average Purdue Global military student awarded 54 credits needed associate 's 45 credits needed bachelor 's Commonly Searched Commonly Searched statistics frightening continue rise Addiction death opioid drugs—including prescription pain medications oxycodone hydrocodone anesthetic fentanyl increasingly combined opioids street drug heroin—are highest levels ever Opioid epidemic statistics dire epidemic takes devastating toll addicts families ever-increasing costs treating substance use opioid crisis also created national emergency another area simply ’ enough addiction counseling professionals United States U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics projects 23 rise employment substance abuse behavioral disorder mental health counselors 2020 2030 much faster average occupations Multiple factors contribute shortage including stigma mental illness aging workforce compensation catching demand according study cited National Institutes Health largest increase need likely due Affordable Care Act requires insurers cover treatment meaning millions people access mental health care Opioids became widely prescribed painkillers beginning late 1990s pharmaceutical companies assured doctors drugs addictive according National Institute Drug Abuse overdose rates began rise clear case common scenario Treatment opioid addiction usually includes inpatient rehabilitation behavioral counseling medications ease withdrawal symptoms take time relapse common Substance use counselors treat support patient process providing information ongoing therapy coordination medical doctors addition treating patients addiction counselors work educate community create ongoing dialogue young people school settings speak civic organizations groups drug addiction counseling career open door many professional opportunities including community health workers addictions case managers outreach specialists addictions treatment technicians Purdue Global offers programs accredited National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission NASAC Graduates bachelor ’ degree program eligible sit National Certification Commission Addictions Professionals NCC AP National Certified Addiction Counselor Level II certification exams certificate program meets coursework requirements prepare graduates meet eligibility prerequisites take National Board Certified Counselors ’ Master Addictions Counselor MAC examination.† Request information today Author Purdue Global