

Occupation Profile

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Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors
(SOC Code : 21-1011)
in San Diego County

Counsel and advise individuals with alcohol, tobacco, drug, or other problems, such as gambling and eating disorders. May counsel individuals, families, or groups or engage in prevention programs. Exclude "Social Workers" (21-1021 through 21-1029), "Psychologists" (19-3031 through 19-3039), and "Mental Health Counselors" (21-1014) providing these services.

Employers are usually looking for candidates with a Master's degree .

San Diego County is the same as San Diego-Carlsbad MSA.

Occupational Wages [\[Top\]](#)

Wages for this occupation in San Diego County are not available.

[View Wages for All Areas](#) [About Wages](#)

Occupational Projections of Employment (also called "Outlook" or "Demand") [\[Top\]](#)

| Area | Estimated Year-Projected Year | Employment | | Employment Change | | Annual Avg Openings |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|---------------------|
| | | Estimated | Projected | Number | Percent | |
| San Diego County | 2016 - 2026 | 900 | 1,100 | 200 | 22.2 | 122 |

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Job Openings from JobCentral National Labor Exchange [\[Top\]](#)

Enter a Zip Code [Find a Zip code in San Diego County](#)

Within miles of Zip Code.

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Industries Employing This Occupation (click on Industry Title to View Employers List) [\[Top\]](#)

| Industry Title | Number of Employers in San Diego County | Percent of Total Employment for Occupation in State of California |
|---|---|---|
| Residential Mental Health Facilities | 2 | 25.5% |
| Individual and Family Services | 1,950 | 21.6% |
| Outpatient Care Centers | 612 | 19.6% |
| Elementary and Secondary Schools | 1,218 | 5.1% |
| Psychiatric & Substance Abuse Hospitals | 126 | 2.1% |
| Social Advocacy Organizations | 577 | 1.5% |

| | | |
|--|-----|------|
| Emergency and Other Relief Services | 61 | 1.2% |
| General Medical and Surgical Hospitals | 110 | 1.2% |

About Staffing Patterns

Data for Training Programs not available.

About Training & Apprenticeships

About This Occupation (from O*NET - The Occupation Information Network)

[\[Top\]](#)

Top Tasks (Specific duties and responsibilities of this job.)

Complete and maintain accurate records or reports regarding the patients` histories and progress, services provided, or other required information.

Counsel clients or patients, individually or in group sessions, to assist in overcoming dependencies, adjusting to life, or making changes.

Develop client treatment plans based on research, clinical experience, and client histories.

Conduct chemical dependency program orientation sessions.

Participate in case conferences or staff meetings.

Coordinate counseling efforts with mental health professionals or other health professionals, such as doctors, nurses, or social workers.

Review and evaluate clients` progress in relation to measurable goals described in treatment and care plans.

Interview clients, review records, and confer with other professionals to evaluate individuals` mental and physical condition and to determine their suitability for participation in a specific program.

Plan or implement follow-up or aftercare programs for clients to be discharged from treatment programs.

Assess individuals` degree of drug dependency by collecting and analyzing urine samples.

[More Tasks for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors](#)

Top Skills used in this Job

Active Listening - Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.

Social Perceptiveness - Being aware of others` reactions and understanding why they react as they do.

Critical Thinking - Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.

Speaking - Talking to others to convey information effectively.

Monitoring - Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.

Service Orientation - Actively looking for ways to help people.

Reading Comprehension - Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.

Writing - Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.

Active Learning - Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making.

Judgment and Decision Making - Considering the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one.

[More Skills for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors](#)

Top Abilities (Attributes of the person that influence performance in this job.)

Oral Expression - The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.

Oral Comprehension - The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.

Written Comprehension - The ability to read and understand information and ideas presented in writing.

Speech Clarity - The ability to speak clearly so others can understand you.

Written Expression - The ability to communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.

Problem Sensitivity - The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.

Deductive Reasoning - The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to produce answers that make sense.

Inductive Reasoning - The ability to combine pieces of information to form general rules or conclusions (includes finding a relationship among seemingly unrelated events).

[More Abilities for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors](#)

Top Work Values (Aspects of this job that create satisfaction.)

Relationships - Occupations that satisfy this work value allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly non-competitive environment.

Achievement - Occupations that satisfy this work value are results oriented and allow employees to use their strongest abilities, giving them a feeling of accomplishment.

[More WorkValues for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors](#)

Top Interests (The types of activities someone in this job would like.)

Social - Social occupations frequently involve working with, communicating with, and teaching people. These occupations often involve helping or providing service to others.

Artistic - Artistic occupations frequently involve working with forms, designs and patterns. They often require self-expression and the work can be done without following a clear set of rules.

[More Interests for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors](#)

Related Links

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