



SUPPORTING CLINICIANS & AGENCIES

SERVING YOUTH WITH SUBSTANCE USE BEHAVIORS & SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

The Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA) is a developmentally-appropriate behavioral treatment for youth and young adults 12 to 24 years old with substance use disorders developed by [Chestnut Health Systems](#).



A-CRA is endorsed by the [Office of Youth and Young Adult Services](#) (OYYAS), Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health as a preferred outpatient model for adolescent substance use treatment. A-CRA is also the recommended treatment intervention for youth with substance using behaviors who do not meet full diagnostic criteria for substance use disorder.

Agencies with adolescent outpatient services can have an A-CRA team trained and certified by the State at no cost.

A-CRA Training & Certification:

- A-CRA Training is 3 days
- Clinician and Supervisor (LICSW or LMHC) team attend training together
- Training and certification costs are covered by the OYYAS, including coaching calls and technical assistance

BSAS Funding:

- Agencies are eligible for reimbursement of A-CRA services not covered by insurance
- Agencies are eligible for reimbursement of A-CRA supervision, certification preparation, and Contingency management for A-CRA clients.

Statewide Learning Collaborative:

- Participate in quarterly statewide A-CRA Learning Collaborative with other A-CRA agencies.

Statewide Adolescent Addiction Internship Program:

- Agencies with a certified A-CRA team are eligible to accept second year graduate student interns for the Statewide Adolescent Addiction Internship program, includes: A-CRA training and certification; Guest lectures with nationally recognized substance use experts; and statewide field visits.

Department of Public Health/Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Licensing:

- Agency needs DPH Health Care Quality clinic license and can obtain DPH BSAS approval for substance use treatment via online application process. All A-CRA providers need to have a BSAS license.

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