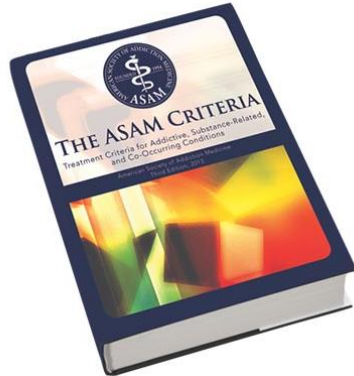


The ASAM Criteria® Copyright Implications for States

About The ASAM Criteria

The ASAM Criteria is the nation's most respected, comprehensive, and widely used set of guidelines for matching patients to the appropriate level of care based on the severity of their disease and their multidimensional needs. These guidelines have a critical role in national efforts to advance treatment standards for the disease of addiction. The common language and universal standards set by *The ASAM Criteria* establish a framework to help payers and healthcare systems ensure they are offering the full continuum of care to meet patients' needs.

However, when *The ASAM Criteria* standards are not fully implemented or used with fidelity, it can undermine patient care and compromise recovery. ASAM has a responsibility – to providers, payers, regulators, patients and their families – to ensure *The ASAM Criteria* continues to be equated with high-quality care proven to be effective in addiction treatment.



In the spring of 2019, ASAM updated its copyright permission process for *The ASAM Criteria* to create clarity in the market and ensure the integrity of these clinical standards over the long term. ASAM began this process after becoming aware of a growing trend of misrepresentation and misuse of *The ASAM Criteria* brand by some treatment providers and payers who were not offering evidence-based care. These actions undermine the value of *The ASAM Criteria* and create confusion for patients and families seeking quality care.

ASAM recognizes that the updates to the copyright permissions process are a change for the field, and ASAM is committed to working with each state to proactively address any unintended consequences. ASAM's commitment to quality, evidence-based care is our highest priority.

How will changes to the permission process affect states?

- First and foremost, ASAM **will not** charge a fee to states for the use of *The ASAM Criteria*. Our Fair Use Guidelines allow states to use *The ASAM Criteria* in their laws, regulations, and policies with **no** permission agreement.
- Likewise, providers or programs **do not** need permission to implement *The ASAM Criteria* in their internal operations or to certify their compliance with relevant state or payer requirements.
- Providers or programs only require a permission agreement to **advertise or market** their use of *The ASAM Criteria* publicly.
 - ASAM's permission agreements are set at a low fee to cover the cost of managing the process.
 - There is also an option for states to manage the permission agreement process so the programs they oversee can obtain permission agreements **free of charge**.
- Providing education on *The ASAM Criteria*, including basic introductory training, falls within fair use and **does not** require a permissions agreement.
- A permission agreement **is needed** to provide training on *The ASAM Criteria*. Training includes activities that support the development of the knowledge and skills required to implement *The ASAM Criteria*.
 - ASAM also offers permission agreements to states, free of charge, to allow state employees to provide *The ASAM Criteria* training or technical assistance.
- ASAM will commit to not increasing prices beyond inflation for at least 10 years.

The ASAM Criteria: The Keystone to Effective Addiction Medicine Care

The ASAM Criteria includes standards for multiple components of care, including:

1. A standardized multidimensional assessment;
2. Standard decision rules for interpreting the multidimensional assessment and matching the patient to the right level of care to meet their treatment needs;
3. Standard service characteristics that define each level of care in the care continuum.

These components all work in tandem to ensure that the patient is matched to the appropriate level of care to meet their individual needs.

Tools to Support Effective Implementation of The ASAM Criteria

ASAM CONTINUUM[®] THE ASAM CRITERIA DECISION ENGINE

Software for assessing patients with addictive, substance-related and co-occurring conditions through computer-guided, structured interviews. The standard multi-dimensional assessment covers all six dimensions and applies the decision rules in The ASAM Criteria in an algorithm that provides a level of care recommendation for each individual patient.

www.asamcontinuum.org

ASAM **THE CRITERIA COURSE[™]**

A comprehensive suite of competency-based learning activities that meets the learning needs of the multiple audiences making use of the Criteria and results in the appropriate use of the Criteria in practice. The ASAM Criteria Course can also serve as a bridge to the implementation of a provider credentialing program.

www.asam.org/education

CO-Triage[®]

The ASAM Criteria Referral Tool

A provisional referral tool for substance problems. The CO-Triage software helps clinicians identify broad categories of treatment need along the six ASAM Criteria Dimensions. The decision logic calculates the provisionally recommended ASAM Level of Care (ASAM Levels 1, 2, 3, 4 and Opioid Treatment Services).

www.asamcontinuum.org

ASAM Level of Care Certification

The ASAM Level of Care certification, delivered in partnership with CARF International, will be the first program of its kind to independently assess and verify treatment programs' ability to deliver services consistent with Levels of Care described in The ASAM Criteria[®].

www.asamcertification.org

CONTACT ASAM

For more information or to request a permission agreement, visit:

bit.ly/ASAMCriteriaCopyright

Or email:

asamcriteria@asam.org

For more information on any of our products or services, please visit us on the Web at:

www.asam.org



ASAM American Society of
Addiction Medicine