



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

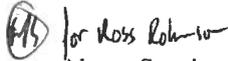
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June 30, 2014

TO: Executive Directors, Substance Abuse Prevention Contractors
Youth Prevention Indicated (YPI)
Youth Prevention Selective (YPS)
Youth Prevention Universal (YPU)
Community Coalition Partnerships (CCP)
Prevention Resource Center (PRC)

FROM: Ross Robinson, Director  for Ross Robinson
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division, Program Services

SUBJECT: Associate Prevention Specialist (APS) Designation Education and Training Standards

On March 27, 2014, DSHS conducted a conference call with the Texas Certification Workgroup (TCW) that developed the Associate Prevention Specialist (APS) Designation. The purpose of this call was to discuss and compare the newly adopted education and training standards for the Certified Prevention Specialist (CPS) credentialing which resulted from the Job Task Analysis (JTA) conducted by International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) with the current APS Designation education and training standards.

On April 4, 2014, a recommendation was made to the Texas Certification Board of Addiction Professionals (TCBAP) by DSHS and TCW to adopt the same education and training standards for the APS Designation in order to align the education and training standards with the updated CPS credentialing.

Effective September 1, 2014, the education training standards requirements for the APS Designation will change as follows to align with the CPS credentialing:

- Prevention education - 120 hours:
 - 90 hours-prevention specific;
 - 24 hours must be AOD specific; and
 - 6 hours must be in prevention ethics.
- One-hundred twenty hour practicum. A minimum of ten hours in each of the **six** Prevention Domains:
 - Planning and Evaluation;
 - Prevention Education and Service Delivery;
 - Communication;
 - Community Organization;
 - Public Policy and Environmental Change; and
 - Professional Growth and Responsibility.

Other requirements:

- 1) Minimum of a high school diploma or GED; and
- 2) 18 months of substance abuse prevention work experience requirements for the APS Designation will remain the same.

The changes will result in an increase in the education hours (from 100 to 120, with 20 hours in each domain), and an update to the practicum to reflect the six domains instead of five.

If you have any questions regarding the APS Designation changes, please contact Jane Salazar at 512-206-5958.

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