

*U.S. Marine Corps*

# ***Substance Abuse Counselor Program***

Marine Corps Substance Abuse Counselors receive advance training in the following areas to ensure familiarity with and competency in:

- *Substance Abuse Treatment*
- *Group Counseling*
- *Individual Counseling*
- *Counseling Theories and Practices*
- *Family Dynamics with Substance Abuse*

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

Marine Corps Substance Abuse Counselors serve in Marine Corps Substance Abuse Counseling Centers or Navy Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities. These Marines receive intensive specialized training and must complete a 1-year internship as treatment specialists in a closely supervised clinical environment before being awarded the additional MOS of 8538 (a B-Billet). Substance Abuse Counselors are highly skilled and trained to screen, assess and treat substance abuse disorders. These counselors are also instrumental in providing prevention services to Marine Corps units, individuals, and families as necessary.

## **Training**

MOS training occurs at the Navy Drug and Alcohol Counselor School (NDACS), a department of the Naval School of Health Sciences, San Diego, CA.

## **Course Schedule**

- *5 Classes per year*
- *10 weeks each class; 7 weeks of classroom instruction and 3 week Clinical Rotation*

*Course Content includes:*

- *Communication Skills*
- *Counseling Skills and Theories*
- *Medical Aspects*
- *Family Dynamics*
- *Related Treatment Issues*

## **College Credit**

Baccalaureate/Associate Degree ACE recommendation is 15 credit hours for successful completion of the Navy Drug and Alcohol Counselor School.

**Prerequisites**

- *At least 21 years of age.*
- *A High School Graduate/GED with a GT Score of 105 or higher.*
- *Pass a PFT and be within height and weight standards.*
- *Complete an autobiography.*
- *Complete a one-page essay on “Why I want to be a Substance Abuse Counselor.”*
- *Have passed a medical screening within the last year.*
- *Pass a counselor assessment*

Marines who desire to be screened should contact a Substance Abuse Counselor. Please contact your closest Counseling Center below.

**Counseling Center Locations**

Yuma, AZ	(928) 269-3669
Barstow, CA	(760) 577-6533
Camp Pendleton, CA	(760) 725-5538
Miramar, CA	(858) 577-1297
San Diego, CA	(619) 524-1837
29 Palms, CA	(760) 830-6376
Albany, GA	(229) 639-5276
Kaneohe Bay, HI	(808) 257-3900
Kansas City, MO	(816) 843-3654
Camp Lejeune, NC	(910) 451-1954
Cherry Point, NC	(919) 466-2273
New River, NC	(910) 450-6733
Beaufort, SC	(843) 522-7055
Parris Island, SC	(843) 525-3227
Henderson Hall, VA	(703) 614-8961
Quantico, VA	(703) 784-3502
Iwakuni, Japan	DSN 253-5260
Okinawa, Japan	DSN 645-3009