



**Criteria and Application Procedure for
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH-APPROVED TRAINING AND EDUCATION
IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/SEXUAL VIOLENCE FOR
PHYSICIANS, NURSES, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, NURSING HOME
ADMINISTRATORS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, ALLIED MENTAL HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICE PROFESSIONALS**

Chapter 260 §9 of the Acts of 2014, *An Act Relative to Domestic Violence*, mandates additional training requirements for certain health professionals on the issues of domestic violence and sexual violence. Completion of approved training in domestic violence and sexual violence is now a criterion for licensure, registration or certification with each of the following boards of registration:

- Board of Registration in Medicine
- Board of Registration in Nursing
- Board of Registration of Physician Assistants
- Board of Nursing Home Administrators
- Board of Registration of Social Workers
- Board of Registration of Psychologists
- Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health & Human Services

DPH is interested in approving training programs to provide statutorily directed domestic and sexual violence training. A list of approved training programs will be posted on the DPH website. This document provides the criteria on which such approval will be based as well as details regarding the application process.

Criteria for DPH-Approved Domestic Violence (DV)/Sexual Violence (SV) Training

Applicant Requirements and Qualifications: All applicants must meet the following qualifications:

- Demonstrated experience and expertise in one or more of the following subject areas: working with survivors of SV/DV; addressing survivors of SV or DV in a healthcare setting; DV/SV assessment, reporting, and disclosures.
- Knowledge of common effects and impacts of DV and or SV on survivors.
- Familiarity with evidence-informed DV/SV assessment/screening tools.
- Understanding of MA mandated reporting laws and procedures.
- DPH particularly encourages applicants with demonstrated expertise with one or more high risk population including: LGBTQ, immigrant, young adults (18-24), culturally-specific communities or other high risk groups.

Learning Objectives for Proposed Training must include:

Participants will...

- Understand health impacts associated with the experience of domestic and sexual violence
- Be able to identify common physiological symptoms and emotional impacts of experiencing domestic violence and sexual violence
- Be able to identify and have an understanding of the immediate and long-term effects of domestic violence and sexual violence on survivors, including children who witness such abuse
- Be able to identify the pattern of abusive/victimizing behaviors used to maintain control including minimization and victim blaming
- Develop an understanding of and the ability to articulate DV/SV risk and protective factors
- Know how to provide and have an understanding of the importance of providing effective information, validation, and support to survivors
- Understand the importance of referring survivors to appropriate, community-based services
- Obtain a deeper understanding of resources available to survivors (including but not limited to hotlines, shelters, support groups, advocacy groups, and legal aid) and the local organizations that provide them.
- Understand that S/DV is a healthcare issue
- Have a general understanding of SV and DV prevention strategies

Training Content:

All training curricula must be based on the most up-to-date research and clinically/medically relevant best practices and contacts for local DV/SV service providers. All applicants must submit at least three references/citations used in the development of their training content. Trainings should include the following:

- Indicators of Abuse/Victimization
- Health Effects and Implications of Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence including:
 - Immediate injuries and long-term adverse outcomes (e.g., asthma, bladder and kidney infections, circulatory conditions, cardiovascular disease, gastrointestinal disorders, chronic pain, central nervous system disorders, joint disease, migraines, and headaches, etc.)
 - DV/SV Implications on Pregnancy and Pre-natal Care
 - Contraceptive Coercion
 - DV and or SV Best Practices in Follow-up Care
- Health Effects and Implications of Children Exposed to Domestic Violence including:
 - Child Exposure vs. Child Maltreatment
- The prevalence and dynamics of domestic violence and sexual violence - including within the following specified populations
 - People who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning
 - People who are homeless
 - People with physical and/or cognitive disabilities
 - People with behavioral health problems
 - Adolescents and young adults (18-24 for DV and ages 12-34 for rape and sexual assault)
 - People who are low income
 - People living in rural communities
 - Immigrants
 - People of color (especially black women)
 - Elders
- Perpetrators of DV/SV
 - identifying the pattern of abusive behaviors used to maintain power and control,
 - intentionality of the violence
 - minimization of abuse and victim blaming
 - risk to the victim created by joint counseling
- How to build effective community partnership & collaborations with community-based agencies

- DV and/or SV assessment and screening methods (if applicable, preferred emphasis on trauma-informed approaches e.g., trauma-informed universal education)
- DV and/or SV Disclosures & Reporting (including appropriate responses and documentation)

DPH strongly encourages applicants to offer Continued Education (CE) / Professional Development Points (PDP)/Continued Medical Education (CME)/and or Long-Term Care Education (LTCE) through Boards of Registration particularly for the following fields:

- Physicians (CME)
- Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHC)
- Social workers (LCSW, LCSW),
- Psychologists (APA)
- Licensed Educational Psychologists (LEP)
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT)
- Physician Assistants (CME)
- Nursing Home Administrators (NAB)
- Nurses (CME)
- Licensed Rehabilitation Counselors (LRC)

Application Procedure:

Those seeking approval of DV/SV focused training under these regulations must provide the following information and materials to the Department of Public Health:

- 1) Completed Cover sheet (see below)
- 2) Learning objectives for the training
- 3) Intended audience (s) for training (physicians, nurses, Licensed Mental Health Counselors, social workers, nursing home administrators, licensed rehabilitation counselors, etc.). Please describe how your training is tailored to your intended audience.
- 4) Length of Training
- 5) Please list prior relevant training/s experience
- 6) Anticipated fee associated with enrollment in training
- 7) How attendance and content mastery will be documented (providing certificates or other forms of documentation)
- 8) How participant's understanding /learning will be assessed (evaluation/testing)
- 9) Training materials to be used (agenda, presentation materials, handouts, media, etc.)
- 10) Resume or CV of all proposed trainers
- 11) Anticipated location(s)/geographic availability of training
- 12) Intention around CEU/CME's including CEU/CME type

If any of your submitted information and or content changes, a new set of learning objectives, training materials and information must be submitted to the Department for approval.

All materials should be submitted via email to the following address:

Elisabeth N. Wrenn
 Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Division
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health
 Email: Elisabeth.N.Wrenn@mass.gov

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault & Abuse Training Approval Application

Cover Sheet

1) Name of the Organization/s:

2) Contact Person:

3) Address:

4) Phone/Fax:

5) Email:

6) Title of Training:

7) Training Facilitator/s (Name, current position, and relevant experience)

Name:

Current Position:

Relevant Experience:

Name:

Current Position:

Relevant Experience:

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applicants will be contacted with any questions or with notification of approval status by DPH in a timely manner. Applicants should expect that the review process will take approximately 6-8 weeks. Please keep this in mind when preparing for your training.