DoD Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program

The Department of Defense (DoD) is committed to providing high quality response to sexual assault survivors. To do this, SAPRO established D-SAACP to standardize victim care and professionalize victim advocacy roles. D-SAACP gives Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) and SAPR Victim Advocates (SAPR VAs) the training and continuing education needed to help victims navigate complex, multi-faceted systems.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

D-SAACP is focused on developing the core knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to perform sexual assault victim advocacy. The certification program is comprised of a credentialing infrastructure for SARCs and SAPR VAs, a Competencies Framework, and training evaluation and oversight. D-SAACP exceeds the national victim advocacy standards.

PROGRAM GOALS

Help Our Victims
Help Our Victim Advocates
Help Our Units
Help Our Department

Full program details available at: www.trynova.org/credentialing/d-saacp-dod/

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

There are four different levels of certification, depending on a SARC or SAPR VA's level of experience. For all levels, SARCs and SAPR VAs must have 40 hours of NACP-approved training and 32 hours of continuing education every two years. SAPR personnel are credentialed when training requirements, letters of recommendation, and background check by supervisors and senior commanders have been approved and the applicant has signed a code of professional ethics.

BRIDGING MILITARY AND CIVILIAN LIFE

The bridge program with the National Advocate Credentialing Program (NACP) allows D-SAACP certified military advocates to transfer skills to civilian victim service organizations to continue providing care and services to survivors once they transition into civilian life.

By the Numbers:

Over 75,000 SARCs & SAPR VAs have been certified since the inception of the program in 2012

Over 25,000 SARCs & SAPR VAs are currently certified

Over 350 SARCs & SAPR VAs renewed at a higher D-SAACP level, demonstrating a minimum of 3,900 documented hours of increased experience, supervisor evaluations & case study observations

Over 200 Bridge Applications have been made since offering this option in 2015

SARCs and SAPR VAs Embody:

1. CHARACTER: Distinguished attributes defined by military values and professional code of ethics
2. COMPETENCY: Skills and abilities that are evaluated and validated externally
3. COMMITMENT: Dedication, internal policing of standards, peer correction

For more information, please visit sapr.mil; For confidential victim assistance, call or visit the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247 or safehelpline.org