

Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) Impact Report

2023-2024



About CAST



TYLER COUNCIL

*Director, Child
Advocacy Studies*

CAST prepares students to effectively respond to child maltreatment through real-world, interdisciplinary education. CAST courses develop critical skills in collaboration, investigation, trauma-informed care, and systems response, with deployment across a wide range of programs including social work, psychology, criminal justice, and theology.

National Reach

- **109 CAST Programs**
- Deployed in **31 States**
- **CAST has grown by 63%** in the last six years, including a **37% increase** from 2023-2024 alone.

Average enrollment per CAST course (2023-2024): 42 students

Average number of CAST graduates per institution: 17

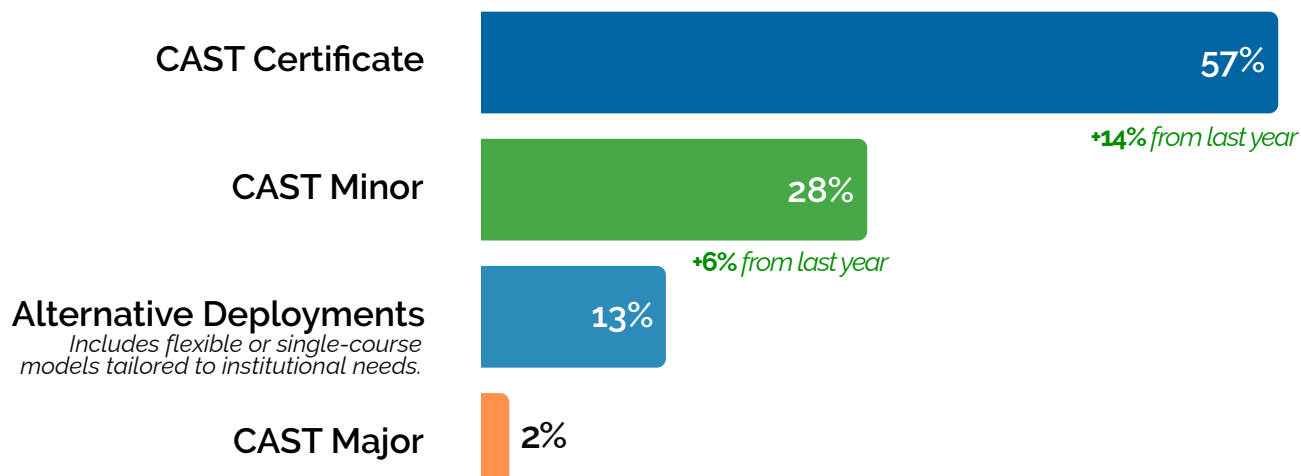
Delivery formats:

- Online: 40%
- In-person: 38.3%
- Hybrid: 21.7%

24% of institutions offer CAST in multiple formats, expanding accessibility for diverse learner needs.


Program Trends

Methods of Deployment




Academic Breakdown

 **38%** Social Work

 **27%** Psychology

 **8.1%** Theology *+59% from last year*

 **7.5%** Behavioral Sciences


 **5.4%** Family Science *+6% from last year*


 **5.4%** Law


 **5.4%** Criminal Justice *+125% from last year*

60% of CAST programs have cross-listed courses or made them easily available to students in other programs of study.

 **2.7%** Human Services

 **2.7%** Education

 **2.7%** Psychiatry

 **2.7%** Health Sciences

 **2.7%** CAST (Major)

 **2.7%** Public Administration

CAST Learner Profile

A large majority of CAST programs have integrated experiential learning into their coursework.



76%

use some form of experiential learning.

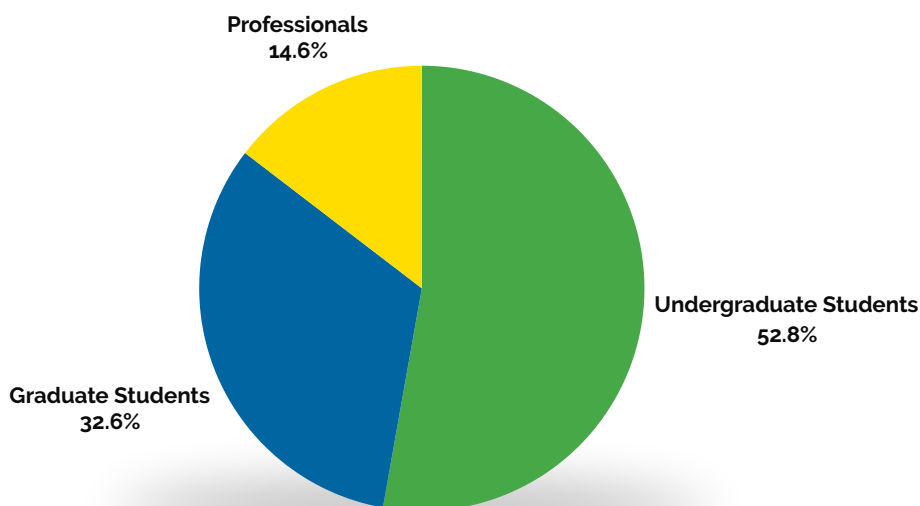


89%

of these use more than one form of experiential learning.

Of these, most programs use more than one method to enhance student engagement and competency.

CAST learners represent a wide range of educational stages:



30% of CAST programs offer education to two or more learner populations; 8% serve three or more groups.

CAST Program Strengths

CAST programs are building stronger collaborations, expanding enrollment, and opening new research opportunities across the country.



Collaboration: 82% of CAST programs report active partnerships with multidisciplinary team (MDT) agencies.

Growth: 73% of CAST programs have seen increased student enrollment since deploying the curriculum.

Research Advancement: 18% of CAST faculty cite that CAST has opened new research opportunities at their institutions.

Toolkit Effectiveness: 93% of educators describe the [CAST Toolkits](#) as “invaluable,” helping them launch, expand, and enhance instruction with minimal prep time.

Frontline Impact: Social Work



510

CAST completionists
each impacting



69

cases per year =



35,190

children impacted!

As of this report, CAST has been launched across 109 programs, with Social Work (SW) programs comprising approximately 30 of those deployments. In 2023–2024, an estimated 510 SW students completed CAST programming and entered the field. Assuming the average caseload for Social Workers in America is 69 cases per year and conservatively estimating one child per case, these 510 CAST-trained graduates have the potential to **impact a minimum of 35,190 children** through their casework.

This reflects a **9.1% increase** from last year's projection of 32,256 children—a strong testament to CAST's growing influence within the field of Social Work.