**Continuing Education Provider Standards**

1. **SASH Mission and Goals**

Mission Statement

The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting an integrative approach to sexual health research, education and intervention that addresses the full spectrum, from problematic attitudes and behaviors to the pursuit of fulfillment, freedom and pleasure.

SASH Goals

* Promote professional and public access to information and resources about sexual health and struggles.
* Offer professional credentialing in the clinical areas of sexual wellness, problematic sexual behavior, sexual and relationship trauma, and sexual offending.
* Encourage and disseminate research in the field of sexual health and problematic sexual behavior.
* Facilitate healthy communication and collaboration among sexual health clinicians and organizations with divergent perspectives.
* Provide educational opportunities through publications, conferences, and other media.
* Reduce stigmatization regarding sexuality.

1. **Approval of Continuing Education Programs and Providers**

Organizations or individuals may become a SASH Approved Continuing Education Provider.

In order to offer, advertise, and grant SASH continuing education credit, the Provider must either receive Approved Provider status from SASH, or receive Single Course approval from SASH to grant credit. All Approved Continuing Education Providers and Single Course Providers must comply with the requirements outlined in this SASH Continuing Education Provider Standards. The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH) retains the sole authority to determine if a provider meets the eligibility requirements to be granted provider status.

Each Provider offering SASH continuing education credit is solely responsible for submitting to the SASH CE Committee all required information and documentation demonstrating that the Provider and the Provider’s programs are in compliance with the Standards. Providers failing to demonstrate compliance with the Standards may be refused additional statuses, reviews, or may be terminated by SASH, as noncompliant programs and/or Providers.

The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH) retains the sole authority to determine if a provider meets the eligibility requirements to be granted provider status.

If granted, the applicant is authorized to offer SASH continuing education credit for the approved qualifying delivery formats for a duration of two-years.

The application periods are January 30 and July 30. Applications must be received 60 days prior to the program date for a full review by the SASH CE Committee.

Renewals periods for Approved Providers or Single Course Approved Programs are January 30 and July 30.

SASH requires all renewing Approved Providers and Single Course Approved Programs to submit renewal documents at the end of the two-year cycle for continued authorization as a SASH Continuing Education Approved Provider/Program.

1. Provider Types

There are two types of providers that can offer SASH Continuing Education Credit for approved programs.

1. Approved Provider – An Approved Provider can offer an unlimited number of courses during an approval period in any approved delivery format. (Live in-person event and/or live video conference event delivery format; or home study delivery format.) The Approved Provider ensures that the course meets all the SASH Continuing Education Provider Standard requirements and qualifies to offer SASH credit hours. SASH verifies qualified programs every 2 years and retains the right to request program content at any time during an approval cycle.
2. Single Course Provider- Single Course Providers can offer a single course an unlimited number of times during an approval period in a live event delivery format only (live in-person or live video conference). The approval is granted before the program is delivered. The course must meet all the SASH Continuing Education Provider Standard requirements related to content, presenter qualifications, and all other standards to be approved to offer SASH continuing education credit hours.
3. Event Delivery Types
4. Live Event Delivery: A well-executed live event delivered in person or via video conference that allows the participants to interact with the presenter in real time. A qualified program includes creation, development, planning, and advertising. Submit two different live programs that meet the SASH continuing education credit standards.
5. Home Study Delivery: A professionally developed on-demand video or audio program that includes a posttest assessment demonstrating the participant completed the program.
6. **Continuing Education Provider Requirements**

To qualify to provide SASH continuing education credit the following must be met:

* 1. Standard Compliance: The provider presents quality programs that qualify for credit in adherence to the SASH Continuing Education Standards.
  2. SASH Mission and Vision Compliance: The provider conducts training or programs that are in accord with the SASH Mission and Vision statements. Providers or programs may be terminated for cause if the training/program is not in accord with the SASH Mission and Vision.

SASH Mission Statement

The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting an integrative approach to sexual health research, education and intervention that addresses the full spectrum, from problematic attitudes and behaviors to the pursuit of fulfillment, freedom and pleasure.

SASH Vision Statement

SASH envisions a world where we can have an open, informed and inclusive conversation about sexual health without fear of stigma or shame.

* 1. Provider Information and Materials Compliance: The provider submits to SASH complete information and materials as required by SASH Continuing Education Standards to remain an approved provider or course. All fees are paid in full and on time. The provider shall ensure that at no time is a presenter or provider is selling a product or service as part of a SASH approved continuing education activity. Program materials should avoid the promotion of a product or service. All presenters and providers shall ensure a conflict of interest/disclosure statement is included in all programs offered for SASH Credential continuing education credit.
  2. Administration: The provider maintains the required administrative oversight to ensure compliance and quality as a SASH Continuing Education Provider or program.
     1. Designated Administrator: The applicant has a designated Administrator that serves as the primary contact person for all SASH continuing education program affairs.
     2. Designated SASH Credentialed Consultant/Administrator: The applicant has a designated SASH Credentialed Consultant/Administrator responsible for ensuring the quality of the program content and adherence to the SASH Continuing Education Standards related to presenter qualifications. There is a clear description of how the SASH Credentialed Consultant/Administrator contributes to the planning and how that individual works with the organization/committee to ensure quality content. The SASH Credentialed Consultant/Administrator may only provide guidance on programs in the SASH credential(s) area of focus in which certified (i.e., PSB, Sexual Wellness, Sexual Offending, Sexual and Relational Trauma).
     3. The Designated Administrator and the Designated SASH Credentialed Consultant/Administrator may be the same individual.
  3. Accommodations: The provider or program accommodates program participants including physical, visual and auditory disabilities and in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA).
  4. Diversity Compliance: The provider selects instructors and provides programs that respect cultural, individual and role differences. The provider or program does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, socioeconomic status and organizational membership, or any other basis prohibited by law. The provider and program respect and understand differences and establishes a learning environment that is open to all individuals. Providers must also, to the best of their ability, provide accommodation for individuals with sensory impairments.
  5. Original Material | Use | Copyright Compliance: The provider or program will ensure that all material used in the delivery or creation of the program avoids material use or copyright infringement and plagiarism. Authorizations or licensure requirements necessary for use must be obtained from the original owner/author of the material for inclusion in the program/course before review by SASH and presentation for SASH continuing education credit. It is the providers responsibility to ensure all material is free from infringement or plagiarism.
  6. Program Records Compliance: Program records will be maintained for a period of seven (7) years. A backup plan should be maintained for all required records. The following must be kept for each program offering SASH continuing education credit:
     1. A list of all events offered in the last 7 years in each approved delivery format which includes:
        1. Abstract
        2. Bio and Curriculum Vitaé of each presenter
        3. Objectives
        4. Assigned SASH Credential Category and awarded time allotment for each objective
        5. Evaluations
        6. Copy of Certificate of Attendance
        7. Attendance Record
        8. Marketing materials
        9. Disclosure slide(s)
        10. Grievances
        11. Response to grievances and evaluation suggestions
        12. Posttest (Home Study Deliver Format only)
  7. Grievance Policy Compliance: A grievance policy is maintained, published and easily accessible for all potential attendees and attendees of the program. The grievance policy details how complaints may be filed, contact information for the individual(s) responsible for resolving grievances, and the grievance process. The grievance policy must include contact information for the SASH CE Committee as an alternate contact for grievances that are not resolved at the program level. The cancellation and refund policy for registrants must also be published.
  8. Conflict of Interest/Disclosure Compliance: Selected presenter(s) for approved providers and single course programs must identify potential conflicts of interest in the planning, promotion, and delivery of the program. Disclosure must be made where personal, financial, or other interests could impair objectivity in the presentation development or delivery. All potential conflicts of interest must be disclosed in promotional materials and verbally or in writing (disclosure slide) at the beginning of the program. When no conflict of interest exists, this must also be identified verbally or in writing (disclosure slide) at the beginning of the program
  9. Termination of Approval: Providers failing to demonstrate compliance with the SASH Continuing Education Provider Standards may be refused additional statuses, reviews, or may be terminated for cause by SASH, as noncompliant programs and/or Providers. Providers are responsible for notifying participants.

1. **Program Content and Presenter Qualifications Requirements**

To qualify for SASH continuing education credit the presentation, course, or program must be meet the following content requirements:

* 1. SASH Credential Categories: The program content must directly relate to the SASH Credential Categories in Section 6 of these Standards. The SASH Credentialed Administrator/Consultant is responsible for ensuring that program content falls within the domain of their approved credential.
  2. Program Learning Objectives: The program learning objectives should (1) focus on the learner and describe what the learner will know or how it can be applied to their practice as a result of attending the program; (2) contain action verbs that describe measurable and observable outcomes; (3) be linked to the abstract and scholarly references; and (4) be listed on the promotional materials***.***
  3. Scholarly: The program content presents information that is utilizing current (within the last ten years) and relevant up to date academic research studies, peer reviewed scholarly references, and/or seminal works that are relevant for practicing professionals to gain knowledge and experience.
  4. Presenter Qualifications: The program presenter must qualify as a subject matter expert and possess the relevant education, experience, and training to present the program content. The submitted CV for presenters must show established expertise and include sufficient detail justifying expertise for program(s) including education, training and experience.

1. **Promotion and Advertising** 
   1. All program materials shall include the following to ensure that potential participants are informed prior to purchase of a registration or attendance at an approved program (please refer to the sample evaluation):
      1. Program registration requirements.
      2. Program content description and learning objectives.
      3. The name and qualifications/bio of each program presenter or author.
      4. The specific number and type of SASH Credential Category CE hours offered for completion of the program. For instance: this training applies to CPSBT criteria 1a-30 mins or 1b-30mins)
         1. Courses not approved will be noted
      5. The Provider contact information, including mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address, and Website address.
      6. SASH Approved Provider/Single Course approval statement

**Promotion and Advertising (cont.)**

* + 1. cost, cancellation, refund policy
    2. how to request accessibility accommodations
    3. commercial interest

1. **Program Evaluation Requirements**

Program evaluations must be offered to program participants; however, program evaluations are not required to be completed by the participants for the awarding of SASH continuing education credits. Participants should be *strongly* encouraged to complete program evaluations.

* 1. Program Evaluation A program evaluation with a rating scale is made available in print or electronically to program participants to edify the planners on program satisfaction/dissatisfaction. Collection of program evaluations is highly recommended as a function of awarding SASH continuing education credit.

The evaluation must contain the following items (please refer to the sample evaluation):

1. Date and title of the program
2. The program objectives and whether they were met.
3. The qualifications, knowledge and skills of the presenter.
4. Relevance of the program to increasing knowledge for professionals
5. Applicability to professional practice
6. Accommodations that were offered
7. Disclosure - Conflict of interest or commercial support (or lack thereof)
8. A comments section for program improvement and participant expectations.
   1. Evaluation Summary For audit purposes, a summary evaluation must be submitted when requested by SASH. The summary must describe how the planning and programming has been modified as a result of the evaluation comments and feedback.
   2. The summary must include:
      1. Date and title of the program
      2. Comments received
      3. Composite rating score for each item required by the Standards in 6a.
9. **SASH Credential Category Content Areas**

SASH maintains a standard that professionals need **core knowledge** about human sexuality and **specific skills training** in various topics to effectively work with a client. The program materials should indicate next to each learning objective of the program which credential category the objective meets as required in Section 4 of these Standards. For instance: this training applies to CPSBT criteria 1a-30 mins and 1b-30mins) Minimum 30-minute increments.

General Human Sexuality Core Knowledge Areas (GHS)

1. Sexual Development, Anatomy, Physiology, and Reproduction
   1. Sexual development across the lifespan from a biological, psychological, and social perspective
   2. Sexual and reproductive anatomy and physiology
   3. Sexual response cycle and models of sexual desire
   4. Theories explaining individual differences in sexuality
   5. Conception and childbirth
2. Sexual Health Challenges
   1. The influence of health and medical factors on sexuality (e.g., illness and infection, disability, mental health, medications, contraception and safer sex practices, fertility struggles, pregnancy and childbirth, pregnancy termination, sexually transmitted infection, physical injuries)
   2. Sexual functioning challenges and dysfunctions (e.g., discrepancy in partner desire, absence of desire, difficulties attaining or sustaining arousal, difficulties with sexual pain and penetration, and orgasm difficulties.)
   3. The interaction of substance use/abuse and sexuality

General Human Sexuality Core Knowledge Areas (GHS)-cont.

* 1. Sexually transmitted infections
  2. Sexual trauma (e.g., exploitation, abuse, harassment, and assault)
  3. Multiple theories of problematic sexual behavior

1. Sexual Identity and Erotic Expression
   1. Sexual orientation
   2. Gender identity and gender roles
   3. Diverse sexual expressions and lifestyles (e.g., consensual non-monogamy, tantra, BDSM)
   4. Social, economic, cultural, religious/spiritual, and familial factors influencing sexual behaviors and values
   5. The interaction of technology and sexuality
   6. Pleasure enhancement skills, techniques, and tools
2. Intimacy and Relationships
   1. Relationship dynamics and intimacy skills
   2. Sexual communication between partners
   3. Negotiating differences in sexual desire, interests, preferences, and values between partners
   4. Models of effective communication (e.g., verbal and non-verbal communication)
3. Professional Development
   1. Ethics
   2. Professional communication skills (concerning clients, colleagues, and students)
   3. History of the research, theory, and treatment concerning human sexuality
   4. Methods and principles of sexuality research
   5. Careers in sexual health

Problematic Sexual Behavior (CPSBT Requirement 1)

1. Problematic sexual behavior theory and its etiology
2. Assessment and diagnosis related to problematic sexual behaviors
3. Methods of clinical intervention for problematic sexual behaviors
4. Treatment for affected family members
5. Sexuality in diverse populations (e.g., sexual minorities, age, ethnicity, homelessness, substance use population) and differentiating problematic sexual behavior within diverse populations
6. Sexual offender evaluation and treatment
7. Limits of competence, ethics, legal concerns, and standards of care for treatment of problematic sexual behavior
8. Training in only one treatment methodology is not sufficient to meet these requirements. Only ten (10) hours in one method may count toward the total hours required.

Sexual Wellness (CSWT Requirement 1)

1. Theories and methods of sex therapy relating to sexual wellness and functioning
2. Assessment and diagnosis of psychosexual disorders
3. Relationship intervention for problems implicating sex and intimacy
4. Sex therapy intervention techniques:
5. Arousal disorders
6. Desire disorders
7. Orgasmic disorders
8. Paraphilic disorders
9. Pain and discomfort (e.g., Vaginismus, Dyspareunia)
10. Sexual orientation and identity
11. Medical and disability concerns and sexuality
12. Limits of competence, ethics, legal concerns, and standards of care for treatment of sexual wellness
13. Training in only one treatment methodology is not sufficient to meet these requirements. Only ten (10) hours in one method may count toward the total hours required.

Sexual and Relational Trauma (CSRTT Requirement 1)

1. Psychological, biological, emotional, and social experiences of survivors in the aftermath of trauma and posttraumatic symptoms and etiology
2. Theoretical treatment methods specifically tailored to sexual abuse or assault survivors
3. Theoretical treatment methods specifically tailored to sexual relational trauma (e.g., infidelity)
4. Sexual resilience (health, empowerment, safety, and fulfillment) in the aftermath of trauma
5. Limits of competence, ethics, legal concerns, and standards of care for sexual and relational trauma
6. Training in only one treatment methodology is not sufficient to meet these requirements. Only ten (10) hours in one method may count toward the total hours required

Sexual Offenders (CSOC Requirement 1)

1. Assessment:
   * 1. Actuarial risk assessment of sexual offenders
     2. Assessment of arousal patterns
     3. Polygraphy
2. Clinical evaluation of sexual offenders:
   1. Case conceptualization
   2. Differences between contact and non-contact offenders
   3. Differences between juvenile and adult offenders
   4. Effects associated with intellectual and developmental disabilities
   5. Identification of treatment factors
3. Diagnostic specific to sexual offending:
   1. Paraphilic disorders,
   2. Personality disorders,
   3. Psychopathy
4. Treatment of sexual offenders to include (at a minimum):
   1. Containment model
   2. Good lives model
   3. Impact on victims
   4. Impact on family members
   5. Chaperone training
5. The criminal justice system
6. Limits of competence, ethics, legal concerns, and standards of care for sex offender assessment and treatment.
7. Training in only one treatment methodology is not sufficient to meet these requirements. Only ten (10) hours in one method may count toward the total hours required.
8. **Granting Continuing Education Requirements**
   1. Approval to Offer Credit
      1. Approved Providers will receive a letter of approval with the Approved Provider number and the official SASH Continuing Education Approved Provider Statement. Once the letter is received the Approved Provider may begin offering credits in the approved delivery format.
      2. Single Course Approved Providers will receive a letter of approval for the single course with the Single Course Number and the official SASH Continuing Education Approved Single Course Statement. Once the letter is received the approved single course may be offered for credit in the approved delivery format. No changes may be made to the approved single course once approval has been granted.
      3. Changes to SASH Continuing Education Provider Standards SASH reserves the right to update these Standards as necessary and will notify Approved Providers and providers of Approved Single Course Programs of the changes by email, Postal Service mail, or any other communication methods to ensure compliance and notification.
   2. Live program CE credit: Credit is awarded for participants that attend entire live programs. Attendance must be verifiable and accurate. All marketing materials and certificates of completion must detail the number of hours and the specific SASH Credential Category awarded by completing the program. 1 hour equals 60 minutes. Programs may offer credit in 15-minute increments. No program may be less than 1 hour in duration.
   3. Home Study CE credit: Credit is awarded for participants that complete home study programs with a passing score of 75% on the program posttest. Posttest questions shall only be made up of 50% multiple choice and 50% true/false questions. Attendance must be verifiable and accurate. All marketing materials and certificates of completion must detail the number of hours and the specific SASH Credential Category awarded by completing the program. 1 hour equals 60 minutes. Programs may offer credit in 15-minute increments. No program may be less than 1 hour in duration.
   4. No credit shall be awarded for non-instructional time such as introductions that last longer than a few minutes or lunch breaks. Breaks should be calculated into the overall course length but are ineligible for credit this ensures that the minimum course duration is met.
   5. Certificates of Completion: A certificate of completion must be issued to each qualifying program participant upon the completion of each program offering SASH continuing education credit. Certificates of completion shall not be made available prior to the completion of the end of the program. The certificate must contain the following:
      1. Name and contact information of the provider
      2. Date and title of the program
      3. Event delivery type
      4. The name of the participant being awarded SASH continuing education credit
      5. The number of hours awarded specific to the SASH Credential Categories.
      6. The name and signature of the authorized representative of the provider
      7. The SASH Approved Provider number or Single Course Provider number.
      8. SASH Continuing Education approval statement.
9. **Single Course Approval and Compliance**
10. Application and Approval Requirements: Single Course Providers must satisfy all general and single course requirements of these standards. This includes all application requirements related to administration, program content, presenter qualifications, promotion, awarding of credit and record retention. Single course approval is limited to live in-person or live video conference delivery formats.
11. Approval for a single course program is limited to a duration of two (2) years following the approval date. Single course providers may not continue offering the program outside the two-year approval period without approval.
12. Single Course Approved Providers may apply to continue offering the course for an additional 2-years by applying sixty (60) days before the course termination date and during the approval period (January 30 and July 30). All applicable fees and materials must be submitted at the time of application. All changes to course content must be resubmitted with the application.
13. Single Course Approved Providers should be prepared to send the following materials for renewal of single course programs: Title of Program | Abstract | Bio of presenter | CV of presenter | Objectives (with Credential Criteria and time allotted designated for each) | Grievances (if any) | Copy of Evaluation | Evaluation Summary | Certificate of attendance | Advertising samples | Training Committee response to evaluations information (if any)
14. **Continued Compliance | Maintenance | Termination of Approved Provider Status**
15. It is the responsibility of the Approved Provider to meet SASH Continuing Education Standards, including all applicable requirements, agreements and instructions concerning SASH Continuing Education.
16. Renewals periods for Approved Providers choosing to renew are January 30 or July 30, based on the original date of application.  Providers may continue to provide courses pending renewal approval.
17. Every 2 years SASH verifies qualified programs. The Approved Provider will receive an audit/renewal notification requiring the submission of all required audit materials and fees by the stated deadline. Failure to submit the required materials and fees by the deadline will result in the Provider being placed on probationary status.  Failure to comply with requests for materials submission will result in termination of the Approved Provider status.
18. Approved Providers should be prepared to send the following audit materials: Title of Program | Abstract | Bio of presenter | CV of presenter | Objectives (with Credential Criteria and time allotted designated for each) | Grievances (if any) | Copy of Evaluation | Evaluation Summary | Certificate of attendance | Advertising samples | Training Committee response to evaluations information (if any)
19. Upon receipt of the complete audit materials, SASH will review the submitted materials. SASH may issue requests for clarification or correction of deficiencies consistent with the SASH Continuing Education Standards. Providers have 30 days to respond to requests.  Failure to comply will result in probationary status or termination.  SASH reserves the sole authority and discretion to audit Approved Providers courses and make requests or issue notices consistent with the SASH Continuing Education Standards, agreements or instructions.
20. **Approval Statement**

Promotional materials advertising SASH Credential Continuing Education credit must include the following approval statement based on the approval status of the provider/program

Approved Provider

*The [provider name] is approved by the Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH) to sponsor continuing education for [#CE hours]. [provider name] maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Programs that do not qualify for SASH credit are clearly identified. SASH Approved Provider #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

Single Course Approved Provider

*This program is approved by the Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH) for continuing education for [#CE hours]. [provider name] maintains responsibility for this program and its content. SASH Single Course Provider #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

1. **SASH Approved Provider Logo Use, Compliance and Agreement**
2. SASH Logo Use Compliance: All programs offering SASH Continuing Education credit must comply with the brand guidelines of The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH). Approved Providers and Single Course Approved Providers may choose to display the current SASH logo on print and electronic advertising and marketing materials to represent its status as an approved provider of SASH Continuing Education credit. No other image may be used to indicate credits have been or may be approved by SASH for continuing education credit.
3. Appearance: If used, the SASH logo must be used in its entirety without changes to color, size or content. The logo is comprised of two parts: the symbol/icon and the logotype. The vertical orientation may be used when the layout prohibits the standard orientation. The proper colors are Blue HEX #2e54a0, Gold HEX #fbab2a, Grey HEX #d1d3d4, on a white or transparent background.
   * + - 1. The logo must always stand on its own and may not be used in combination with other organizations, groups or programs or imply anything other than the status as an approved provider or approved single course of SASH Continuing Education credits.
         2. The logo must be used in conjunction with the approved statement from SASH indicating the status of the provider or single course as an applicant, or approved provider/course.
4. Termination: In the event the Provider or single course approval expires, or the Provider fails to re-apply for renewal, use of the SASH logo is otherwise terminated and must be removed from all marketing and promotional material in print and electronic formats. Expiration of the use of the SASH logo occurs at the end of a renewal period if the Approved Provider or single course provider fails to renew prior to the expiration date.