



## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OFFICE



### Department of Defense Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program (D-SAACP)

#### Continuing Education Overview

Continuing education ensures that Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Victim Advocates (VAs) receive the tools needed to prevent and respond to sexual assault. D-SAACP certified SARCs and SAPR VAs must complete 32 hours of DoD-approved continuing education every two years to renew their certification and continue serving victims of sexual assault. The 32 hours consist of two hours of ethics training and 30 hours of prevention and victim advocacy courses. A combination of online training sessions and in-person certified training courses can satisfy the requirement.



Certified SARCs and SAPR VAs are encouraged to seek DoD-approved training in emerging issues and victim-focused, trauma-informed care by taking courses that are related to prevention and response. Examples of course topics include crisis intervention, recovery, investigation, policy, reintegration, personal development and self-care, and violence prevention.

#### Continuing Education Limitations

D-SAACP continuing education guidance is intentionally broad to encourage varied training opportunities from any reputable, relevant military or civilian organization. There are few limitations, which include:

- A maximum of 12 hours of Service-specific training may be counted toward the continuing education requirement
- The 40-hour training course that is used to obtain an initial D-SAACP certification or courses unrelated to victim advocacy or prevention will not satisfy the requirement
- Activities that are not considered training or that are not educational in nature will not count toward the requirement
- Providing instruction for courses will not count toward the requirement

#### Documenting Continuing Education

All continuing education training must be documented by a certificate of completion or by using the DD Form 2950 as proof of attendance and course completion.

- Certificates and other documentation must include the course title, date, location, and number of hours spent in training
- Certificates and other documentation must be signed by the trainer or training coordinator
- For SARCs: the SARC supervisor or Service regional or major command SARC will acknowledge completion of training requirements in the renewal application letter of recommendation
- For SAPR VAs: the SARC, supervisor, or first person in the chain of command will acknowledge completion of training requirements in the renewal application letter of recommendation

#### Certification Renewal Reminders

- The Annual SAPR Virtual Learning Event can provide up to 8 CEUs
- SARCs and SAPR VAs should apply for D-SAACP renewal no earlier than the Fiscal Year quarter prior to certification expiration
- SARCs and SAPR VAs are not restricted to their respective Service's ethics training
- Applicants may contact the National Organization for Victim Advocacy (NOVA) for continuing education assistance with training courses, application completion, or additional information by calling 703-535-6621 or emailing [dsaacp-followup@trynova.org](mailto:dsaacp-followup@trynova.org)

For more information, please visit [sapr.mil](https://sapr.mil).

For confidential victim assistance, call or visit the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247 or [safehelpline.org](https://safehelpline.org).