

March 2026

CORE ADVOCATE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- Hilary Levine, Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Christine Heyen, Oregon Department of Justice
- Jenny Woodson, Oregon Department of Human Services

AGENDA

- Review of Mandates
 - ODOJ and ODHS
 - Oregon Privilege & Privilege Statutes
 - Privilege Certification
- Tools to Support Training
- Documentation & Paperwork



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
Human Services



Oregon Coalition
Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS **AND MANDATES**

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND MANDATES

[ORS 147.600](#)

[ORS 40.264](#)

[OAR 137-085-0080](#)

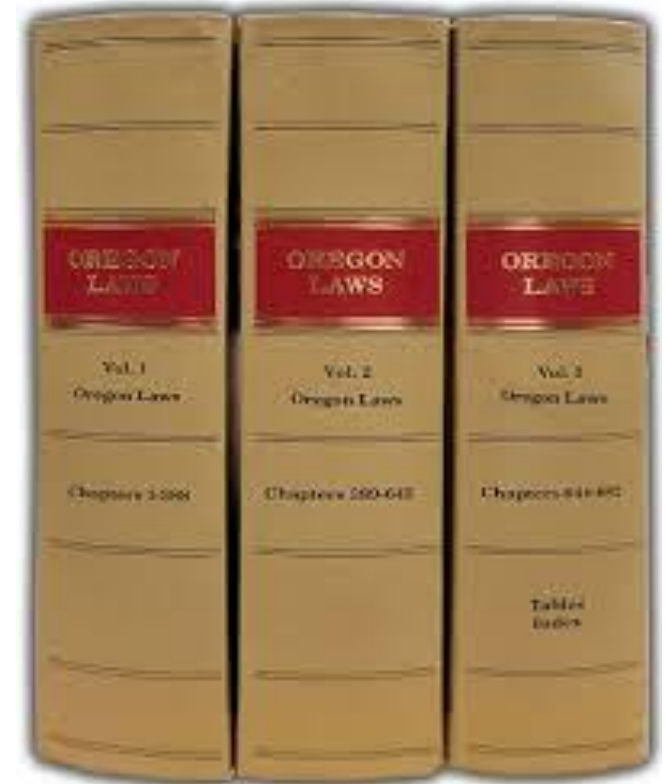
[ODOJ and ODHS Core Advocacy Training Guidance](#)

[ODOJ EGrants](#)

- E Grants: Organization Profile Staff Roster
- E Grants: Application and Award

OREGON PRIVILEGE STATUTES

- [ORS 40.264](#)
- **“Certified advocate”** means a person who:
- Has completed at least 40 hours of training in advocacy for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking, approved by the Attorney General by rule; **and**
- Is an employee or a volunteer of a qualified victim services program.



QUALIFIED VICTIMS SERVICES PROGRAM (QVSP)



QUALIFIED VICTIMS SERVICES PROGRAM (QVSP)

A nongovernmental, nonprofit, community-based program receiving moneys administered by the state Department of Human Services or the Oregon or United States Department of Justice, or a program administered by a tribal government, that offers safety planning, counseling, support or advocacy services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking; **OR**

QUALIFIED VICTIMS SERVICES PROGRAM (QVSP)

A sexual assault center, victim advocacy office, women's center, student affairs center, health center or other program providing safety planning, counseling, support or advocacy services to victims that is on the campus of or affiliated with a two- or four-year post-secondary institution that enrolls one or more students who receive an Oregon Opportunity Grant

ADVOCATE PRIVILEGE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

[OAR 137-085-0080](#)

40

Total hours of Initial Core Training

At least **2** Hours on Confidentiality and Privilege



CORE ADVOCACY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

At least **26 hours** of training must be on the subjects listed in the OAR

- Dynamics of domestic violence;
- Dynamics of sexual assault;
- Dynamics of stalking;
- Anti-oppression, anti-racism, cultural competency theory, and practice;
- Effects of trauma on survivors and family members;
- Adults molested as children;
- Effects of exposure to violence on children;

CORE ADVOCACY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

At least **26 hours** of training must be on the subjects listed in the OAR

- Dynamics of domestic violence abusers;
- Dynamics of sexual offenders;
- Vicarious traumatization and self-care;
- Advocacy and crisis response;
- Confidentiality and privilege;
- Advocacy skills;
- Working with system-based partners and other service providers

CORE ADVOCACY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

No less than **12 hours** on the following

- SANE exams,
- court accompaniment,
- medical exam accompaniment,
- working with law enforcement,
- support group facilitation,
- shelter intake,
- working with children,
- campus response,
- or other topics as approved by the Oregon Department of Justice

ADVOCATES COMING TO AGENCY THAT ARE ALREADY TRAINED OR WERE TRAINED BEFORE PASSAGE OF PRIVILEGE STATUTE

The privilege statute allows advocates who received substantially similar training prior to the passage of the bill October 1 of 2015 to take the 2-hour confidentiality and privilege training to be certified under the statute.

If an advocate comes to a QVSP in Oregon from another program either in state or out of the state the program should review their training documentation and certify that it meets the requirements. If the advocate does not have paperwork that allows the program to identify subject matter and time spent training to enough detail to prove they met the requirements the advocate should be re-trained.

All should watch Privilege and Confidentiality Video to update to current Oregon laws.

ORS 147.600

CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN VICTIM COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

Uses same definitions as privilege statute -
QVSP & Advocate

Requires same 40-hour training approved by
Attorney General by statute.

Echoes VAWA Confidentiality Provisions



TRAINING TOOLS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS

TOOLS THAT PROGRAMS HAVE REPORTED USING

From 32 response:

- 14 mentioned OCADSV
- 6 hosting their own in person training
- 13 did not mention how receiving training

TOOLS THAT COVER ALL SUBJECTS LISTED FOR THE 26-HOUR REQUIREMENT

- OCADSV Core Advocate Video Series & Study Guide
 - Including [2 Hour OLC/VRLC Privilege and Confidentiality Training Video](#)
- **Coming Soon! OCADSV Online Core Training**
 - Free to Member Programs, QVSPs, and Tribal Programs in Oregon
- [Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force](#)
 - Campus Advocate Online 40-hour Course
 - In Person Core Advocacy Training
- Sibling D/SV programs offer Core Training Around the State
- [ODOJ CVSSD Training Resources](#)



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES IN 26-HOUR SUBJECTS FOR SUPPLEMENT OR PUTTING TOGETHER YOUR OWN TRAINING

Training materials do not have to be recorded trainings or videos – you may use written materials and articles to supplement – however you should include discussion or follow up with a supervisor to ensure that the advocate is grasping the material and understands how it will be applied in their role.

- Recorded training on OCADSV's Coalition Manager Resource Page
- [WSCADV website](#)
- Other state coalition websites
 - Avoid confidentiality or state specific trainings.
- In person or virtual summits and conferences across the state including OCADSV's annual conference.

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Training materials do not have to be recorded trainings or videos – you may use written materials and articles to supplement – however you should include discussion or follow up with a supervisor to ensure that the advocate is grasping the material and understands how it will be applied in their role.

- [National Indigenous Women's Resource Center](#) - Advocacy Curriculum & Resources
- [YWCA of Portland](#) - In Person and Online Workshops
- [End Violence Against Woman International Webinar Library](#)
- [The Learning Community To End Violence](#)
- [OVC/OVW Required Training Can Count](#)
- Tribal State and Federal Summit hosted by CTUIR

HOW TO MEET THE **12-HOUR** REQUIREMENTS

The 12-hour category includes some training that can be done by shadowing. Please note that advocate privilege and OR confidentiality rules do not attach until the whole 40- hour training is complete so shadowing should be limited to non- confidential/ privileged communications.

Shelter Intakes

- Review your agencies intake screening process and forms.
- If you conduct intakes over the phone the trainee may shadow and watch the advocate, ask the questions, and debrief the process without confidential information.

SANE Exams, Medical Exam Accompaniment

- Tour of hospitals you serve, shadowing and debriefing without confidential details.

Support Groups

- Reviewing curriculum your program uses
- [Arizona Coalition Support Group Series on You Tube](#)

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Campus Response

- [SATF's Website](#)

Working with Law Enforcement

- Review [NSVRC SART Team Protocols](#) (including Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force)
- [Attend a D/SART meeting](#) to shadow if your program participates.
- Review your internal policies and procedures and answer questions.
- Build the trainees crisis response kit and explain what and why they carry each resource.
- [NSVRC SART Toolkit](#)

DOCUMENTATION AND PAPERWORK

WHO CERTIFIES THAT ADVOCATES HAVE MET PRIVILEGE REQUIREMENTS?



There is no “certifying body” for Advocate Privilege. Each program is responsible for making sure that their onboarding training for advocates meets the requirements in the statute and keeping documentation on file about how each staff member fulfilled the requirements.

WHAT PAPERWORK GOES TO ODOJ AND ODHS?

- Applicant Statement of Understanding Compliance with Advocate-Victim Privilege, Confidentiality, and Privacy Requirement
- Individual Statement of Understanding for Employees and Volunteers Compliance with Advocate-Victim Privilege, Confidentiality, and Privacy Requirement

WHERE TO FIND ODOJ STATEMENTS OF UNDERSTANDING

The screenshot shows the Oregon Department of Justice website. At the top, the text reads "OREGON DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE" and "Crime Victim and Survivor Services" with the tagline "Reducing the impact of crime on the lives of victims and survivors". A search bar is present with the text "Choose to search: Victims & Survivors or All DOJ". Below this is a navigation menu with categories: ATTORNEY GENERAL, CHILD SUPPORT, CONSUMER PROTECTION, CHARITIES, VICTIMS & SURVIVORS, and MEDIA. Under "VICTIMS & SURVIVORS", there are sub-links: Victims' Rights, Victims' Services, Resources, Training Opportunities, Grant Funds, For Grantees, Crime Victim Compensation, and Advisory Committees & Task Forces. A red arrow points to the "For Grantees" link. Below the navigation, the breadcrumb trail reads "DOJ Home / Victims & Survivors / For Grantees / Advocate Privilege and Confidentiality Requirements". The main content area is titled "Advocate Privilege and Confidentiality Requirements". A red arrow points to this title. The text below the title states: "Through work with the Victim Rights Law Center, Oregon Legal Aid, National Crime Victim Law Institute, the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Oregon Department of Human Services and others, CVSSD identified the following documents that provide guidance on advocate privilege and confidentiality. This list of documents is not exhaustive and may not reflect legislative changes that have occurred since publication." Below this text is a list of documents:

- **Individual Statement of Understanding for Employees and Volunteers – Compliance with Advocate-Victim Privilege, Confidentiality, and Privacy Requirements (DOC) »**
- **Applicant Statement of Understanding – Compliance with Advocate-Victim Privilege, Confidentiality, and Privacy Requirements (DOC) »**

WHERE TO UPLOAD ODOJ'S APPLICANT STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

Home Administration ▾ Searches ▾ Reports ▾

Joint-2025-
Funds)

A. Cover Page

B. Staff, Volunteers, and Training Requirements

C. Governing Body and Training Requirements

D. Meaningful Access to Effective Services

E. Sexual Assault Services

G. Advocate Privilege and Confidentiality

H. Administrative Self-Assessment

I. Financial Self-Assessment

J. Other Attachments

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

RFA - VOCA Specific Information

VOCA Subaward Handbook

VOCA Allowable Cost Guidance

G. Advocate Privilege and Confidentiality

CVSSD and ODHS have adopted and integrated the U.S. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the U.S. Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), and the U.S. Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) confidentiality protections for all CVSSD and ODHS grant funded organizations, programs and Tribal Nations serving domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. (34 USC § 12291(b), 42 USC 110 § 10406(c)(5))

The state of Oregon has created Advocate-Victim Privilege (ORS 40.264) for 'certified advocates' working for 'qualified victim services programs' and established basic confidentiality requirements for those programs and advocates (ORS 147.600).

Confidentiality requirements are applicable to all staff and volunteers who have access to survivors' information, or make decisions about identified survivors. Confidentiality requirements also apply to members of a non-profit organization's board of directors or to designated members of a Tribal Nation who have oversight of the domestic violence and sexual assault services.

Some organizations, programs, tribes or professions may have other confidentiality provisions and/or laws that apply to domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. Read guidance about Guidelines for Confidentiality Policies [here](#).

All applicants must have each staff member, volunteer, member of Board of Directors, or designated member of a Tribal Nation read and sign the *Statement of Understanding and Intent to Comply with Confidentiality and Privilege Requirements (for Employee, Volunteer and Board Members)* found [here](#). Signed copies of this form must be kept on file with the organization.

Rather than submitting multiple individual forms, **applicants must upload one complete and signed *Program Statement of Understanding and Intent to Comply with Confidentiality and Privilege Requirements (for Applicants)* found [here](#).**

Browse Drag Files Here

Statement of Understanding-Complia... 579.00 KB *

WHAT DOCUMENTATION SHOULD WE KEEP IN OUR FILES FOR ADVOCATE PRIVILEGE?

Programs should keep documentation on each advocate and how they were trained to meet the privilege requirements. You need more specificity than solely the tool that was used. Record the time, dates, and tools that were used to train on each subject.

Advocate: Name

- 40 Hour training completed February 8-17, 2026
- Using OCADSV E-Learning.



Advocate: Name

- Confidentiality and Privilege – VRLC and OLC training video completed February 8, 2026 at 9:00 to 11:00 am
- Dynamics of Sexual Assault
 - OCADSV E-Learning Intro to Sexual Violence Unit completed February 10, 2026 at 2:00 to 4:00 pm;
 - Oregon SATF – Campus Core SART Unit completed February 11, 2026 at 1:00 to 4:00 pm

