

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR D-SAACP CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

Overview. Advocates must complete 32 hours of continuing education every two years following D-SAACP approval in order to renew the certification and continue serving victims of sexual assault.

- Advocates must take 2 hours of victim advocacy ethics training. Each Military Service has created ethics training that has been approved by the D-SAACP Review Committee. Advocates are not limited to their respective Service's ethics training.
- Advocates must take 30 hours of prevention and victim advocacy courses in topics relevant to their role as a SARC or SAPR VA. Training courses are not limited to sexual assault advocacy.
- Advocates should seek training in emerging issues and victim-focused, trauma-informed care by taking courses that are related to prevention and response. Such course topics include:
 - Crisis Intervention/Victim Advocacy
 - Recovery and Investigation
 - Policy
 - Reintegration
 - Personal Development/Self-Care
 - Violent Crime Prevention

Limitations. D-SAACP continuing education guidance is intentionally broad to encourage varied training opportunities from any reputable and relevant military or civilian organization, with only basic limitations.

- A maximum of 12 hours of Service-specific training (i.e., policy updates) may be counted toward the 32-hour requirement.
- The 40-hour training course an advocate used to obtain initial D-SAACP certification or courses unrelated to victim advocacy or prevention will not satisfy continuing education requirements.
- Activities that are not considered "training" or that are not educational in nature will not count toward D-SAACP continuing education requirements (i.e., participating in a run/walk event or volunteering at an awareness table or booth).
- Providing instruction for victim advocacy courses will also not qualify for continuing education.

Documentation. 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, and must be signed by the trainer or training coordinator.
- For a **SAPR VA**, the SARC, supervisor, or first person in the chain of command will acknowledge completion of training requirements in the renewal application letters of recommendation.
- For a **SARC**, the SARC supervisor or Service regional or major command SARC will acknowledge completion of training requirements in the renewal application letters of recommendation.

Renewal Application Submission. Advocates should apply for D-SAACP renewal no earlier than the FY Quarter prior to certification expiration. Applicants may contact NOVA for continuing education assistance with training courses, application completion or additional information. (Telephone: 703-535-6621/Email: dsaacp-followup@trynova.org)