New York State Department of Health
Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Training Program
Preceptor or Supervising Preceptor Qualifications

Criteria to serve as a preceptor or a supervising preceptor through a New York State Department of Health approved Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) training program:

1. A signed agreement to serve as a SAFE preceptor or supervising preceptor with a New York State certified SAFE training program (see sample preceptor agreement) and understands and accepts the requirements and responsibilities specified.
2. On staff, or has privileges at, an Article 28 hospital in New York State and has a signed letter from the institution ensuring the individual is appropriately skilled and qualified to serve as a SAFE preceptor and the institution agrees to allow the individual to serve as a preceptor.
3. Current license and registration to practice as a registered nurse, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or physician in New York State.
4. Performs within the scope of practice of the discipline in which s/he holds a license.
5. Minimum of one year, full-time clinical post-graduate experience in their clinical specialty.
6. Successfully completed at least a 40-hour didactic and clinical training course, preferably approved by the New York State Department of Health (DOH).
7. Successfully completed a competency-based preceptorship or has recognized expertise in performing sexual assault exams in accordance with OVAW’s ‘A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations Adults/Adolescents’.
8. Currently certified as a DOH-approved SAFE (preferably).

Responsibilities:

1. Provide direct, on-site observation (or if a supervising clinical preceptor, supervises the direct on-site observation) of the SAFE trainee conducting a sexual assault forensic exam in accordance with OVAW’s ‘A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations Adults/Adolescents’.
2. Provide the SAFE trainee with the opportunity to refine skills in performing pelvic exams, identifying injuries, using specialized equipment, collecting evidence and documenting injuries. In addition, provide opportunities for the SAFE trainee to understand the roles and responsibilities of the other people that interact with sexual assault survivors (e.g. representatives of a rape crisis program, and law enforcement agencies including the crime lab, district attorney’s office and court officials).
3. Verify the clinical competency of the SAFE trainee and submits written notice to the SAFE training program when satisfied that the individual can conduct a forensic exam in accordance with OVAW’s ‘A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations Adults/Adolescents’.
4. Communicate any issues or concerns regarding the student to the SAFE training program.
5. Maintain written records of the preceptorship, including a copy of the key competencies checklist.