

SAMHSA's Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies

Online Learning



SAMHSA's Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies (CAPT) offers a menu of online courses designed to help prevention practitioners working at the state-, jurisdiction-, tribal-, and community levels understand and apply key aspects of prevention planning, implementation, and evaluation.

This menu includes both moderated and self-paced courses, allowing participants to explore a variety of prevention topics in multiple formats. SAMHSA's CAPT is a NAADAC-approved education provider; some courses have also been endorsed by the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC). Participants who meet specified completion criteria will receive a certificate of completion.

Available Courses

Introduction to Substance Abuse Prevention:

Understanding the Basics* (self-paced, IC&RC-endorsed)

Offers practitioners new to the field of prevention, or working in related fields, an introduction to the history of prevention, key concepts and definitions, specific drug effects, and a glimpse into the effects of substance use and addiction on the brain

Target audience: Practitioners new to the prevention field

Credit hours: 5

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To learn more about CAPT online courses,
call 1-888-332-2278, e-mail samhsa_capt@edc.org,
or contact your CAPT Resource Team directly.

Available Courses

Ethics in Prevention (moderated, IC&RC-endorsed)

Addresses the role and application of ethics in substance abuse prevention, highlighting the prevention code of ethics' six key principles and introducing a 4-step decision-making model for assessing, addressing, and evaluating a range of ethical issues

Target audience: State- and local-level prevention practitioners

Credit hours: 6

Involving Youth in Your Substance Abuse Prevention

Program (moderated and self-paced)

Offers the information and tools practitioners need to involve youth in all aspects of their prevention programming, highlighting the benefits of youth involvement and strategies for creating meaningful activities that will keep youth engaged over time

Target audience: Local-level prevention practitioners

Credit hours: 5

Locating, Hiring, and Managing an Evaluator (moderated)

Highlights the value of evaluating programs, key considerations for hiring an evaluator, and strategies for working with an evaluator effectively

Target audience: Local-level prevention practitioners

Credit hours: 5

Data Collection Methods: Getting Down to Basics (moderated)

Introduces four data collection methods—existing data review, surveys, focus groups, and key informant interviews—offering tips for improving data quality and examples of best practice

Target audience: State- and local-level prevention practitioners

Credit hours: 10

What Now? Creating an Effective Data Presentation (moderated)

Presents a variety of strategies for developing presentations that are interesting, informative, and tailored to audience needs

Target audience: State- and local-level prevention practitioners

Credit hours: 5

Go Get It! Finding Existing Data to Inform Your Prevention Efforts (self-paced, IC&RC-endorsed)

Offers practitioners engaged in the process of assessing the substance abuse needs of their communities a systematic approach to locating and gathering data that already exists.

Target audience: Local-level prevention practitioners

Credit hours: 2

Focusing on Focus Groups: An Implementation Guide for Substance Abuse Prevention Practitioners

(self-paced, IC&RC-endorsed)

Introduces the key elements of focus group design and delivery, using case examples to highlight the multiple ways focus groups can be used to support prevention practice.

Target audience: Local-level prevention practitioners

Credit hours: 2

* This is the online component of the Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST), but it can also stand alone.