

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COURSE TITLE: ENHANCING YOUR INVESTIGATIVE SKILLS: INTERVIEWING ALLEGED PERPETRATORS MULTI-MODULE VIRTUAL TRAINING

Interviewing alleged perpetrators is a key part of conducting an APS investigation. Some APS professionals are highly skilled at such interviews while others find the task challenging and difficult. This interactive and challenging virtual training course is designed to advance the ability of APS professionals to effectively interview alleged perpetrators. It will include reminders about basic aspects of alleged perpetrator interviews such as anticipating dangers and enhancing safety, setting the tone for the interview, and rapport building as well as more advanced topics such as exploring defenses, addressing volatility, and creating an environment for disclosure and problem solving.

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. PowerPoint slides and role playing/demonstrations are used to stimulate discussion and skill development.

Course Requirements:

Because this is an advanced course to enhance skills, participants are encouraged to have completed Modules 8 (Dynamics of Abusive Relationships), 9 (Communication and Interviewing) 16 (Investigation First Steps) and 22 (Working with the Criminal Justice System) of the NAPSA Core Competency Curriculum found at <https://theacademy.sdsu.edu/programs/apswi/core-competency-areas/> . The course is also designed for APS professionals with investigative experience handling variety of types of abuse. *All participants are required to role play APS interviewers and alleged perpetrators, to model effective techniques for class members, and fully participate in all discussions and other activities.*

Completion of each module is required to receive course completion credit.

Participants will need access to a computer with video conferencing capability and be able to connect to the virtual platform being used to deliver this training. A headset or

earbuds with microphone and a video camera are highly encouraged. Participant Manual is a fillable PDF if using Adobe Acrobat. Participants are encouraged to either print a hard copy or ensure access to Adobe Acrobat to allow for highlighting, typing in comments and filling out worksheets.

Target Audience:

This course is designed for APS professionals, including Supervisors and Training Staff, who conduct interviews of alleged perpetrators, train staff on interviewing alleged perpetrators, and have experience conducting such interviews. Allied social services professionals who conduct interviews of alleged perpetrators may also benefit from course content. *The course is not designed for law enforcement professionals.*

Course Training Goal:

To enhance participants' skills and ability to effectively interview alleged perpetrators of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Outcome Objectives for Participants:

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

- Identify at least three goals an APS professional has when interviewing an A/P
- Develop a method for planning and organizing the interview
- Using a scenario, demonstrate the ability to identify potential justifications and defenses and develop questions to address them
- Identify and implement strategies to maintain control of an interview of an A/P in order to achieve its goals