

David Helton Training & Consulting, PLLC Presents A Training Workshop On  
**The Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (Paper Version\*)**



**DATE:** AUGUST 18th, 2026

**TIMES:** 8:30am - 12:00pm Central Time - ADMINISTRATION & SCORING SESSION

1:00pm - 4:30pm Central Time – CLINICAL INTERPRETATION SESSION

**LOCATION:** Live Online Webinar

**COST:** \$60.00 per person per session (\$120.00 per person for BOTH sessions)

**CEUS:** 3.5 substance addiction-related CEUS per morning or afternoon session (total 7.0 CEUs) available

**ABOUT THE WORKSHOP SESSIONS:**

**8:30am – 12:00pm CST - Morning Session: SASSI Administration & Scoring Training (The Basics)**

Goal: To provide background on the development of the SASSI, discuss proper/improper use of the SASSI, and provide basic instruction on how to administer the SASSI & manually score it by applying the Decision Rules.

**1:00pm – 4:30pm CST - Afternoon Session: SASSI Clinical Interpretation Training**

Goal: To provide in-depth training on clinical interpretation of individual SASSI sub-scales and their use in providing effective client feedback, education, referrals and treatment planning.

***\*YOU CAN ATTEND BOTH OF THE ABOVE SESSIONS OR JUST ONE. THIS TRAINING IS FOR THOSE WHO ARE USING OR WILL USE THE PAPER/PRINTED VERSION OF THE SASSI AND NOT THE ONLINE/WEB-BASED VERSION. PLEASE SCROLL TO THE END AND READ CAREFULLY ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PAPER VERSION TRAINING AND THE ONLINE/WEB-BASED VERSION TRAINING.\****

**Who Should Attend?**

This training is for you if you:

- Want to learn how to accurately screen individuals for potential substance use disorder (SUD) with an instrument that has a strong research basis and was designed specifically to help identify those with a potential SUD even if they are unable or unwilling to truthfully admit to behaviors symptomatic of the problem
- Have never used the SASSI or never been officially trained on the SASSI by a SASSI-certified instructor
- Have used the SASSI or had informal training in the past but want a refresher or formal training
- Have used older versions of the SASSI, but want to review and learn about the changes on the Adult SASSI-4 or Adolescent SASSI A-3

The training is appropriate for anyone who needs to screen for alcohol & drug related disorders. The SASSI is used nationwide by substance abuse counselors, educators, medical practitioners, criminal justice professionals, drug court personnel, employee assistance counselors, and therapists among others.

**ABOUT THE SASSI:**

The SASSI is a brief & easily administered psychological screening measure that helps you identify both adult & adolescents who may have a substance use disorder. The SASSI also provides information that is useful in treatment planning. The single page paper & pencil questionnaire (also available in computer and web-based formats) can be administered in individual or group settings.

With over 35 years in development & research, the SASSI has an empirically tested overall accuracy of 92% for the adult SASSI-4 & 89% for the adolescent SASSI- A3. There is also a Spanish version of the instrument. The SASSI includes subtle questions that have no apparent connection to substance use, allowing identification of individuals with alcohol & other drug problems even if they do not acknowledge substance misuse themselves.

# *the* S·A·S·S·I



## **ABOUT THE TRAINER:**

David Helton, LMSW, LCDC has worked in the field of substance abuse for 36 years as an Educator, Trainer, Case Manager, Clinician, Clinical Director, Addiction Services Division Director, Federal Grant Writer/Reviewer and independent contractor/consultant. In addition to being a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor (LCDC) and Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW), David also was “All But Dissertation” (ABD) for a PhD in Social Work. David has published two peer-reviewed journal articles and was awarded Who’s Who Among Students In American Colleges and Universities in 2003 by the University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work. In addition to training professionals on the Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI) for over 30 years, David has also done extensive training around Texas on substance abuse issues for Child Protective Service workers; has trained on the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) assessment instrument; and has taught a graduate social work course on Supervision at the University of Texas Arlington and courses on “Assessment and Case Management” and “Pharmacology of Addiction” at Weatherford College. David has also been a federal grant reviewer for the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for 25 years and has also reviewed for the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Education (DOE) and Department of Justice (DOJ) to name a few. David is currently the Clinical Director for the SASSI Institute and oversees the Institute’s Clinical Helpline.

**\*\*\*REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 8/17/2026 \*\*\***

To pay by check, please make check or money order payable to:

**David Helton Training and Consulting, PLLC,**

**Mail to: P.O. Box 134, Rockwall, Texas 75087**

**OR**

**If you wish to pay by major credit card, please email me at [david@dheltontraining.com](mailto:david@dheltontraining.com) or call me at 817-602-9254 to arrange it.**

**\*\*Agencies cannot be billed unless approved in advance\*\***



**\*\* Note Refund Policy:**

Once registered:

- 1) full refunds will only be given if the trainer is notified by a participant 7 or more days prior to the training by email or telephone of the participant's cancellation OR if the trainer cancels the training for any reason at anytime prior to the training.
- 2) If the registered participant notifies the trainer less than 7 days prior to the training that they are cancelling and will not attend the training, the participant will receive a refund of 50% of the training registration cost.
- 3) No refund is given if a participant registers for the training, does not show up on the day of the training and does not inform the trainer at all prior to the training day that they will not be able to attend.
- 4) If the attendee has a legitimate documented last minute emergency, the trainer reserves the right to decide on a case-by case basis whether a full refund may be warranted.
- 5) There is no refund or partial refund given for partial attendance.
- 6) CEUs for each session cannot be awarded if there was only partial attendance.
- 7) The instructor is not responsible for a participant's failed technology. Each participant will receive a link to the training and links to handouts and it is recommended that participants test their ability to connect and have video and audio capability before the training starts. A support phone number will be made available to participants that they can use to contact the webinar application vendor (GoTo Training) in the event they have trouble during the meeting/training webinar.

**\*NOTE ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PAPER VERSION SASSI TRAINING AND THE TRAINING FOR THE ONLINE/WEB VERSION:**

For the paper version training (this training), we will be providing instruction on how to manually score the instrument (among other things). In the training on the online/web version (NOT this training), we do NOT train on how to manually score the instrument because the online/web-based software automatically scores the instrument for you. Instead, we spend time instructing on how to set up clients in the online system and how to navigate various aspects of the online system (among other things). The SASSI is the same instrument in either system. The difference is in the way it is administered to the client: on paper where client uses a pen or pencil to complete or online where the client uses a computer or tablet to complete digitally. Either way, the SASSI must be purchased on paper or digitally to administer to clients.

If attending the paper version training (THIS training), most people will be able to learn the scoring procedure simply by listening to me explain it and viewing the PowerPoint slides illustrating it. However, if a participant wishes to try to follow along with the demonstration and actually practice doing the scoring while the instructor is doing it, it is recommended that the participant borrow or purchase the necessary items: a SASSI-4 plastic scoring key overlay, a SASSI scoring profile sheet (male and female), and a blank or previously answered/filled in SASSI 4 test. While there will be a link to print out the scoring profile sheet and the blank or filled in sample SASSI test, if the sample SASSI test isn't properly printed, it will be too small or too large for the plastic scoring key overlay to properly fit and work properly.

\*\*\*Call 817-602-9254 or email [david@dheltontraining.com](mailto:david@dheltontraining.com) for questions\*\*\*