



Office of  
Victim Services



# OVS Victim Service Academy Trainings

Spring 2021 • April 7 – May 27

## Registration Guidelines

### General Information

To help address the underlying needs of crime victims, the New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS) and the Institute for Disaster Mental Health at SUNY New Paltz (IDMH) have partnered to offer Victim Service Academy Trainings to victim service professionals from OVS-funded organizations.

Each training cohort will focus on providing **entry-level victim advocates** with basic principles of trauma-informed care, including how to support others and themselves. Course topics will also focus on adapting to the needs of different victim populations, and on providing culturally competent care that takes into consideration the worldviews and lived experiences of those being served. Full Academy Training details, including a downloadable course catalog, can be found on the [OVS Victim Service Academy website](#).

### Registration Information

Registration for Victim Service Academy Trainings is **limited to entry-level victim advocates from OVS-funded organizations** and space is limited to **25 participants per 8-week cohort**. Registration is processed online via [ovs.ny.gov/academy](https://ovs.ny.gov/academy) and will be handled on a **first-come, first-served** basis. The fee for participation is **\$175.00** per registrant and will cover course materials and administrative expenses.

### Participant Requirements

Participants will attend eight, 90-minute virtual sessions and a one-day culmination event (in-person or virtual, depending on current New York State COVID-19 guidelines). All participants will attend six sessions on trauma-informed helping skills, self-care, and cultural competence, and will select two elective sessions focused on working with specific populations to attend. All sessions are interactive and require participants to have a working camera and microphone.

To encourage collaboration and continuing education and discussion, each week, a discussion question will be posted on the OVS members-only forum [VAP Connect](#). By registering for the OVS Victim Service Academy Training participants agree to be registered for this website.

### Cancellation Policy

**Academy Training cancellations will only be permitted until 7 business days prior to the first module of the cohort. Cancellations made within 7 days of the first module are non-refundable.** Substitutions are not allowed as registrants who have been wait-listed will be given preference in filling any cancellation vacancy.

### Special Requests

If anyone attending an OVS Victim Service Academy Training needs specific accommodations, this information must be noted during online registration in the *Special Requests* section. For more information or if you have questions about the registration process, please email [training@ovs.ny.gov](mailto:training@ovs.ny.gov) or call (518) 485-0637.