



## Alcohol & Drug Abuse Certification Board of Georgia

### Defining “**HUMAN SERVICES**” for the purposes of ADACBGA Credentials

One of the minimum application requirements for some ADACBGA credentials, such as the **Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor (CADC), Level II** and the **Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS)**, is “**a bachelor’s degree in a human service field.**” As such, the ADACBGA gets questions from time to time around the definition of “human services” for the purposes of ADACBGA credentials.

Human Services is a vast umbrella that describes a variety of occupations and/or disciplines. Human Services are those occupations or areas of study that provide service to the public, most especially during times of hardship or crisis. This vast umbrella describes occupations and/or disciplines that help people navigate through crisis(es) or chronic situations during which an individual needs external help and guidance to move forward with their life, rediscovering their personal power and self-sufficiency. Sometimes the situation the person needs help with is external, such as the loss of a job or income, the need for food or housing or for help getting out of a dangerous situation. Other times the situation with which an individual needs help is an internal challenge such as a substance use disorder, process addiction, mental disorder, or physical ailment or other disability.

As such, the ADACBGA’s definition of “**Human Services**” is ***an occupation and/or discipline that is focused on providing services to individuals, groups, and/or families in order to help them stabilize their life(lives) and find self-sufficiency through guidance, counseling, treatment, and/or the provision of basic needs.***

Degree types, majors, and/or fields of studies that will be considered “Human Services” by the ADACBGA for credentialing purposes include:

- Psychology
- Social Work
- Addiction Counseling
- Child & Family Studies
- Nursing
- Sociology
- Criminal Justice
- Social Services
- Health Education