

# Biopsychosocial Assessment

## Course Goals and Objectives



As outlined by the Addiction Professionals Certification Board, Inc., at the end of this course the student will be able to:

1. Gather relevant information from the client in order to obtain current status and history, using interviewing techniques.
2. Gather and evaluate information from sources other than the client, utilizing client-consented interviews and/or written reports, to validate his/her reports and provide a more complete history.
3. Observe and document psychological, social, and physiological signs and symptoms of alcohol and other drug abuse, including Tobacco Use Disorder, in the client to make an accurate diagnosis and formulate a treatment plan.
4. Determine the client's appropriateness and eligibility for admission or referral to a range of programs by assessing the match between the client's needs and program target populations and services.
5. Request from the client appropriately signed releases when soliciting from or providing information to outside sources to protect client confidentiality.
6. Recognize signs and symptoms that indicate a need to refer the client for additional professional assessment services when such assessment services are outside the areas of the counselor's expertise.
7. Recognize and become familiar with the pharmacology of drugs of abuse, including tobacco.
8. Describe approaching and assessing Tobacco Use Disorder.
  - a. Identify various pharmacological interventions for Tobacco Use Disorder, and the pros and cons of each.
  - b. Describe the evidence supporting pharmacological interventions for Tobacco Use Disorder.
  - c. Explain the relationship between tobacco Use Disorder and other mental and addictive disorders.
9. **Competency 3:** Describe the behavioral, psychological, physical health, and social effects of psychoactive substances on the person using and significant others.
10. **Competency 25:** Gather data systematically from the client and other available collateral sources, using screening instruments and other methods that are sensitive to age, developmental level, culture, and gender. At a minimum, data should include current and historic substance use; health, mental health, and substance-related treatment histories; mental and functional statuses; and current social, environmental, and/or economic constraints.
11. **Competency 28:** Determine the client's readiness for treatment and change as well as the needs of others involved in the current situation.
12. **Competency 32:** Based on the initial action plan, take specific steps to initiate an admission or referral and ensure follow through.

\*\* NOTE: According to NJ Certification Board, includes old course C209