



ASAM Criteria Fourth Edition Now Available

Updated guidelines can be purchased in either print or interactive digital.

The American Society of Addiction Management (ASAM) maintains national criteria to help assess and treat adults with addiction, substance-related and co-occurring conditions. Following their practice of updating the criteria every 10 years, ASAM has developed the Fourth Edition of *The ASAM Criteria*®.

The Fourth Edition is now available through ASAM's partnership with the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation. The digital version can be purchased and downloaded immediately. The print version can be pre-ordered, with delivery in late November.

[Order a copy now](#)

Watch for educational events to learn more

ASAM will be hosting events in the coming months to outline key changes in the Fourth Edition and why those changes are crucial for innovative person-centered care. Some events may be in partnership with Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, and others may be hosted by state ASAM chapters. Here's how you can stay informed:

- Check the [ASAM website](#) and watch your email for announcements of upcoming training opportunities.
- [Watch the replay](#) of an ASAM/Hazelden Betty Ford webinar from late October.
 - Look for the link to register just below the Fourth Edition Criteria ordering information. Once you register, you'll have access to the replay.
- Review [this outline](#) of all Fourth Edition changes.

Details about The Fourth Edition

The ASAM Criteria provides national standards for conducting a comprehensive, multi-dimensional patient assessment and for determining the appropriate level of care for adult patients with addiction and co-occurring conditions. The criteria are evidence-based, outcome-oriented and focus on results-based care across the continuum of care – placement, continued stay, transfer or discharge.

A key priority in the Fourth Edition is to present the criteria and standards so they are easier to understand and implement by providers, treatment programs, health plans and managed care organizations. This will include providing more standardized tools; clearly delineating the assessment and treatment planning process; defining critical subdimensions that should be assessed; and organizing the admission criteria to clarify which dimensions need to show improvement to support transition to a less intensive level of care.

In the Fourth Edition, ASAM is removing standards and admission criteria for adolescents and for individuals within jails and prisons (justice-involved individuals). Instead, ASAM will release individual volumes over the next 2 years in order to better reflect evolving treatment standards and provide sufficient detail for these audiences.