The Addiction Counselor Education Program is a one year certificate program offered through Community Education at Westfield State University. Because the ACE program offers CEUs (continuing education units) instead of credits, students are NOT eligible for financial aid through FAFSA, which includes Pell Grants, Massachusetts State Scholarships & Grants, Federal Student Loans, and similar traditional financial aid monies. However, there are some programs that can assist students who meet their specific requirements. A partial listing follows:

• Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission-- works with disabled individuals to return them to the workforce. In Springfield – 413-736-7296.

• Division of Career Services, www.detma.org, see attached list of centers in your region.

• The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts offers scholarship monies from several private foundations. Application Deadlines are: January, June and October of each year. On-line Scholarship Applications are available in January of each year with a deadline of March 31. Visit www.communityfoundation.org for access to the on-line scholarship applications. Nearly $2 million is available in scholarships and loans.

• Local Banks can also provide student loans that cover the ACE program, a one-year certificate program. Inquire at your Bank.