

FAQs: Colorado State University Masters in Addiction Counseling (MAC) Program

General: Information can be found in the following locations:

[MACP – Department of Psychology | CSU \(colostate.edu\)](#)

[Resources + Guidelines – Department of Psychology | CSU \(colostate.edu\)](#)

[Graduate Students – Department of Psychology | CSU \(colostate.edu\)](#)

- **Questions related to getting a CAC I,II, III :** see the CAC handbook in your orientation binder and posted on the MACP website
 - <https://7cedarstraining.com/documents/CAC%20Handbook%200118.pdf>
- **The decision whether to get a CAC I or to become a registered psychotherapist at the onset of the program is based on your previous coursework.**
 - If you have completed the CAC I coursework and hours, then you should get your CAC I
 - If you have only taken the prerequisite courses for the MACP program you should become a registered psychotherapist
- **Liability Insurance:**
 - APA Trust – We suggest that you get liability insurance through APA Trust. <https://www.trustinsurance.com/>
 - You need to go to the website and apply as a student trainee.
 - We recommend the student level of coverage
- We recommend that MACP students join the following **professional organization**:
 - NAADAC which includes a membership to CAAP (Colorado Association of Addiction Professionals).
 - <https://www.naadac.org/join-or-renew>
 - Above is located on the MACP website
- **When do you take the jurisprudence exam?**
 - We would recommend that you take the jurisprudence exam and become registered psychotherapists as soon as you can to expedite the process of counting your hours
 - <https://www.coloradocounselortraining.com/jurisprudence-exam-update/>
- **What title can you use in your email or applications before you graduate?**
 - You should not call yourself an addictions counselor until after you graduate – then you can say MACP (Masters in Addiction Counseling in Psychology) – then when you pass your LAC exam you can just say LAC. For now, you can say MACP student or trainee.

Internship

- **How do I get an internship?**

- It is your responsibility to secure an internship and to make sure that all paper work is in place prior to starting.
 - Paperwork:
 - Contract between the site and CSU (Brad will help; CSU has already established a contract)
 - Access the internship form on the grad admin tool (located on the psychology website; [Graduate Students – Department of Psychology | CSU \(colostate.edu\)](https://psychology.colostate.edu/graduate-students/))
 - Download form, complete it, then upload it
 - Supervisor form (Mark will help) – must submit this for Mark's signature for both fall and spring or if you change internship sites
 - Also upload hours into the grad admin tool
 - Link posted under current student resources on the Psychology Website:
 - <https://psychology.colostate.edu/graduate-students/>
 - Additional step: make sure that you will have an onsite or off-site supervisor that is a LAC (if you don't have one at your site please get in touch with Wendy Lee/Wendy.Lee@colostate.edu)
- We have a list of places that students have interned and places that are interested in taking interns (located on the MACP website).
 - You can email or call these places to inquire about openings and to set up interviews when openings are available

- **How many hours do we need?**

- The requirement is 40 hours per credit **per semester**.
 - LAC only: 9 credits per semester = 360 hours
 - LAC/LPC: 12 credits per semester = 480 hours
 - Note that you cannot start accruing LPC hours until you become and LPCC which occurs after the masters degree is awarded
- Per week you can divide those numbers by 16.
 - You need to do the internship form for BOTH fall and spring
- See CAC handbook
 - 3000 hours total, typically 1000 to CAC 1 and then another 2000 to CAC III/LAC

- **How many internship hours are needed for the LAC, when can you start taking them, do the hours start to count if you have not passed the jurisprudence exam?**

- We require $18 \times 40 = 720$ hours across 2 semesters (360 per semester) for the MACP degree.
 - This is not enough for LAC. The number of hours for LAC differs depending on the route you take to get there (see handbook).

- Note: for LAC/LPC the total is $24 \times 40 = 960$
- You will need to report your internship hours at the end of each semester of your second year:

Licensure Exam

- Current contact name and number to send official transcripts for National Counselor Exam (NCE) exam approval.
 - This is the application and group that Brad has communicated with:
 - <https://cce-global.org/Assets/StateLicensure/COapp.pdf>
- **When can you take the LAC licensure exam (anytime or after you completed the full internship hours):**
 - The licensure exam is the MAC *Masters in Addiction Counseling/LAC exam – they are the same thing; That exam is a national exam and is taken after all requirements have been completed including hours.
 - Because of the MOU we have with the state, students will need their transcripts to be able to sit for the exam.
 - You need to have a masters degree before you can take the exam. So students will need to graduate before they can sit for the exam.
 - The best way to check on the exam dates would be to contact 303.763.7198. If nobody answers you can leave a message and they will return your call. In terms of study guides - here is the link: <https://www.caap.us/study-guides>. There is a list of items there you can utilize like study guides and practice questions.
 - It is possible that you can take the exam earlier but would not be licensed until they complete the hours
- The program has purchased a few LAC study guides available to check out from the main office.
 - The Basics of Addiction Counseling Modules I, II and III – 3 copies. Only available for 1-2 weeks max....check out close to the taking of the exam. Please Ginger Lacy-Gill (ginger.lacy-gill@colostate.edu) to reserve these
 - You can also order them on NAADAC's website (Basics of Addiction Counseling Desk Reference)
 - The program will also pay for **ONE** single user licenses practice exam as you get close to the test.
 - For funds for this please reach out to Brad (brad.conner@colostate.edu)

LPC

- **LPC by equivalency has been approved.**
 - All information is located on the MACP website
 - If you alter your degree progress plans to include 4 extra courses and 12 units per fall and spring semester of the second year internship you will be eligible for LPC by equivalency.
 - The 4 extra courses are:
 - PSY 624 Career Counseling, online course
 - HDFS 505 Human Development, offered online, typically in the summer

- EDCO 656 Assessment, offered during the school year (some mix of online and on campus) and over the summer (traditionally 2 weeks on campus 2 weeks online)
 - EDRM 600 Research Methods, offered during the school year (some mix of online and on campus) and over the summer (traditionally 2 weeks on campus 2 weeks online)
- **Note: Some of these classes are not offered by the Psychology Department and fill up quickly. It is your responsibility to register as soon as you can to make sure you get into the class.**
- Also note that if you take any classes the summer after your second spring, this will delay your “official” graduation to Summer. You can still walk and participate in the Spring graduation ceremony but will not receive your official degree until after summer session is completed. Plan accordingly.
- You also need to increase from 9 to 12 Units in PSY 787 (internship) fall and spring semesters. This requires completing 480 hours in the fall and spring semesters.
 - the extra 6 credits can be taken as courses
- This gets you all of the courses needed, and 60 units completed as part of your master’s degree (which is the required amount for the LPC).
- **Information about the LPC:**
 - Students cannot count clinical hours if DORA cannot find them. What that means is they either need to count all of their internship hours as non-clinical or register with DORA as a registered psychotherapist. There is no post MA requirement for hours for the LAC so their hours during internship count toward their license. This is different for the LPC. This is how they can count clinical hours during their internship. They need 1000 non-clinical and 2000 clinical for the LAC.
 - I have posted the form required for the tracking of hours by the state on the Shared T drive “Graduate Student Resources Folder/ MAC Folder” and this will also be posted on the Grad Admin tool.
 - You can also refer to the CAC handbook which discusses the requirements for levels, etc.
- **LPCC Application**
 - Make sure that you save all of your course syllabi and course descriptions in a document if you will be applying for this!!
 - To access the course description you can go to the CSU website here: <https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/courses-az/psy/>. This link is for PSY. If you are looking for other departments, then you will just click on the appropriate department name and it should pull up their list of courses with their description.

Graduation and Forms required

To complete a Plan C Masters students must submit 2 graduate forms:

- GS6 (end of your 2nd semester) – Sara Anne will host a workshop directly after one of your MACP classes during your first Spring semester. If you are not there it is your responsibility to do complete the form – you can access the information on the graduate school website and start the process on your RamWeb account.
- GS25 (beginning of the semester of graduation) – this is a deadline set by the graduate school and if you miss this you will not graduate that semester. Sara Anne will send out an email about this form during your second Spring in the MACP program.
- All of these forms can be accessed by your RAMWEB account and are ultimately your responsibility. Sara Anne will assist you with these but if you don't get these turned in on time you might not be able to register for classes or graduate from CSU.
- <https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/forms/>

Additional Info:

- If I want to keep up with current topics/research in the field outside of classes what do you recommend?
 - You can subscribe to a few journals (e.g., Addiction; Psychology of Addictive Behaviors; Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs; Addictive Behaviors) and set up email alerts on google scholar and research gate for topics.
 - For your reference.... students in the MACP program are exempt from needing a license to practice while enrolled in our program.
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