



Chemical Dependency
Professionals Board

Board Updates

December 2025

Happy Holidays from the Board to you!



Happy Holidays from all of us at The Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board!
Wishing you and yours a joyful holiday season and a great New Year!

CDCA Certification Changes



In order to receive the CDCA Preliminary applicants must complete 40 hours of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) education. If receiving the CDCA, applicants must complete 30 hours of SUD education.

As communicated in prior emails, the initial effective date for the CDCA Bundles was January 1, 2026 - however, after careful consideration, the Board has moved this deadline to March 1, 2026. After this

Currently, applicants who complete this education either from college course work and/or Continuing Education (CEU's) – specifically the CEU's can be from approved providers through single CEU certificates or CEU packages.

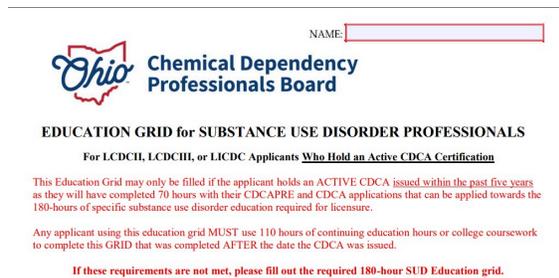
However, effective March 1, 2026 any applicant attempting to receive the CDCA Preliminary and/or CDCA must obtain their education requirement through either all college courses OR a Board approved CDCA Bundle. The 30- or 40-hour CDCA Bundles will cover the same elements to ensure that each CDCA Preliminary and/or CDCA certification holder receives similar foundational, entry level education. Applicants will also receive only ONE CEU certificate from the approved CDCA Bundle provider, which allows the Board to streamline submissions and decrease the time required to review application documentation.

deadline, ALL applicants who have started CEU's for CDCA Preliminary **before** March 1, 2026, and apply prior to Dec 31, 2026, can be approved by single CEUS or older CDCA educational packages. Anyone who has been awarded their CDCA Preliminary **after** March 1, 2026 must use a CDCA Bundle to obtain the CDCA.

If they were awarded their CDCA Preliminary before March 1, 2026, they can use single CEU's for their 30-hour requirement to obtain the CDCA so long as they have started the CEU process and at least some CEU certificates are dated before March 1, 2026.

Applicants using college coursework remain the same unless education was more than five years prior to applying, then the Bundle or approved college endorsement is required.

[Click here for CDCA Certification Changes!](#)



NAME:

Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board

EDUCATION GRID for SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROFESSIONALS
For LCDCL, LCDCHL, or LICDC Applicants Who Hold an Active CDCA Certification

This Education Grid may only be filled if the applicant holds an ACTIVE CDCA issued within the past five years as they will have completed 70 hours with their CDCAPRE and CDCA applications that can be applied towards the 180-hours of specific substance use disorder education required for licensure.

Any applicant using this education grid MUST use 110 hours of continuing education hours or college coursework to complete this GRID that was completed AFTER the date the CDCA was issued.

If these requirements are not met, please fill out the required 180-hour SUD Education grid.

NEW Education Grid

For all higher licensure 180 hours of substance use disorder specific education is required. Those who hold a CDCA have already obtained 40 hours of SUD specific education from their CDCA Preliminary, as well as 30 hours from their currently active CDCA. The Board recognizes that applicants are able to use these 70 hours toward the 180 required hours for higher licensure. Therefore, any applicant who holds an ACTIVE CDCA issued within the past five years may complete the **new** SUD education grid for 110 hours.

Any applicant using this new 110 hour SUD education grid MUST use continuing education hours or college coursework to complete this GRID that was completed AFTER the date the CDCA was issued.



CTAGS/ITAGS/PLA's

According to the Ohio Administrative Code, Chapter 4758, applicants who wish to apply for licensure must complete 180 hours of substance use disorder specific education - if applicants are using college coursework, courses must be completed from an accredited school or university.

College courses earned through PLA's / ITAGS / CTAGS will not be considered for the 180 hour SUD specific education.

However, the Board will consider college courses that earn college credit through PLAS / ITAGS / CTAGS as eligible towards the 24 hours of course requirement to determine if a degree meets the definition of a "behavioral science" degree, if the degree is not listed as an accepted degree.

Any continuing education (CE) hours that may have been used to apply for PLAS /

If these requirements are not met, please fill out the required 180-hour SUD Education grid.

[Click Here for the 110 Hour SUD Education Grid](#)

ITAGS / CTAGS to waive certain college courses, should still be able to be used toward the SUD specific education hours IF the CE met the requirements of a board approved continuing education entity so long as the applicant can provide the CE certificate of completion.

2026 Addiction Studies Institute Conference!

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER



August 5-7, 2026

The workforce is need of learning from those who are licensed and have the expertise in substance use disorder counseling and treatment services.

Those who present courses can EARN CEU hours towards renewal requirements.

Please consider applying prior January 25, 2026 to present at the 2026 ASI conference. Please click link below for more information.

[ASI Addiction Studies Institute Speaker Submission Portal](#)

[Earn CEU Hours While Teaching!](#)



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