

OPERATIONAL READINESS FOR CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS



Equipping Correctional Staff with the
Tools to Safely Respond to Opioid Use
Disorder & Co-occurring Conditions



Build Confidence in Crisis Response & Care

Correctional officers are vital to the front line of the opioid crisis. Every day, you may encounter individuals struggling with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and co-occurring mental health conditions. This course equips you with essential tools to recognize warning signs, manage behavioral health challenges with confidence, and de-escalate tense or unpredictable situations. You'll learn how to protect yourself and others while reducing harm, improving safety, and preserving dignity in high-stress interactions.

Four hours, online, self-paced

Gain practical strategies to respond with confidence, compassion, and control. Learn how multidisciplinary collaboration and informed intervention can reduce risks, protect your facility, and support both staff and incarcerated individuals facing behavioral health challenges. These proven techniques help create a safer, more prepared environment for everyone.

Course Highlights

- **Respond with Confidence:** Learn field-tested techniques to recognize and manage individuals with OUD and co-occurring conditions inside correctional facilities.
- **Enhance Facility Safety & Trust:** Use proven de-escalation strategies to minimize conflict, decrease harm, and maintain control in high-stress situations.
- **Strengthen Coordination & Care:** Understand how to collaborate with medical, mental health, and recovery teams to support effective in-custody treatment and continuity.
- **Reduce Liability & Risk:** Explore the legal and ethical considerations that impact crisis response, improving your ability to act safely and within policy.
- **Access Ready-to-Use Tools:** Utilize downloadable workbooks, posters, assessments, and reference materials designed to support your role and your team's readiness.

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This course follows the **CARE framework** (Calm, Assess, Respond, Engage) to help correctional officers manage OUD-related crises with confidence and control.

1 Understand OUD & Co-occurring Conditions

Calm - Build awareness of OUD and related mental health conditions. Learn how to stay grounded and clear-headed when encountering individuals in crisis.

2 Recognizing & Responding to an OUD Crisis

Assess - Identify the signs of intoxication, distress, or withdrawal. Understand what to look for, what to avoid, and how to size up the situation safely.

3 Best Practices for Facility Collaboration

Respond - Take action with de-escalation strategies, harm reduction techniques, and coordinated care within the facility. Respond in a way to minimize harm and maximize safety.

4 Real-World Scenarios & Resource Utilization

Engage - Apply what you've learned through realistic scenarios. Practice engaging individuals with empathy while connecting them to the right support and resources.

Key Takeaways: Skills & Knowledge You'll Take into the Field

- **CARE-Based Crisis Response:** Apply the CARE framework to real-world correctional scenarios. Use proven techniques to stay grounded under pressure, read the situation accurately, respond with purpose, and engage individuals in ways that reduce harm and support recovery.
- **In-Facility Collaboration:** Learn how to work effectively with medical, mental health, and treatment teams inside the facility. Understand how consistent communication and teamwork across roles lead to safer environments, better behavioral outcomes, and improved care continuity.
- **Stronger Support Networks:** Gain insight into how to connect individuals with internal and external care providers. Build referral pathways that support in-custody treatment and ensure smoother transitions to community-based recovery resources after release.
- **Practical Tools & Resources:** Access ready-to-use tools, including assessments, worksheets, scenario guides, posters, and more. These materials help reinforce the training, support your response during real incidents, and keep your team aligned on best practices.
- **Legal & Ethical Awareness:** Develop a strong understanding of the legal responsibilities and ethical standards that guide crisis response in correctional settings. Learn how to minimize liability, reduce use-of-force risks, and ensure compliance with institutional policies and procedures.

Enroll Today

Prepare your team to respond confidently and collaboratively to opioid and mental health crises. In just four hours, this online, self-paced course will enhance safety, improve outcomes, and strengthen your community relationships. Contact us to learn how your training can be **100% fully funded!**

\$450 each - All participants receive a **Lake Michigan College** certificate on completion.