Polly Williams

Aughenbaugh

English 12

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Addictions Counselor

I plan on going to study to be an addictions counselor. Required activities on a daily basis are to develop treatment plans for clients to help them recover. Refer clients to recovery programs. Monitor clients who are in detox. Educate clients on the long term effects on drugs. Also educate the public on addiction prevention. Another thing is meeting with clients to discuss their strengths, weaknesses, and sober plans. My typical working environment would be detox centers, addiction treatment organizations where I would counsel clients one on one or in groups, offices, self-employed and social service agencies. Normal hours for an addiction counselor are about 40 hours a week. Some work regular office hours while others work shifts. Usual starting salary-potential salary starts out about 29,000-47,000 dollars a year for a level 2 addictions counselor.

Training required, education needed for entry level would be an associate’s degree, some schools require a license. A high school diploma is needed, post-secondary training in addictions counseling. Continued education requirements or options could be to go to school and study for a master’s degree to become a level 3 addictions counselor. In many states, addictions counselors must be licensed. Addictions counselor may have to have a certain number of hours of supervised counseling experience. You must also pass a licensing exam. Schools that offer training that I would like to go to would be the University of Detroit Mercy in Detroit, Michigan. Total cost of education would be 7,362 for the program added on to 26,840.

Some personal strengths and experiences that have led me to this career would be watching people I care about and loved one struggle with addiction. Addiction is not a healthy thing and could be very harmful, may even lead to death. I’ve gone to counseling before and I know how much it can help you become better.

Works Cited

“Addiction Counselor.” *Career Cruising*. Career Cruising, 2012. Web. 07 September 2012.