



# The Certification Chronicle

September-December 2011

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## New at IBC

### **The IBC Office is now a CBT Site!**

The IBC office is now a computer based test (CBT) site for IBC's exams! Currently, IBC is scheduled to test up to 3 people at a time every Thursday afternoon. We're pleased and proud that we're able to provide a site for the CBT in the Des Moines/Central Iowa area!

### **Credit Card Payments**

IBC is now able to accept your credit card payment for applications, test fees, recertifications, application requests, etc. The credit card authorization form is included with all paperwork, and can be found on the website under "Downloads;" it will also be included with recertification applications, application request forms, etc. To offset costs for IBC, there will be a \$5.00 fee added to every credit card payment.

### **Webinars**

IBC's Board of Directors recently decided to approve webinars as face-to-face education! You will need to submit your certificate of completion for webinars just as you do for other face-to-face trainings. ***Note: if you are viewing a recorded version of a webinar, this would be considered "distance learning."***

## IBC Sponsored Trainings

In an effort to provide quality low-cost trainings, IBC has been working on setting up trainings around the state to help you get the hours you need for certification and recertification. We've sponsored several successful trainings over the past few months, and more trainings are being scheduled for the upcoming months. You can find details and registration forms on the IBC website; also watch your email as we send you updated training information.

One note: every training we've sponsored has filled very fast, so if you see a training you'd like to attend, get your registration form and payment to the IBC office as quickly

as possible!

Our upcoming trainings....

**Ethical Practice in Behavioral Health Care**, presented by Robert Thacker, IAADC and Sheila Rogers, CADC (co-chairs of IBC's Ethics & Appeals Committee) - Goals and objectives of this training can be found on the IBC website's home page.

When: October 11, 2011 - 1:00-4:00 pm

Where: Winneshiek Medical Center, Conf. Rm. B, Decorah

Cost: \$30.00

Credit: 3 hours, Ethics

**To Register:** go the IBC home page at [www.iowabc.org](http://www.iowabc.org), click on the link that says "registration form" below the training, print the form and send it with the fee to the IBC office.

**Narrative Therapy**, presented by David Kaptain, PhD, LMFT, CADC. Goals and objectives of this training can be found on the IBC website's home page. *Note: this is a repeat of the May 19 training.*

When: November 11, 2011 - 9:00-4:00

Where: IBC office, Ankeny

Cost: \$50.00

Credit: 5.5 hours, Counseling Theories & Techniques

**To Register:** go to the IBC home page at [www.iowabc.org](http://www.iowabc.org), click on the link that says "registration form" below the training, print the form and send it with the fee to the IBC office.

***We would like to hold trainings around the state; if your agency can host a training, please call our office with information.***

# Grow.

Continue Your Counseling Education  
with Training at The Abbey.

► **Blending Trauma Resolution Therapies, Anxiety Reduction, and Attachment Work into Addiction Treatments.**

- October 21, 2011, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm at The Abbey.
- Presenter: Dr. Mark Schwartz, S.C.D.
- Participants get 6.5 Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

► **Adolescent Trends in Addiction Treatment.**

- October 26, 2011, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm at The Abbey.
- Presenter: Karen Relf.
- Participants get 2 Continuing Education Units (CEUs).
- *Session is "lunch and learn." Training and lunch are free.*

For more information and to register visit [www.addictionrecov.org](http://www.addictionrecov.org).



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## Certified Treatment Assistant (CTA)

What is this credential and who is it for? The Certified Treatment Assistant (CTA) credential is for those individuals who provide support services within a licensed substance abuse treatment provider agency/organization.

IBC considers this credential a good first step in a career path for those who wish to enter the substance abuse profession. By obtaining this credential, Treatment Assistants demonstrate that they have obtained training in the substance abuse field. In addition, it enables them to work in the field while continuing their professional development as they move into substance abuse certification as a CADC, IADC or

IAADC.

Go to the IBC website at [www.iowabc.org](http://www.iowabc.org), click on "Downloads" and print the IBC Application Request.

## IBC Committee Openings

Being a member on one of IBC's committees is a great way to learn more about IBC and share your ideas. We currently have openings on a couple of IBC's committees; in particular, the **Quality Improvement Committee** (which reviews items pertaining to IBC's Bylaws or Policies & Procedures) and the **Ethics & Appeals Committee** could most use more members.

IBC committees meet monthly, generally via conference call, and attendance at 75% of committee meetings is required. If you would like to apply for membership on one of our committees, you can find the Application for Committee Membership on the website under "downloads." Feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.

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#### 6 hour courses- \$50 each

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MAIL ORDERS TO: LABAN'S TRAININGS, PO BOX 126307, HARRISBURG PA 17112

## Computer Based Testing (CBT)

Computer based testing (CBT) is now offered at five locations in Iowa - **which includes the IBC office in Ankeny** - as well as a few locations close to Iowa's borders in surrounding states. **All exams for IBC certification are administered via CBT.**

Here's some further information about CBT:

- CBT is offered any time there is availability at the site requested by the applicant; this is called "CBT on demand."
- Applicants choose their day, location and time (providing that the test site is

available). An admission letter is then sent to the candidate.

- Most CBT exams are 3 hours long, and applicants receive preliminary scores immediately upon completion of the exam. **Official scores are sent via mail.**
- The IBC office pre-registers the candidate, and further information is then sent to the candidate from the testing company with instructions on how to complete the registration process .
- If you cancel your CBT exam 4 days or less prior to the exam date, your cancellation fee is \$115.00; if you cancel more than 4 days prior, the fee is \$25.00.
- Candidates must arrive to the test site on time; late arrivals will not be permitted to test and will be charged \$125.00 by the testing company.
- Candidates must bring a valid ID and their admission letter with them to the test site.

At this time, the closest test sites are:

- **IBC office in Ankeny, IA**
- Iowa City, IA
- Cedar Rapids, IA
- Creston, IA
- Cedar Falls, IA
- Mankato, MN
- Kirksville, MO
- Omaha, NE
- Sioux Falls, SD

## New Pricing for IBC Approved Trainings

At their meeting last month, the IBC Board of Directors unanimously passed a change in CEU Program Approval fees for agencies seeking IBC approval for trainings they sponsor. Rather than charging the applicable fee for each identical training that an organization sponsors, **IBC will charge the regular fee for the first identical training, and then give a 25% discount on each subsequent identical training, so long as these identical trainings are listed on the same "Application for CEU Approval" form.**

Feel free to contact the IBC office with any questions about this change.

## New Study Guide Available

We are now carrying a new study guide for Alcohol & Drug Counselors! "**Study Guide for IC&RC Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse Counselor Examination**" comes from Florida and is very well done. Within its 203 pages, you will find sections on understanding addiction and specific content on the 8 Domains. The guide also includes ethical scenarios and a complete reference list. This guide contains newer references that are not over 5 years old.

For a more comprehensive guide, we still have "**Getting Ready to Test: A Review and Preparation Manual for Drug and Alcohol Credentialing Exams.**" This guide is 701 pages long and contains more detailed information.

We are also still carrying the "**Getting Ready to Test: The Written Examination for Prevention Specialists,**" which is over 100 pages long and includes a sample exam.



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## Upgrade to IADC

Did you know it's now simpler than ever to upgrade from CADC to IADC (formerly called ACADC)? We've developed a streamlined upgrade application, and have cut the upgrade application fee to only \$10.00 (rather than the usual \$40.00).

**BUT...the window for upgrading at this price will end March 1, 2012; the price will then go back to \$40.00.**

Why upgrade?

- Because it demonstrates a higher achievement level of experience and knowledge to your clients, peers and supervisors.
- Because the IADC is an international credential through IC&RC that allows

you to utilize reciprocity in 44 states, 22 international jurisdictions and the armed services.

If you have passed the counselor written exam effective June 2008 or later, you won't need to re-test; if you haven't passed the exam by that time, you'll need to test but we're lowering the test fee from \$100.00 to \$80.00 for the written exam, and lowering the computer based test fee from \$140.00 to \$120.00 (**until March 1, 2012 - then the price goes back up**).

You can find the upgrade application option on the "Request for IBC Application" form which is on our website under "Downloads." Feel free to contact the IBC office if you have questions.

## Ethics Sanctions

During the past several months, the following certified persons have had substantiated ethics violations with sanctions placed upon their credential by IBC hearing panels:

Frank A. (Tre) Comito III (CADC) - suspension of certification until 1/1/12, recertification pending successful completion of sanctions.

Jeanette Eggerss (CADC) - permanent revocation of certification.

Angelo Lopez (CADC) - permanent revocation of credential, not allowed to apply for any IBC certification in the future.

Kim Rezarch (CGTC) - suspension of certification, recertification pending successful completion of sanctions.



## Choosing a Continuing Education Provider?

### Use the 10 Point Checklist:

### Well-known Providers

	**1	2	3	4
FREE introductory course .....	YES	no	no	no
A large selection of courses .....	740	75	31	134
Friendly phone support evenings, weekends, & holidays ...	YES	no	no	no
Able to view course material before purchase .....	YES	no	no	no
24/7 full access to your exam and payment history .....	YES	no	no	no
Receive reminders about licensure renewal date .....	YES	no	no	no
A large number of free to read online article courses .....	YES	no	no	no
<b>Offer an IBC Ethics Code course?</b> .....	YES	no	no	no
Alerts and helpful information on license requirements .....	YES	no	no	no
Rave reviews from thousands of members .....	YES	no	no	no

**\*\*Provider 1: AddictionCounselorCE.com is the top rated continuing education provider. Experience the ease of earning credits by taking a FREE online course at: [www.AddictionCounselorCE.com](http://www.AddictionCounselorCE.com)**

***We would love the opportunity to work with you!***

### **\$30 Discount for IBC Counselors**

We understand that the \$15 IBC distance learning course fee is burdensome for many Iowa AODA counselors. To help offset these extra costs, we are now offering a \$30 discount off our already low-priced 20 credit package. With the discounted price of \$47 you pay only \$2.35 per credit for our highly acclaimed courses and website. To get your discount, use this special link:

[www.AddictionCounselorCE.com/xt/IBC2011](http://www.AddictionCounselorCE.com/xt/IBC2011)

*Offer expires Jan. 1, 2012*

*AddictionCounselorCE.com is a Service of CE Learning Systems (877) 248-6789*

## Certification & Ethics Information for your Agency

IBC's Executive Director, Debbie Gilbert, is available to speak to employees at your agency regarding any of IBC's credentials and to assist them in the certification process. **It's even possible for contact hour credit to be awarded to attendees, which in turn can be used for certification/recertification applications.**

If you would like to have Debbie come to your agency, please call the IBC office at 515-965-5509 or email Debbie at [info@iowabc.org](mailto:info@iowabc.org).

## About IC&RC

Worldwide, substance abuse is gaining attention for the damage it does to families

and communities, and the need for trained, ethical addiction and prevention professionals is growing apace. According to the U.S. Dept. of Labor, substance abuse counseling is one of the fastest growing professions, projected to grow 20% by 2016.

Recent political developments in the U.S. also mean that it is a critical time for the field. Both the Affordable Health Care of America Act of 2010 and President Obama's National Drug Control Strategy have the potential to transform how the professional is practiced in North America.

Setting the international standards for competency-based certification programs through testing and credentialing of addiction professionals since 1981, the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) is already the largest credentialing organization in the field:

- In 2010, the number of professionals who hold IC&RC (reciprocal) credentials crossed the 40,000 mark. Up to half of all substance abuse professionals in the U.S. hold IC&RC certificates.
- Incorporated in 1981, IC&RC represents 76 member boards, including 44 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, 2 U.S. territories, and 3 branches of the U.S. military. Members also include 22 countries and 6 Native American territories.
- IC&RC's credentials include Alcohol & Drug Counselor (ADC), Advanced Alcohol & Drug Counselor (AADC), Clinical Supervisor (CS), Prevention Specialist (PS), Certified Criminal Justice Professional (CCJP), Certified Co-Occurring Disorders Professional (CCDP), and Certified Co-Occurring Disorders Professional Diplomate (CCDP-D).

In this era of rapid change, we will continue to be the global resource for the highest standards in addiction-related health care credentialing.

--Excerpt from IC&RC



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### IC&RC Offers FREE Online Counselor Magazine

All professionals holding an IBC credential at the reciprocal level (IADC, IAADC, CCDP, CCDP-D, CCJP, CCS, CPS) can get a FREE, online subscription to Counselor, the Magazine for Addiction Professionals which has been serving addiction, behavioral health care and mental health professionals for more than 30 years. With an active email address and internet access, you can read the current issue, as well as the extensive archive or articles feature in previous issues and other great content.

If interested, contact the IC&RC office at [info@internationalcredentialing.org](mailto:info@internationalcredentialing.org).

## IC&RC Offers Professional Services

IC&RC is proud to announce that it now offers services for addiction and prevention professionals, including:

- FREE print subscription to *Counselor, the Magazine for Addiction Professionals* (a \$25.00 value)
- Invitation to IC&RC training conferences and events
- Eligibility for professional liability insurance through Healthcare Providers Service Organization (HPSO), the largest provider of individual professional liability insurance in the country
- Listing in their professional directory
- Discounts on books and products from HCIbooks.com
- Discounts on product and events from *U.S. Journal Training, Inc.* (USIT) and the Institute for Integral Development

Additional services planned for the future include:

- Password-protected online forum for professionals
- Employment center with resume hosting and job listings
- International salary survey

Who is eligible:

- All credentialed addiction and prevention professionals
- Individuals in the process of becoming credentialed
- Behavioral health and affiliated professionals

**Annual cost is only \$25.00 a year!**

To sign up for these Professional Services, go to the IC&RC website at <http://internationalcredentialing.org>, click on "Professionals," then on "services," and then click the "Register Now" button at the bottom of that page.



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Or submit online application at  
[www.jacksonrecovery.com](http://www.jacksonrecovery.com)



## New Approval Fees for Inservice Trainings

IBC is offering special pricing for agencies utilizing Inservice trainings, along with a discounted rate for pre-paid packages of training hours. Information about these fees, and the Application for Inservice Training Approval can be found under "downloads" on the IBC website.

## Need Education Hours?

Did you know that IBC has an area on the web site entitled "**Online Ed**" where you can go to find online/distance learning organizations to help you obtain hours for certification or recertification?

Remember that new applicants may have unlimited hours in distance/online education to qualify for certification; current certified professionals are allowed up to 20 hours of distance/online education for recertification.

IBC appreciates our advertisers - both in the Online Ed site and in our newsletters - and we encourage you to utilize their services when it comes to finding qualify online education.

## Contact Us

Has your work or home address or phone number changed? Did you take a new job? Do you have a new email address? Please don't forget to contact the IBC office to let us know your new information for our files!

## A BIG Thank You to our Advertisers

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Please be sure to utilize our advertisers as much as possible when you are looking for trainings and continuing education hours. You'll find their information both in our newsletters and on the "Online Ed" tab of our website.

Debbie Gilbert, Executive Director  
Iowa Board of Certification

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