



BREINING INSTITUTE

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## Registered Addiction Specialist (RAS) Credential Application

- The nationally-recognized Registered Addiction Specialist (RAS) Credential is available to addiction professionals who document at least 155 hours of formal education in alcohol and other drug (AOD) coursework, at least 2,240 hours or one year full-time clinical experience which includes 160 hours of supervised clinical experience, and have passed the nationally-administered Addiction Counselor Exam (ACE) or acceptable alternative exam.
- Applications to obtain advanced RAS Credentials will be accepted from currently credentialed RAS professionals, as well as new candidates for the RAS Credential.
- **There is no fee if you are upgrading from an RAS Credential that is current and in good standing.**



### ELIGIBILITY

**Registered Addiction Specialist (RAS)**  
**Registered Addiction Specialist – Level II (RAS-II)**  
**Registered Addiction Specialist – Level III (RAS-III)**  
**Masters Level – Registered Addiction Specialist (M-RAS)**

#### FORMAL EDUCATION

**RAS:** One hundred fifty-five (155) hours formal education in alcohol and other drug (AOD) studies

**RAS-II:** 450 hours formal AOD education, or AA or AS degree in the healing arts/sciences

**RAS-III:** AA, AS, BA or BS degree in the healing arts and/or sciences

**M-RAS:** BA, BS, MA, MS or Doctorate degree in the healing arts and/or sciences

#### CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

**RAS** Minimum: 2,240 hours (approximately one year full time work)

in an alcohol and other drug (AOD) abuse or substance use disorders (SUD) program

**RAS-II:** 6,000 hours (3 years) with AA or AS degree, or 10,000 hours (5 years) without degree

**RAS-III:** 6,000 hours (3 years) with BA or BS degree, or 10,000 hours (5 years) with AA or AS degree

**M-RAS:** 6,000 hours (3 years) with MA, MS or Doctorate degree, or 10,000 hours (5 years) with BA or BS

#### MINIMUM SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE

160 hours of supervised experience (which may be included in 2,240 hours of clinical experience)  
in an alcohol and other drug (AOD) abuse or substance use disorders (SUD) program

#### EXAM

Must pass the Addiction Professional Exam or "ACE" Exam  
administered daily at over 500 exam centers located throughout the United States and Canada

#### ACE EXAM WAIVER

Applicant will not be required to take the ACE Exam if:

- 1) Previously passed the ACE or RAS Exam, or
- 2) Previously passed an acceptable alternative exam

#### RENEWAL REQUIREMENT

Every two years

Complete a minimum of 40 hours continuing education (CE) in AOD topics every two years

The "Registered Addiction Specialist" and "RAS" credentials are registered service marks, and may only be used by professionals who have been awarded these credentials by Breining Institute (Service Mark Reg. No. 65739, Class Number 41). The "Addiction Counselor Exam" and "ACE" Exam are registered service marks of Breining Institute (Service Mark Reg. No. 68184, Class Number 41).



Advanced Credential for the Addiction Professional

Registered Addiction Specialist (RAS) Credential Application

Breining Institute • 8894 Greenback Lane • Orangevale, California USA 95662 • Phone (916) 987-8823 • E-mail Certification@Breining.edu

This Application is to be awarded the RAS Credential below:

- Registered Addiction Specialist (RAS)
Registered Addiction Specialist – Level II (RAS–II)
Registered Addiction Specialist – Level III (RAS–III)
Masters Level – Registered Addiction Specialist (M-RAS)

Indicate whether you currently have an RAS Credential:

- I DO currently have an RAS Credential
I DO NOT currently have an RAS Credential
I currently hold a different professional license or certification identified here:

SECTION 1. Please type or print all of your information clearly. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

First Name

First Name

Middle Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Last Name

Address (Number, Street, Apartment or Suite Number)

Address (Number, Street, Apartment or Suite Number)

City

City

State (or Province)

State (or Province)

USA Zip Code

USA Zip Code

Country (other than USA)

Country (other than USA)

Country Code

Country Code

Primary Telephone Number (including Area Code)

Primary Telephone Number (including Area Code)

Secondary Telephone Number (including Area Code)

Secondary Telephone Number (including Area Code)

E-mail Address

E-mail Address

SECTION 2. This information is for verification purposes. Please print your information clearly.

Social Security Number (last 4 numbers only)

Social Security Number (last 4 numbers only)

Date of Birth (Month-Day-Year)

Date of Birth (Month-Day-Year)

Male Female

Male Female

SECTION 3. Credit Card Payment Information (if paying by credit card). Please circle type of card: VISA or MasterCard

Credit Card Number

Credit Card Number

Expiration date

Expiration date

Full Name on Credit Card

Full Name on Credit Card

Billing Address for Credit Card (if different than address listed above)

STATE

ZIP CODE

The undersigned authorizes the following charge to this credit card (check mark one of the following):

- \$ 175.00 ACE examination or Exam Waiver fee. Nonrefundable.
None Upgrade from existing RAS Credential. (Do not include credit card information.)

Authorized Credit Card Signature

Date

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**SECTION 4. REQUIRED FORMAL EDUCATION.**

Formal alcohol and other drugs (AOD) education, documented with transcripts from the educational institution providing such education, must include the curriculum contained within the Addiction Counseling Competencies, *Technical Assistance Publication Series 21 (TAP 21)*, including:

**Understanding Addiction** - includes understanding theories of addiction, recognizing social and cultural factors within which addiction exists, behavioral and physical effects of psychoactive substances, and recognition of potential for substance abuse disorders to co-exist with other medical and psychological disorders.

**Treatment Knowledge** - includes philosophies and practices of generally accepted models of treatment, recovery, relapse prevention and continuing care for addiction, the importance of family and community systems in the treatment and recovery process, recognizing the importance of ongoing study in clinical practice, and understanding of multidisciplinary, non-traditional or various approaches to addiction treatment.

**Communicable Diseases** - includes tuberculosis, HIV disease and Hepatitis C.

**Application to Practice** - includes understanding diagnostic criteria for addiction treatment and placement, providing the appropriate treatment in consideration of a client's personal and cultural background situation, and familiarity with the acceptable range of medical and pharmacological resources available for treatment.

**Special Populations** - includes aging individuals; individuals with co-occurring disorders (e.g. alcoholism and mental illness); individuals with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); individuals with disabilities; diverse populations; individuals with cultural differences; individuals on probation / parole, etc.

**Professional Readiness** - includes personal and professional growth; understanding supervision in the delivery of client services; professional obligations to adhere to ethical standards; understanding of and participation in prevention as well as treatment programs; an understanding of procedures for handling crises or dangerous situations; and coursework related to the prevention of sexual harassment.

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## **SECTION 5. ACE EXAM or ACE EXAM WAIVER**

Candidates for any and all of the advanced Registered Addiction Specialist (RAS) Credentials must meet the following minimum requirements:

- 155 hours formal alcohol and other drug (AOD) education;
- 2,240 hours (approximately one year) clinical experience;
- 160 hours supervised clinical experience (may be included in total clinical experience); and
- Pass the psychometrically validated Addiction Counselor Exam (ACE), or submit proof of passing acceptable alternative exam.

### **ACE EXAM**

All candidates will need to pass the ACE Exam, but, once passed, will not need to retake the exam to obtain advanced RAS Credentials.

The ACE Exam is administered daily at over 500 test centers located throughout the United States and Canada.

### **ACE EXAM WAIVER**

Candidates will NOT be required to take the ACE Exam, if:

1. Already passed the ACE Exam.
2. Already passed the RAS Exam.
3. Already passed one of the following alternative acceptable exams:
  - a. Certified Addictions Treatment Counselor (CATC) Exam, administered by California Association for Alcohol / Drug Educators;
  - b. National Certified Addiction Counselor (NCAC) Exam, Level I or II, administered by National Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC); or
  - c. Alcohol and Drug Counselor (ADC) or Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (AADC) Exam, administered by International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC).

You will NOT need to submit proof of passing the ACE or RAS Exams, because Breining Institute already has records of those exams.

You WILL need to submit documentation of passing one of the alternative acceptable exams. Documentation may be satisfied by submitting a copy of your certificate or license from an agency that requires passing one of those alternative exams as a condition of being awarded the certificate or license (for example, submitting a copy of your NCAC I certification from NAADAC).





**SECTION 8. CODE OF CONDUCT**

Sign this Code of Conduct at the space provided below.



**Registered Addiction Specialist**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

Principle 1:

Registered Addiction Specialists (RAS) (hereinafter "Counselors") shall conduct themselves in an honest, forthright and professional manner. Counselors are prohibited from engaging in the commission of any dishonest, corrupt, or fraudulent act substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a Counselor including but not limited to the following:

- a. Securing a registration, certification or renewal by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation on any application or material in support of any application for registration certification or renewal;
- b. Misrepresenting the type or status of registration or certification held by the person, or otherwise misrepresenting or permitting misrepresentation of his or her education, professional qualifications or professional affiliations to any person, program or entity;
- c. Refusal or failure to provide proper identifying registration, credential, certification or license where appropriate or required (e.g., when offering or providing alcohol and other drug (AOD) counseling services, on business cards, on informational or marketing materials, etc.);
- d. Advertising, marketing or promoting programs, services, training, education or experience in a false and misleading manner, as set forth in California Business and Professions Code sections 17200, *et seq.*

Principle 2:

Counselors shall maintain professionally appropriate boundaries with clients and family members of clients and shall conduct themselves in a professional, non-exploitive and lawful manner, and are prohibited from:

- a. Engaging in inappropriate social relationships, sexual relations or soliciting sexual relations with a client or with a former client within two years from the termination date of the counseling relationship;
- b. Committing an act of sexual abuse, misconduct or an act punishable as a sexually related crime;
- c. Engaging in a business relationship with clients, patients, program participants, residents and/or other persons significant to them within one year from the termination of the counseling relationship;
- d. Physically, verbally, sexually harassing, threatening or abusing other staff members, clients, patients, program participants, residents and/or other persons significant to any of the above;
- e. Unlawfully administering to himself or herself any controlled substance as defined in Section 4021 of the California Business and Professions Code (B&P), or using any of the dangerous drugs or devices specified in Section 4022 of the B&P, or using any alcoholic beverage to the extent, or in a manner, as to be dangerous or injurious to the person holding or applying for a registration, certification or license or to any other person, or to the public.

Principle 3:

Counselors shall comply with all Federal and State Laws and Regulations that pertain to patient/client confidentiality, mandated reporting exceptions, record keeping requirements and patient/client records access. Counselors are prohibited from:

- a. Violating client/patient confidentiality except as required or permitted by law including, but not limited to, Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations Part 2, Child Abuse, Elder Abuse and Public Safety laws and Regulations;
- b. Failing to maintain records consistent with the nature of the services being rendered;
- c. Refusing or denying patient/client access to charts and records as required by law;
- d. Violating, attempting to violate or conspiring to violate any law or regulation governing AOD registrants, certified or licensed AOD counselor.

Print name

Signature

Date

