

Screening for Decision-Making Ability When Working with APS Clients



APS professionals are tasked with ensuring people's rights to self-determination are respected while also working to keep the person safe and healthy. Assessing and determining if clients have the ability to make informed decisions about their situations and care is one of the greatest challenges faced by APS professionals. In this introductory training, participants will find opportunities to apply the fundamentals of screening for decision-making ability to their daily tasks in the field of APS work.

This training is *Module 17 of the NAPSA Core Competency Curriculum*. The purpose of this workshop is to assist Adult Protective Services professionals in identifying the factors that affect their client's decisional capacity, and to identify when to seek a professional evaluation.

Learning Objectives

After completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Define autonomy and decision-making incapacity
- Distinguish between decision-making capacity and decision-making ability
- Describe factors that may influence a client's decision-making ability
- Identify key questions and approaches used to screen client decision-making ability, including working with special populations.
- Identify implications for case planning as a result of a finding of limited decision-making capacity

Course Requirements

It is strongly recommended that participants have completed Module 1 (APS Overview), Module 2 (Ethics, Values and Cultural Responsiveness) and Module 9 (Communication and Interviewing) of the NAPSA Core Competency Curriculum prior to attending this training.

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VIRTUAL EVENTS

This 2-part course will be conducted remotely through **Zoom** and will be offered twice on the following dates:

Cohort 1:

Dates: June 21 (part 1) and June 22, 2022 (part 2), 2022

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Cohort 2:

Dates: June 29 (part 1) and June 30, 2022 (part 2), 2022

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm



REGISTRATION

The registration due date for this training is June 13, 2022.

**Zoom link will be sent with registration confirmation*



AUDIENCE

This course is designed for new APS professionals as well as Vulnerable Adult Abuse partners (e.g. conservatorship investigators, workers in the aging and disability networks, law enforcement) and staff who would like a refresher.

Meet the Trainer

Dina Bagues, MSW

Dina Bagues has worked for over 30 years in the field of social work in various capacities ranging from child welfare, mental health, health care, and geriatrics. She is currently employed with the Orange County Social Services Agency where she spent approximately fifteen years with APS as both a Social Worker and a Supervisor. During her time with APS, Dina served as the APS representative/consultant on various multi-disciplinary teams that focused on bringing attention to and finding interventions for elder and dependent adult abuse. Some of these included the Orange County Task Force on Hoarding, the Elder Abuse Forensic Center, the Financial Abuse Specialist Team, and Ageless Alliance.

Dina is currently an Administrative Manager I in the Policy and Quality Assurance program where she assists APS and In-Home Supportive Services with regulatory compliance and programmatic support. Dina holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in Social Work. She received the NAPSA Core Curriculum Certificate in 2021 and has a continued passion for working with older adults and advocating for their needs and safety.

When she isn't working, Dina loves to travel, hike, hang out with her poodle, and practice pickleball.

Virtual Training Protocol

- Download or update the most recent version of [Zoom](#)
- Always use a headset, microphone, and have camera on when possible
- Use "Computer Audio" for optimal experience
- Consider logging in 10 minutes early to troubleshoot tech challenges
- Limit distractions, prepare your workspace, find comfortable seating

Continuing Education

This course meets the qualifications for continuing education credits for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, and/or LEPs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Science for a total of 4 continuing credits. The Academy is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs and LEPs, Provider #91928. The Academy is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider # BRN CEP15014. The Academy maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Certificates will be available for download 5-7 business days after course completion. **There is no cost for CEs.** Click here for information on how to [obtain CE Certificates](#).



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