Client Welfare. The compulsive gambling counselor must respect the integrity and protect the welfare of the person or group with whom the counselor is working.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must define for self and others the nature and direction of loyalties and responsibilities and keep all parties concerned informed of these commitments.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor, in the presence of professional conflict, must be concerned primarily with the welfare of the client.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor must terminate a counseling or consulting relationship when it is reasonably clear to the counselor that the client is not benefiting from it.
- d) The compulsive gambling counselor, in referral cases, must assume the responsibility for the client's welfare either by mutual agreement and/or by the client becoming engaged with another professional. In situations when a client refuses treatment, referral or recommendations, the compulsive gambling counselor must carefully consider the welfare of the client by weighing the benefits of continued treatment or termination and must act in the best interest of the client.
- e) The compulsive gambling counselor who asks a client to reveal personal information from other professionals or allows information to be divulged must inform the client of the nature of such transaction. The information released of obtained with informed consent must be used for expressed purposes only.
- f) The compulsive gambling counselor must not use a client in a demonstration role in a workshop setting where such participation would potentially harm the client.
- g) The compulsive gambling counselor must ensure the presence of an appropriate setting for clinical work to protect the client from harm, and the counselor and the profession from censure.
- h) The compulsive gambling counselor must collaborate with other health-care professionals in providing a supportive environment for the client who is receiving prescribed medications.

Principle 8: Confidentiality. The compulsive gambling counselor must embrace, as a primary obligation, the duty of protecting the privacy of clients and must not disclose confidential information acquired in teaching, practice or investigation.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must inform the client and obtain agreement in areas likely to affect the client's participation including the recording of an interview, the use of interview material for training purposes and the observation of an interview by another person.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor must make provisions for the maintenance of confidentiality and the ultimate disposition of confidential records.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor must reveal information received in confidence only when there is a clear and present danger to the client or to other persons, and then only to appropriate professional workers or public authorities.
- d) The compulsive gambling counselor must discuss the information obtained in clinical or consulting relationships only in appropriate settings, and only for professional purposes clearly concerned with the case. Written and oral reports must present only data germane to the purpose of the evaluation and every effort must be made to avoid undue invasion of privacy.
- e) The compulsive gambling counselor must use clinical and other material in classroom teaching and writing only when the identity of the persons involved is adequately disguised.

Principle 9: Client Relationships. The compulsive gambling counselor must inform the prospective client of the important aspects of the potential relationship.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must inform the client and obtain the client's agreement in areas likely to affect the client's participation including the recording of an interview, the use of interview material for training purposes and /or observation of an interview by another person.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor must inform the designate guardian or responsible person of circumstances which may influence the relationship, when the client is a minor or incompetent.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor must not enter into a professional relationship with members of one's own family, intimate friends or close associates, or others whose welfare might be jeopardized by such a dual relationship.
- d) The compulsive gambling counselor must not engage in any type of sexual activity with a client.

Principle 10: Interprofessional Relationships. The compulsive gambling counselor must treat colleagues with respect, courtesy and fairness, and must afford the same professional courtesy to other professionals.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must not offer professional services to a client in counseling with another professional except with the knowledge of the other professional or after the termination of the client's relationship with the other professional.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor must cooperate with duly constituted professional ethics committees and promptly supply necessary information unless constrained by the demands of confidentiality.

Principle 11: Remuneration. The compulsive gambling counselor must establish financial arrangements in professional practice and in accord with the professional standards that safeguard the best interests of the client, of the counselor and of the profession.

- a) The compulsive gambling counselor must consider carefully the ability of the client to meet the financial cost in establishing rates for professional services.
- b) The compulsive gambling counselor must not send or receive any commission or rebate or any other form of remuneration for referral of clients for professional services. The counselor must not engage in fee splitting.
- c) The compulsive gambling counselor in clinical or counseling practice must not use one's relationship with clients to promote personal gains or the profit of an agency or commercial enterprise of any kind.
- d) The compulsive gambling counselor must not accept a private fee or any gift or gratuity for professional work with a person who is entitled to such services through an institution or agency. The policy of a particular agency may make explicit provisions for private work with its clients by members of its staff, and in such instances the client must be fully apprised of all policies affecting the client.

Principle 12: Societal Obligations. The compulsive gambling counselor must advocate changes in public policy and legislation to afford opportunity and choice for all persons whose lives are impaired by the disease of alcoholism and other forms of drug addiction. The counselors must inform the public through active civic and professional participation in community affairs of the effects of alcoholism and drug abuse addiction and must act to guarantee that all persons, especially the needy and disadvantaged, have access to the necessary resources and services. The compulsive gambling counselor must adopt a personal and professional stance which promotes the well-being of all human beings.

I have read, understand and commit to the preceding Ethical Standards.

Signature _____

Date _____