



International Certified Gambling Counselor Certification (ICGC-I/II)

Training Outline

The ICGC-I (30 hours) & ICGC-II (60 hours) training is our flagship certification. This training is designed to address education, prevention, & treatment interventions for working with problem and disordered gambling as a primary and/or secondary diagnosis. This certification is intended for clinicians that work in prevention or clinical settings with the ability to effectively screen, intervene, and/or refer for the treatment of gambling disorders. This certification also requires obtaining specific hours in a clinical setting, working with a BACC, and passing the Certification Examination for Gambling Counselors.

I. BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF PROBLEM AND DISORDERED GAMBLING

- A. Scope of Legalized Gambling in the U.S.
 - 1. Prevalence of Gambling Problems
 - a. Among Adults
 - b. Among Youth
 - c. Among Treatment Populations
 - d. Among diverse cultural, racial and ethnic groups
 - 2. Definitions of Gambling and Disordered Gambling
 - 3. Gambling Disorder
 - a. Terminology
 - b. Etiology and Progression of the Disorder
 - c. Subtypes and Pathways model
 - d. Similarities and differences with Substance Use Disorders
- B. Client Evaluations
 - 1. Screening
 - 2. Assessment
 - 3. Diagnostic Criteria

II. GAMBLING COUNSELING PRACTICE

- A. Examination of Attitudes/Feelings
 - 1. Attitudes towards money
 - 2. Deception and Self-Deception
 - 3. Meaning and role of gambling
 - 4. Spirituality
 - 5. Transference and Countertransference
 - 6. Irrational Thinking/Cognitive Distortions
 - 7. Cultural Beliefs and Attitudes
- B. Considerations of Alternative Solutions
 - 1. Abstinence

- 2. Harm Reduction
- 3. Natural Recovery
- C. Skills For Gambling Disorders
 - 1. Engaging clients with gambling disorder
 - 2. Integrating the topic of gambling and problem gambling into SUD and MH treatment
 - 3. Motivational Interviewing and Enhancement strategies
 - 4. Mindfulness Based Interventions
 - 5. Cognitive Behavioral Treatment
 - 6. Client and family education
 - 7. Family/concerned others interventions
 - 8. Individual Counseling
 - 9. Group Counseling
 - 10. Family/Significant Others
 - 11. Treatment Planning
 - 12. Financial Management Issues
 - a. Restitution
 - b. Budget Preparation
 - c. Money protection planning
 - d. Pressure Relief Group through GA
 - 13. Legal Issues
 - 14. Multi-cultural Counseling
- D. Relationship to Substance Abuse and Mental Health
 - 1. Integration of problem gambling into substance use disorder and mental health treatment
 - 2. Impact of gambling on recovery from substance use and mental health disorders
 - 3. Impact of substance use and mental health disorders on problem gambling treatment and recovery
- E. Client Care
 - 1. Crisis Management
 - a. Identification
 - b. Resolution
 - 2. Referral Resources and case management
 - 3. Consultation
 - 4. Levels of Care and ASAM criteria
 - 5. Peer Counseling and Recovery Support Systems
- F. Education
 - 1. Orientation to treatment and recovery
 - 2. Problem Gambling Information
 - 3. Co-Occurring Disorders
 - a. Screens and assessments
 - b. Psychopharmacology and medication
 - c. Medical
 - d. Gambling and substance use
 - e. Gambling and mental health
 - 4. Self-Help Programs
 - a. Gamblers Anonymous

- b. Gam-Anon
 - c. SMART Recovery
 - d. Faith based self-help programs
 - 5. Research
 - Neurobiology, medication and psychopharmacology
 - a. Treatment
 - b. Co-occurring disorders
- G. Continuing Care

III. SPECIAL ISSUES IN GAMBLING TREATMENT

- A. Adolescence
- B. Older Adults
- C. Gender
- D. Cultural Minorities
- E. Relapse and Relapse Prevention
- F. Suicide
- G. Trauma and Survivors Issues
- H. Chronic Illness
- I. Criminal Justice
- J. Military
- K. Stigma

IV. PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

- A. Law and Regulation
 - 1. Client Rights
 - a. Confidentiality
 - b. Informed Consent
 - c. Reporting
 - 1) Child/Other Abuse
 - 2) Duty to Warn
 - 2. Discrimination
 - 3. Managed Care
 - a. Utilization Review
 - b. Outcome Studies
- B. Ethics as it pertains to IGCCB standards
- C. Supervision
 - 1. Administrative
 - 2. Clinical
 - 3. Gambling Specific Consultation