



International Association of Forensic Nurses

Memorandum

RE: Meeting the SANE Education Guidelines

DATE: March 30, 2011

Determining the quality and appropriateness of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner educational course is a task faced by potential participants and course planners alike. To ensure that the course you are planning or attending meets the IAFN *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines*, please visit the [IAFN Online Marketplace](#) to purchase your copy. The Education Guidelines outline the Content-Target Topics for both the Adult/Adolescent and Pediatric Course¹.

A question about the number of hours

The IAFN *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines* recommends the following classroom time options.

1. **Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Course for the Adult/Adolescent Patient**
Must be a minimum of 40 hours of coursework that yields 40 nursing contact hours/academic credit/national equivalent. Clinical components are completed *in addition* to the coursework and are not calculated as a part of the 40 hours.
2. **Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Course for the Pediatric/Adolescent Patient**
Must be a minimum of 40 hours of coursework that yields 40 nursing contact hours/academic credit/national equivalent. Clinical components are completed *in addition* to the coursework and are not calculated as a part of the 40 hours.
3. **Combination Course: Adult/Adolescent and Pediatric**
Must be a minimum of 64 hours of coursework that yields 64 nursing contact hours/academic credit/national equivalent. Clinical components are completed *in addition* to the coursework and are not calculated as a part of the 64 hours.

There is currently no criterion that specifies a time period for the completion of the 64 hour course nor a guideline on the number of hours to be spent on each target topic area. These are at the discretion of the course planner.

Taking a separate, stand-alone 24-hour pediatric course after completing an adult/adolescent course or being previously SANE-A® certified does not meet the IAFN *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines*. The combined course must be planned and presented as one unit to ensure that all content elements contained in IAFN's *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines* are covered.

Potential Impact on Certification

The Forensic Nursing Certification Board creates the eligibility criteria to sit for the SANE-A® and SANE-P® certification exam. Interested applicants should review the Candidate Handbook found at www.iafn.org/certification to ensure that the course they attend meets the eligibility criteria to sit for certification. If the course does not meet the required hours and curriculum content in the education guidelines, attendees will not meet the eligibility criteria to take the SANE-A® or SANE-P® board certification examinations.

[Information on how to Plan a SANE Training](#)

[Information on Selecting a SANE Training](#)

Any questions about the SANE Education Guidelines may be directed to Carey Goryl, CEO at careygoryl@iafn.org.

Any questions about the SANE-A® or SANE-P® certification may be directed to Marcia Tomaselli MSN, RN, Certification Coordinator at mtomaselli@iafn.org.

ⁱ A course is one that is planned and completed as one unit. Defined in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary a course is “an ordered process or succession: as a number of lectures or other matter dealing with a subject.”