

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Course Title: *California APS Consistency in Determining Findings Multi-Module VIRTUAL Skill-Building Training*

In this hands-on and engaging advanced training, participants receive the opportunity to build upon the foundations learned from the prerequisite eLearning and practice determining findings to create consistency throughout the state. This training is packed with scenarios to help participants work through the *California APS Standards for Consistency in Determining Findings Matrix* and better understand the findings standards set forth in the *Guiding Principles for Consistency in Determining Findings*. This virtual skill building training utilizes peer review, as well as individual critical thinking, in order to develop confidence in APS professionals when making a determination.

### Multi-Module Virtual Training:

- This course has been developed as a virtual training composed of three modules, including individual practice. Participants will first complete Module 1 in the virtual classroom, then, Module 2: Individual Practice on their own, and finally Module 3 in the virtual classroom. Each module is full of interaction, opportunities for critical thinking, and skill building.
- The following virtual instructional strategies are used throughout the course: Short lectures (lecturettes), interactive activities/exercises including breakout groups, chat box discussions, large group discussions, self-reflection, poll options, and individual practice.

**Course Requirements:** This virtual skill-building session was developed as a blended model, designed to be used to practice and reinforce the skills and information presented in the *CA Consistency in Determining Findings prerequisite eLearning* found at <https://theacademy.sdsu.edu/programs/apswi/advanced-training/>.

Completion of each component is required to receive course completion credit:

- ✓ Prerequisite eLearning
- ✓ Module 1 (Virtual Classroom)
  - ✓ Module 2 (Individual practice) on own
    - ✓ Record findings in on-line learning activity
- ✓ Module 3 (Virtual Classroom)

It is highly encouraged that participants have completed Modules #9 (Communication and Interviewing), #15 (Documentation and Report Writing) and #16 (Investigation First Steps) of the NAPSA Core Competency Curriculum prior to attending.

### Outcome Objectives for Participants:

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

1. Determine potential abuse by identifying the abuse indicators, using the *CA APS Standards for Consistency in Determining Findings Matrix*.
2. Critique if evidence meets the abuse type's legal components (Essential Defining Elements, interpreted from the Welfare & Institutions Code) during scenario based skill practice.
3. Construct a findings rational narrative that includes the components required for it to be descriptive and complete.

After this course, APS professionals will return to the field having the experience and information to determine findings in a consistent manner within their programs and throughout the state.

**Target Audience:** This training is intended for those who conduct investigations and determine case findings. However, to better ensure consistency when determining findings all levels of APS staff including, but not limited to line workers, supervisors, managers, and program support specialists are strongly encouraged to attend.