



External SANE/SAFE Didactic Education Review Policy

Illinois Attorney General Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

REVIEW DATE: As Needed

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the process for reviewing Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) didactic education documentation submitted by individuals requesting recognition of SANE or SAFE didactic education completed outside of the Illinois Attorney General's SANE Program. This review determines whether the didactic education meets Illinois Attorney General's SANE Program educational requirements and may be accepted toward completion of the didactic education component of the Illinois SANE/SAFE training process. Acceptance of didactic education represents only the didactic education component of the training process. Individuals must still successfully complete all required clinical training requirements before they may be recognized as a SANE/SAFE.

DIDACTIC TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

The Illinois Attorney General's SANE Program will review the didactic education completed outside of Illinois Attorney General's SANE Program for consistency with current SANE Education Guidelines and applicable Illinois SANE Program requirements. Educational documentation must include evidence of successful completion of one or more of the following program types:

- **Adult/Adolescent Recognition:** Completion of a minimum 40-hour Adult/Adolescent SANE didactic education program consistent with current SANE Education Guidelines. The course must include a minimum of 40 continuing nursing education contact hours from an accredited provider of nursing education, academic credit, or the national equivalent from an accredited educational institution.
- **Pediatric/Adolescent Recognition:** Completion of a minimum 40-hour Pediatric/Adolescent SANE didactic education program consistent with current SANE Education Guidelines. The course must include a minimum of 40 continuing nursing education contact hours from an accredited provider of nursing education, academic credit, or the national equivalent from an accredited educational institution.
- **Combined Adult/Adolescent and Pediatric Recognition:** Completion of a minimum 64-hour combined Adult/Adolescent and Pediatric SANE didactic education program consistent with current SANE Education Guidelines. The course must include a minimum of 64 continuing nursing education contact hours from an accredited provider of nursing education, academic credit, or the national equivalent from an accredited educational institution.

Additional documentation, including course agendas, outlines, syllabi, or similar educational documentation, may be requested to support review of educational content and determine equivalency with Illinois recognition requirements.

ILLINOIS-SPECIFIC SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION

Individuals who completed didactic education outside of Illinois must complete Illinois-specific supplemental education before being recognized as a SANE or SAFE in Illinois.

Illinois-specific supplemental education must include all of the following topics:

- Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act (SASETA)
- Overview of Illinois laws, regulations, and processes related to medical forensic examinations
- Illinois State Police Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit



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Illinois Attorney General Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program

- Illinois State Police documentation forms related to sexual assault
- Medical Forensic Services Sexual Assault Survivor Voucher
- CheckPoint system
- Crime Victims Compensation Program

Illinois-specific education may be completed through one or more educational sources, including education provided upon request by the Illinois Attorney General's SANE Program, an employer, a SANE program, a mentor/preceptor, or another educational source. Regardless of the educational source(s) used, applicants must complete education addressing all required Illinois-specific topics.

Documentation verifying completion of all required Illinois-specific supplemental education must be submitted using the Illinois-Specific Supplemental Education Attestation Form as part of the review process.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Documentation for review should be submitted in PDF format to SANE@ilag.gov with the subject heading: **External Didactic Training Approval Request**. The Illinois Attorney General's SANE Program will review submitted documentation and notify the individual if additional information, documentation, or education is needed to complete the review process. Individuals should expect to receive a response within three weeks of submission of a complete request.

ENDORSEMENT

The Illinois Attorney General's Office SANE Program does not endorse or recommend specific outside didactic training program vendors. It does, however, maintain a list of programs reviewed that have met the educational guidelines standards.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE

This policy is developed pursuant to Section 1 of the Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act (SASETA). 410 ILCS 70/15 (b)1.

“(1) To be qualified as an Adult/Adolescent or Pediatric/Adolescent Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner, a physician or physician assistant shall submit documentation of didactic and clinical training, and clinical experience, that meets or is substantially similar to the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines, established by the International Association of Forensic Nurses. Didactic and clinical training shall be documented in the form and manner prescribed by the Office of the Attorney General.

For purposes of this policy, the terms Qualified Medical Provider (QMP), Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE), Illinois State Police Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit shall have the meanings established in SASETA.