

COMMISSION FOR FORENSIC NURSING CERTIFICATION

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
(SANE-A® and SANE-P®)

2021

CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION HANDBOOK



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
**Forensic
Nurses**



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SANE CERTIFICATION EXAM APPLICATION LINK

ONLINE APPLICATION

<https://www.forensicnurses.org/page/CertExam>

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? SUGGESTIONS?

certification@ForensicNurses.org

Introduction

Congratulations on your decision to seek the credential of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner – Adult/Adolescent (SANE-A®) and/or Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner – Pediatric/Adolescent (SANE-P®).¹

Certification as a SANE-A or SANE-P demonstrates through objective validation to colleagues, clients, employers, and the public at-large that you have the knowledge and expertise required for this specialty practice—and that you possess an ongoing professional commitment to providing quality patient care. The International Association of Forensic Nurses (Association), through the Commission for Forensic Nursing Certification (CFNC), is honored to help you earn certification in this challenging and vital nursing specialty.

The mission of the CFNC is to ensure that the Association’s certification programs are psychometrically sound, technically accurate, and legally defensible. The Association established the CFNC to promote the highest standards of forensic nursing practice through the development, implementation, coordination, and evaluation of all aspects of the certification and certification renewal processes. The CFNC is the independent and autonomous governing body for the SANE-A and SANE-P certification examination programs. The CFNC has the sole authority for establishing policies regarding certification eligibility; development, scoring, and administration of the examinations; certification renewal requirements; and operations of the certification programs.

This handbook contains:

- Eligibility requirements for each exam;
- Guidelines for applying;
- Resources for preparing for each exam;
- What to expect when you go to the testing center; and
- What to expect after the exam.

Please review this handbook carefully before you apply. The information herein will help you submit a completed application, which enables the CFNC to process your application expeditiously. You are responsible for meeting the eligibility requirements before you apply and for submitting your application on time.

Questions? Please contact:

CFNC c/o International Association of Forensic Nurses
6755 Business Parkway, Ste 303
Elkridge, MD 21075
p 410.626.7805 ext 106
f 410.626.7804
certification@ForensicNurses.org
www.ForensicNurses.org

¹The International Association of Forensic Nurses holds the registered trademarks for the SANE-A® and SANE-P® designations. For readability, the registration marks appear in the text of this document only upon initial mention.

Applying for the Exam

SANE-A: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to sit for the SANE-A certification examination, you must:

1. Hold an active, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) in the United States or a US territory
OR
Hold an active, unrestricted license as a first-level general nurse (or the equivalent) in the country/jurisdiction of practice;²
AND
2. Have practiced nursing for a minimum of 2 years as an RN
OR
Have practiced nursing for a minimum of 2 years as a first-level general nurse (or the equivalent) in the country/jurisdiction of licensure;
AND
3. Have successfully completed an adult/adolescent sexual assault nurse examiner education program that grants a minimum of 40 hours of continuing nursing education contact hours from an accredited provider
OR
Have successfully completed an adult/adolescent sexual assault nurse examiner education program that comprises a minimum of 40 hours of academic coursework or the national equivalent from an accredited educational institution
OR
Have successfully completed a combined adult/adolescent/pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner education program that grants a minimum of 64 hours of continuing nursing education contact hours from an accredited provider
OR
Have successfully completed an adult/adolescent/pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner education program that comprises a minimum of 64 hours of academic coursework or the national equivalent from an accredited educational institution.
NOTE: All education programs must be from a single educational offering and follow the content outline contained in the most current edition of the IAFN *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines*;
AND
4. Have successfully completed a sexual assault nurse examiner clinical preceptorship as outlined in the most current edition of the IAFN *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines*;
AND
5. Have **practiced**³ as a sexual assault nurse examiner for a minimum of 300 hours within the past 3 years. At least 200 of those 300 hours must comprise SANE-related practice that is focused on the adult and/or adolescent patient populations.
NOTE: If the application is selected for audit, the applicant will be asked to submit documentation of completion of their SANE training program and SANE-related practice hours.

² Applicants who do not have a US RN license must have completed a post-secondary nursing education program that includes classroom instruction and clinical practice in medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, and psychiatric nursing. To confirm eligibility, these applicants may be asked to provide a transcript from their nursing education program.

³ Practice includes *any combination* of the following activities:

- Providing direct patient care as a SANE
- Taking on-call shifts to respond to patients as a SANE (even if not seeing a patient)
- Teaching/precepting SANEs
- Providing consultation on SANE issues/cases
- Participating in peer review of SANE cases.

SANE-P: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to sit for the SANE-P certification examination, you must:

1. Hold an active, unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) in the United States or a US territory
OR

Hold an active, unrestricted license as a first-level general nurse (or the equivalent) in the country/
jurisdiction of practice;⁴

AND

2. Have practiced nursing for a minimum of 3 years as an RN
OR

Have practiced nursing for a minimum of 3 years as a first-level general nurse (or the equivalent) in the
country/jurisdiction of licensure;

AND

3. Have successfully completed a pediatric/adolescent sexual assault nurse examiner education program that
grants a minimum of 40 hours of continuing nursing education contact hours from an accredited provider
OR

Have successfully completed a pediatric/adolescent sexual assault nurse examiner education program that
comprises a minimum of forty 40 hours of academic coursework or the national equivalent from an
accredited educational institution

OR

Have successfully completed a combined adult/adolescent/pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner
education program that grants a minimum of 64 hours of continuing nursing education contact hours from
an accredited provider

OR

Have successfully completed a combined adult/adolescent/pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner
education program that comprises a minimum of 64 hours of academic coursework or the national
equivalent from an accredited educational institution.

NOTE: All education programs must be from a single educational offering and follow the content outline contained in the
most current edition of the IAFN *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines*;

AND

4. Have successfully completed a sexual assault nurse examiner clinical preceptorship as outlined in the
most current edition of the IAFN *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Education Guidelines*;

NOTE: If the application is selected for audit, an applicant who holds the SANE-A credential may be asked to provide
proof of current SANE-A certification rather than documentation of clinical preceptorship in adolescent practice;

AND

5. Have **practiced**⁵ as a sexual assault nurse examiner for a minimum of 300 hours within the past 3 years. At
least 200 of those 300 hours must comprise SANE-related practice that is focused on the prepubertal
patient population.

NOTE: If the application is selected for audit, the applicant will be asked to submit documentation of completion of their
SANE training program and SANE-related practice hours.

⁴ Applicants who do not have a US RN license must have completed a post-secondary nursing education program that
includes classroom instruction and clinical practice in medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, and psychiatric nursing. To
confirm eligibility, these applicants may be asked to provide a transcript from their nursing education program.

⁵ Practice includes *any combination* of the following activities:

- Providing direct patient care as a SANE
- Taking on-call shifts to respond to patients as a SANE (even if not seeing a patient)
- Teaching/precepting SANEs
- Providing consultation on SANE issues/cases
- Participating in peer review of SANE cases.

DEADLINES AND FEE SCHEDULE

| | IAFN Member Application Fee | Non-Member Application Fee | Int'l* Member Application Fee | Int'l* Non-Member Application Fee |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| February 4, 2021: for the April 2021 Exam | \$275 | \$425 | \$350 | \$475 |
| July 8, 2021: for the September 2021 Exam | \$275 | \$425 | \$350 | \$475 |
| February 5–11/July 9–15: for the April and September 2021 Exams (includes \$150 late-filing fee) | \$425 | \$575 | \$500 | \$625 |

*International=residence outside the US or Canada

The application must be RECEIVED in the Association's home office by 11:59 PM ET on the deadline date. **No application will be accepted after the late-filing deadline.**

You may remit payment via credit card by paying online (preferred), personal check, money order, or certified check. If a check is returned for insufficient funds, you will be required to pay a \$45 returned-check fee. Following a returned check, any fees you remit must be by money order, certified check, or credit card.

REFUND POLICY

All application fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable to another applicant. In the event you are found ineligible to test, the application fee minus a processing fee of \$100 may be refunded upon request.

ONLINE APPLICATION

Plan to remit payment by *credit card* when you [apply](#) at IAFN's Take the Exam web page.

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

- Apply for the exam using the name on the government-issued photo identification that you will use to be admitted to the testing center. **If the first and last names on your application do not exactly match the name on your government-issued identification, you will not be permitted to test.** The name you provide will also be used on any certificates.
- Complete all sections/fields of the application. If your application is incomplete, you will be notified once via email and/or phone about what you must do to complete the application and the time frame in which to complete it. Only completed applications will be processed.
- **Include a valid, *personal (not work)* email address to ensure confidential communication** about your certification exam status and receipt of important exam information from the scantron.com domain.

- If you are applying to take both the SANE-A and SANE-P certification examinations during the same testing window, you must submit a separate application for each exam.

After submitting your application, you will receive a notice confirming that your application has been submitted. Please check your inbox and spam box for this notice.

AUDIT PROCESS

To maintain the credibility and integrity of the certification process, the CFNC reserves the right to verify any information provided on your application. Requests for verification may be made prior to determination of your eligibility to sit for the exam.

To ensure that all requirements are met, the CFNC audits 10% of the certification exam applications. Every 10th exam application that is submitted is selected for random audit; however, applications that are submitted with missing/incomplete/possibly inaccurate information may prompt a targeted audit. In the event the CFNC becomes aware that an application may contain information suggesting ineligibility, it may conduct a targeted audit at any point in the certification examination review application process.

If your application is selected for audit, you will receive an email with instructions and a deadline for submitting documentation to verify your SANE training program and your SANE-related practice hours.

NOTICE OF INELIGIBILITY TO TEST

In the event your application does not meet the exam eligibility requirements, you will be contacted by phone and receive a follow-up confidential email with an attached letter, which outlines the reason(s), refund policy, and appeals process.

Scheduling the Exam

SCHEDULING PROCESS

To access the list of testing center sites, please visit [Test Site Cities](https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/):
<https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/>

Approximately 30 days before the start of the testing window, Scantron will email a notice to schedule (NTS) your examination to the email address you listed on your exam application. **Ensure in advance that your email program will accept emails from the Scantron.com domain.**

On or soon after **March 1 (April exam)** and on or soon after **August 1 (September exam)**, check IAFN's [SANE Certification Central](#) web page. IAFN posts the date that Scantron sends your NTS email.

Your NTS email will contain the phrase "Notice to Schedule" and will be sent from candidatesupport@Scantron.com. Be sure to check your inbox and spam box for this email. If you cannot locate the email, promptly contact: certification@Forensicnurses.org

The NTS email will provide a URL address and a username/password for you to access Scantron's online scheduling system. Once you log on, you will be asked to submit a preferred testing date and location from the list of available dates and sites. **You are permitted to schedule your exam only during the designated 30-day testing window.**

You must log on and submit your scheduling request at least 2 days prior to your preferred testing date. Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so seating will become more limited near the middle and end of the testing window.

If you fail to schedule your exam at least 2 days before the end of the testing window and are unable to test, you will forfeit your examination application fees.

After approving your preferred test date and location, Scantron will send you an email confirmation notice that provides the exact test date, time, and location. If you do not receive this confirmation within 24 hours of scheduling your exam, call Scantron immediately.

You must print your email confirmation notice and bring it with you to the testing center.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable accommodations provide candidates who speak English as a second language (ESL) and/or have a disability a fair and equal opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skill in the essential functions that the is designed to measure; these accommodations do not include steps that fundamentally alter the purpose or nature of the examination.

Reasonable accommodations generally are provided for candidates who have ESL status and/or a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits that person in one or more major life activities (e.g., walking, talking, hearing, performing manual tasks); have a record of such physical or mental impairment; or are regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

Reasonable accommodations are based on the individual's specific request, ESL status and/or disability, submitted documentation, and the appropriateness of the request. To obtain the form to apply for reasonable accommodations, contact: certification@forensicnurses.org

You must submit a written request to the Association at least 45 days prior to the testing date. Your request shall include documentation from an appropriate professional (on the professional's letterhead), which identifies your status and/or diagnosis of disability as well as the specific recommendations for accommodations.

RESCHEDULING

Using the online scheduling system, you may reschedule a testing session up to 2 business days *in advance* of your scheduled testing appointment. Rescheduling requests are not accepted less than 2 days prior to your scheduled testing appointment. You may reschedule for later in the testing window (time/availability permitting).

To reschedule, Scantron charges a nonrefundable fee for all candidates, which you must pay by credit card at the time of the request.

If you fail to appear for your testing appointment or you do not reschedule your exam at least 2 business days in advance of your scheduled testing appointment, you will forfeit your examination application fees.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations of applications are not accepted after the final application deadline.

Preparing for the Exam

PREPARING FOR COMPUTER-BASED TESTING

To familiarize yourself with the computer-based testing, Scantron offers a free, online tutorial of [testing instructions](#) and a [sample test](https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/).

You may access the online sample test and tutorial anytime, anywhere, through any computer that has Internet access. The sample test is not intended to be a review of the SANE-A or SANE-P examination content.

PREPARING FOR THE EXAM CONTENT

A certification examination is based on an explicit set of competency statements that are determined through a job analysis study of current practitioners. The competency statements in the current examinations are based on job analysis studies that the Association completed for the SANE-A and SANE-P exams in 2017–2018.

The competency statements are organized into different content areas or domains, each with a percentage weight. The percentage reflects how much of that content area will be included on every exam.

Each SANE examination contains up to 200 questions (150 scored and up to 50 unscored or pretest items) written within the framework of the nursing process. You will be permitted 4 hours to complete the SANE-A or SANE-P examination.

To prepare for the exam content, you are strongly encouraged to:

- Study the test content outline for your intended examination
- Familiarize yourself with the resources on the reference list for your intended exam
- Consider enrolling in or embarking on a SANE-A or a SANE-P preparation course or study program that meets your learning needs
- View live and/or archived nursing professional education (e.g., webinars) addressing SANE content
- Access and test yourself with practice items
- Review [test-taking tips](https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/)
- Practice techniques for [managing test anxiety](https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/) if you find this is an issue for you:

For more information, see IAFN's [Study for the SANE Exam](#) web page.

SANE-A® Test Content Outline

| Domain 1: Assessment and Documentation 32% | |
|---|--|
| 0101 | Identify urgent/emergent medical problems (e.g., strangulation, head injury, wounds, drug/alcohol intoxication) that require medical treatment prior to and/or during the medical forensic examination. |
| 0102 | Assess safety needs of the patient (e.g., bed rails, medical equipment, environment, patient identity) and implement safety measures during the SANE evaluation. |
| 0103 | Identify the acute and long-term emotional and psychological response (e.g., neurobiological, suicidal ideation, post-traumatic stress disorder) to sexual assault. |
| 0104 | Obtain and document the health history (e.g., medical, psychosocial, developmental). |
| 0105 | Obtain and document the sexual assault history. |
| 0106 | Assess the patient for indicators of alcohol- and/or drug-facilitated sexual assault. |
| 0107 | Assess the patient's level of development (e.g., physical, psychological, cognitive). |
| 0108 | Assess the patient for sexually transmitted infections and/or exposure risk. |
| 0109 | Assess the patient for pregnancy and/or pregnancy risk. |
| 0110 | Assess the patient's immunization status (e.g., tetanus, hepatitis B, HPV). |
| 0111 | Conduct a comprehensive head-to-toe physical assessment and document findings (e.g., narrative, diagrammatic). |
| 0112 | Assess orifices involved in the sexual assault for trauma by using appropriate methods or adjuncts (e.g., speculum, anoscope, magnification, toluidine blue dye, catheter technique). |
| 0113 | Distinguish trauma from normal and abnormal physical findings. |
| 0114 | Complete photographic documentation by using principles of forensic photography. |
| Domain 2: Evidence Collection 18% | |
| 0201 | Identify items for evidence collection based on the circumstances or events (e.g., time frame, orifices involved, body contact). |
| 0202 | Collect biological and trace specimens from involved orifices and other body areas of contact by using appropriate methods or adjuncts (e.g., alternate light sources, toxicology kits, sexual assault evidence kits). |
| 0203 | Collect reference samples (e.g., blood, buccal swab) for the patient's DNA. |
| 0204 | Preserve forensic sample integrity (e.g., knowledge of biological degradation, chain of custody). |
| 0205 | Document clothing and biological and trace specimens collected. |
| Domain 3: Patient Management 28% | |
| 0301 | Utilize appropriate communication resources (e.g., interpreters, technology, translation services) based on the patient's needs. |
| 0302 | Provide crisis intervention to the patient and family members/caregivers. |
| 0303 | Provide the patient with developmentally appropriate control and consent. |
| 0304 | Conduct the medical forensic examination by using trauma-informed care principles. |
| 0305 | Modify and document examination techniques (e.g., positioning) based on the patient's specific needs (e.g., variations in anatomy, physical/cognitive impairments). |
| 0306 | Educate the patient about transmission of sexually transmitted infections. |
| 0307 | Educate the patient about testing, prophylaxis, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections. |
| 0308 | Administer testing, prophylaxis, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections as indicated. |
| 0309 | Educate the patient on pregnancy risks and emergency contraception. |
| 0310 | Administer pregnancy testing and emergency contraception as indicated. |
| 0311 | Educate the patient about actions and side effects of prophylactic medications. |

| | |
|--|--|
| 0312 | Consult with or refer to other healthcare providers regarding medical problems identified. |
| 0313 | Refer the patient for follow-up counseling, support, and/or advocacy services. |
| 0314 | Create discharge and safety plans (i.e., intimate partner violence). |
| 0315 | Conduct follow-up based on medical forensic needs (e.g., wound healing, photography, lab results). |
| Domain 4: Legal Issues and the Judicial Process 10% | |
| 0401 | Adhere to applicable mandatory reporting requirements as appropriate (e.g., vulnerable persons, injuries, reportable infections, minors). |
| 0402 | Respond to subpoenas and court orders for judicial proceedings (e.g., civil, criminal, administrative). |
| 0403 | Testify as a fact or expert witness for the prosecution or defense. |
| 0404 | Provide ethical and professional testimony (e.g., objective, evidence-based, accurate). |
| Domain 5: Professional Practice 12% | |
| 0501 | Implement safety measures (e.g., physical, environmental, equipment) for the safety of the SANE during and after the medical forensic examination. |
| 0502 | Implement principles of confidentiality (e.g., privacy laws, release of information, restricted vs. nonrestricted reporting). |
| 0503 | Implement principles of informed consent and informed refusal. |
| 0504 | Evaluate and utilize current evidence-based practice (e.g., research, professional development, guidelines). |
| 0505 | Participate in peer review, case review, and quality improvement processes. |
| 0506 | Implement strategies to collaborate with interprofessional team members. |
| 0507 | Identify risks, prevention, and interventions for vicarious trauma. |
| 0508 | Incorporate ethical principles in professional practice (i.e., autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice). |

SANE-A® Reference List

This reference list contains recommended resources to assist you in preparing for the certification examination. This list is not all-inclusive; other references may help you to study, including information in the *Journal of Forensic Nursing* and other peer-reviewed journals.

Alexander, R., & Harper, N. S. (2019). *Medical response to child sexual abuse: A resource for professionals working with children and families* (2nd ed.). St. Louis, MO: STM Learning Inc.

American Nurses Association & International Association of Forensic Nurses. (2017). *Forensic nursing: Scope and standards of practice* (2nd ed.). Silver Spring, MD: Nursesbooks.org.

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. (2016). [Updated guidelines for antiretroviral postexposure prophylaxis after sexual, injection drug use, or other nonoccupational exposure to HIV—United States, 2016](https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/programresources/cdc-hiv-npep-guidelines.pdf). Atlanta, GA: CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/programresources/cdc-hiv-npep-guidelines.pdf>

Hammer, R. M., Moynihan, B., & Pagliaro, E. M. (2013). *Forensic nursing: A handbook for practice* (2nd ed.). Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning, LLC.

International Association of Forensic Nurses. (2013). *Atlas of sexual violence*. T. Henry (Ed.). St. Louis, MO: Mosby.

International Association of Forensic Nurses. (2018). [Sexual assault nurse examiner \(SANE\) education guidelines](https://www.forensicnurses.org/page/EducationGuidelinesAccess). Elkridge, MD: IAFN. <https://www.forensicnurses.org/page/EducationGuidelinesAccess>

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- World Health Organization (WHO). (2003). *Guidelines for the management of sexually transmitted infections*. Geneva, Switzerland: WHO Press. http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42782/1/9241546263_eng.pdf
- World Health Organization (WHO). (2017). *Policy brief: Consolidated guidelines on HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for key populations--2016 update*. Geneva, Switzerland: WHO Press. <http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/258967/1/WHO-HIV-2017.05-eng.pdf?ua=1>
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- World Health Organization (WHO). (2016). *WHO guidelines for the treatment of Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Geneva, Switzerland: WHO Press. <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/246114/9789241549691-eng.pdf?sequence=1>
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9/10/12, 11/25/15, 1/2/19 Revised—TH, MD; 6/19/13, 10/24/13, 12/31/16, 12/31/17, 12/31/19, 12/31/20 Updated—KM

SANE-P® Test Content Outline

| Domain 1: Assessment and Documentation 34% | |
|--|--|
| 0101 | Identify urgent/emergent medical problems (e.g., strangulation, head injury, wounds, drug/alcohol intoxication) that require medical treatment prior to and/or during the medical forensic examination. |
| 0102 | Assess safety needs of the patient (e.g., bed rails, medical equipment, environment, patient identity) and implement safety measures during the SANE evaluation. |
| 0103 | Identify the acute and long-term emotional and psychological response (e.g., neurobiological, suicidal ideation, post-traumatic stress disorder) to sexual assault/abuse. |
| 0104 | Obtain and document the health history (e.g., medical, psychosocial, developmental, behavioral). |
| 0105 | Obtain and document the sexual assault/abuse history. |
| 0106 | Assess the patient for indicators of alcohol- and/or drug-facilitated sexual assault/abuse. |
| 0107 | Assess the patient's level of development (e.g., physical, psychological, cognitive, sexual maturation). |
| 0108 | Assess the patient for sexually transmitted infections and/or exposure risk. |
| 0109 | Assess the patient for pregnancy and/or pregnancy risk. |
| 0110 | Assess the patient's immunization status (e.g., tetanus, hepatitis B, HPV). |
| 0111 | Conduct a comprehensive head-to-toe physical assessment and document findings (e.g., narrative, diagrammatic). |
| 0112 | Assess orifices involved in the sexual assault/abuse for trauma by using appropriate methods or adjuncts (e.g., speculum, anoscope, magnification, toluidine blue dye, catheter technique, positioning). |
| 0113 | Distinguish trauma from normal and abnormal physical findings (e.g., normal variances, mimics of abuse). |
| 0114 | Complete photographic documentation by using principles of forensic photography. |
| Domain 2: Evidence Collection 14% | |
| 0201 | Identify items for evidence collection based on the circumstances or events (e.g., time frame, orifices involved, body contact). |
| 0202 | Collect biological and trace specimens from involved orifices and other body areas of contact by using appropriate methods or adjuncts (e.g., alternate light sources, toxicology kits, sexual assault evidence kits). |
| 0203 | Collect reference samples (e.g., blood, buccal swab) for the patient's DNA. |
| 0204 | Preserve forensic sample integrity (e.g., knowledge of biological degradation, chain of custody) |
| 0205 | Document clothing and biological and trace specimens collected. |
| Domain 3: Patient Management 30% | |
| 0301 | Utilize appropriate communication resources (e.g., interpreters, technology, translation services) based on patient and/or caregiver needs. |
| 0302 | Provide crisis intervention to the patient and family members/caregivers. |
| 0303 | Provide the patient with developmentally appropriate control and consent. |
| 0304 | Conduct the medical forensic examination by using trauma-informed care principles. |
| 0305 | Modify and document examination techniques (e.g., positioning) based on the patient's specific needs (e.g., variations in anatomy, physical/cognitive impairments). |
| 0306 | Educate the patient and/or caregiver about transmission of sexually transmitted infections. |
| 0307 | Educate the patient and/or caregiver about testing, prophylaxis, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections. |

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| 0308 | Administer testing, prophylaxis, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections as indicated. |
| 0309 | Educate the patient and/or caregiver on pregnancy risks and emergency contraception. |
| 0310 | Administer pregnancy testing and emergency contraception as indicated. |
| 0311 | Educate the patient and/or caregiver about actions and side effects of prophylactic medications. |
| 0312 | Consult with or refer to other healthcare providers regarding medical problems identified. |
| 0313 | Refer the patient and/or caregiver for follow-up counseling, support, and/or advocacy services. |
| 0314 | Create discharge and safety plans (i.e., intimate partner violence). |
| 0315 | Conduct follow-up based on medical forensic needs (e.g., wound healing, photography, lab results). |
| Domain 4: Legal Issues and the Judicial Process 10% | |
| 0401 | Adhere to applicable mandatory reporting requirements as appropriate. |
| 0402 | Respond to subpoenas and court orders for judicial proceedings (e.g., civil, criminal, administrative). |
| 0403 | Testify as a fact or expert witness for the prosecution or defense. |
| 0404 | Provide ethical and professional testimony (e.g., objective, evidence-based, accurate). |
| Domain 5: Professional Practice 12% | |
| 0501 | Implement safety measures (e.g., physical, environmental, equipment) for the safety of the SANE during and after the medical forensic examination. |
| 0502 | Implement principles of confidentiality (e.g., privacy laws, release of information). |
| 0503 | Implement principles of informed consent/assent and informed refusal. |
| 0504 | Evaluate and utilize current evidence-based practice (e.g., research, professional development, guidelines). |
| 0505 | Participate in peer review, case review, and quality improvement processes. |
| 0506 | Implement strategies to collaborate with interprofessional team members. |
| 0507 | Identify risks, prevention, and interventions for vicarious trauma. |
| 0508 | Incorporate ethical principles into professional practice (i.e., autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice). |

SANE-P® Reference List

This reference list contains recommended resources to assist you in preparing for the certification examination. This list is not all-inclusive; other references may help you to study, including information in the *Journal of Forensic Nursing* and other peer-reviewed journals.

Alexander, R., & Harper, N. S. (2019). *Medical response to child sexual abuse: A resource for professionals working with children and families* (2nd ed.). St. Louis, MO: STM Learning Inc.

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Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. (2016). [Updated guidelines for antiretroviral postexposure prophylaxis after sexual, injection drug use, or other nonoccupational exposure to HIV—United States, 2016](https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/programresources/cdc-hiv-npep-guidelines.pdf). Atlanta, GA: CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/programresources/cdc-hiv-npep-guidelines.pdf>

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- Price, B., & Maguire, K. (2016). *Core curriculum for forensic nursing*. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Wolters Kluwer.
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- US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime. (2018). *SANE program development and operation guide*. National Institute of Justice. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. <https://www.ovcttac.gov/saneguide/introduction/>
- US Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. (2013). *A national protocol for sexual assault medical forensic examinations: Adults/adolescents* (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ovw/241903.pdf>
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9/10/12, 11/25/15, 1/2/19 Revised—TH, MD; 6/19/13, 10/24/13, 12/31/16, 12/31/17, 12/31/19, 12/31/20 Updated—KM

Taking the Exam

BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE TESTING SITE

- Read the [Test Day Instructions](https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/):
<https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/>
- Locate, print out, and bring the email confirmation notice Scantron sent you that specifies your testing location, the time that you need to arrive at the testing center, and the list of items you need to bring.
- Plan to arrive at the testing center at least 15 minutes before the start of the testing session. If you arrive late for the testing session, you will not be permitted to test.

TO BE ADMITTED INTO THE TESTING SITE

- Submit your email confirmation notice to the proctor.
- Bring a current photo identification (ID) with signature. You will not be admitted without this.
 - **Acceptable** forms of ID: driver's license, passport, or government-issued ID card with photograph.
 - **Unacceptable** forms of ID: gym membership card, warehouse membership card, school ID card, credit card, ID card with no photograph, etc.
- Your first and last name on the confirmation notice must match exactly the first and last name on your ID card.
- If your last name is hyphenated, the last name on your ID card and on your email confirmation notice both must be hyphenated for you to be admitted into the testing center. Presenting documentation at the testing center regarding a name change (e.g., a marriage license) is not acceptable.
- Report on time.

CLOSURE OF THE TESTING SITE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER OR OTHER EMERGENCY

Scantron takes best efforts to keep testing centers open regardless of weather conditions. However, a testing site may need to temporarily close due to inclement weather or other emergencies. If you are experiencing inclement weather in your area on or around your scheduled testing date, please access the [Site Closures and Delays](https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/) listing: <https://www.scantron.com/programs/international-association-of-forensic-nurses/>

After the Exam

COMPLAINTS ABOUT YOUR EXAM PROCESS

If you experience problems with the examination process at the testing center, please let the testing center know. After you complete your exam, ask the proctor to bring up the comment screen so you may document your concerns about your testing center experience.

In addition, within 30 days of your testing date, please call or submit a complaint in writing via email to the CFNC c/o the Certification Director, who may forward the information to Scantron with a request to undertake an investigation. You will be notified promptly when Scantron returns the results of its investigation.

NOTIFICATION ABOUT YOUR EXAM RESULTS

IAFN will post all notices and updates about the exam results on IAFN's [SANE Certification Central](#) web page. The CFNC endorses key verification, which allows the testing vendor's psychometrician the time to analyze the statistical performance of the items prior to release of the exam results.

Exam results typically arrive 6–8 weeks *after the close of the testing window* (i.e., late June or late November).

If you achieve a passing score, your name will appear in the publicly available IAFN-Certified Nurses registry ([SANE-A](#); [SANE-P](#)). You will also receive a certification packet from the Association, mailed to the address listed on your exam application. In the event you do not achieve a passing score, you will receive a confidential email sent to the email address listed on your exam application. That email will contain information about retesting and an attached score report, which will provide general feedback about your performance in each test domain.

USE OF THE CREDENTIALS

After achieving a passing score on the exam, you may use the designated credential in all correspondence and professional relations. The credential is typically placed after your name, following any academic degrees and licensure (e.g., Mary Smith, BSN, RN, SANE-A). If you have earned both the SANE-A and the SANE-P credentials, list them separately (e.g., Mary Smith, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P). You may use the credential as long as the certification remains valid, which is 3 years, barring disciplinary action. For more information on how to list your credentials, please see IAFN's [Use of Credentials](#) web page.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Association, the CFNC, and Scantron do not discriminate against any applicant or candidate for certification on the basis of race, color, creed, age, sex, national origin, country of residence, religion, disability, marital status, parental status, ancestry, sexual orientation, military discharge status, source of income, or otherwise as may be prohibited by federal and state law. Applicants/candidates for certification will be judged solely on the criteria determined by the CFNC.

APPEALS PROCESS

You have the right to appeal if you are deemed ineligible to sit for the examination and believe that a violation of CFNC policy may have contributed. You must submit your appeal in writing to the CFNC c/o the Certification Director within 30 days of your receipt of the determination of ineligibility. Your letter should outline the reason for your appeal. A reasonable administrative fee may be imposed. If the issue cannot be resolved, the CFNC will review the appeal and render a decision. The applicant will be notified of the CFNC's decision within 2 months of the appeal submission. The decision of the CFNC is final.

DISCIPLINARY AND COMPLAINTS POLICY

In the event a certification candidate or certificant violates the CFNC certification requirements and/or policies, the CFNC may issue a reprimand, which may include revocation of the individual's certification. The grounds for sanctions under these procedures may include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Any restrictions on the general or registered nursing license, such as revocation, suspension, probation, or other sanctions by a recognized nursing authority;
- Violation of established CFNC requirements and/or policies;
- Conviction of a felony or other crime of moral turpitude under federal or state law in a matter related to the practice of, or qualifications for, forensic nursing;
- Gross negligence or willful misconduct in the performance of SANE-A and/or SANE-P professional services, or other unethical or unprofessional conduct based on the formal determination of a licensing body;
- Fraud, falsification, or misrepresentation in an initial application or renewal application for certification;
- Falsification of any material information requested by the CFNC;
- Misrepresentation of SANE-A and/or SANE-P status; or
- Cheating on any SANE-A and/or SANE-P certification examination.

Actions taken under this policy do not constitute enforcement of the law, although referral to appropriate federal, state, or local government agencies may be made about the conduct of a certification candidate or certificant in appropriate situations.

Contact Information

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6755 Business Parkway, Ste 303

Elkridge, MD 21075

p 410.626.7805

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certification@ForensicNurses.org

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Scantron (once accepted for testing)

6001 Hospitality Court, Ste 100

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Revised 12/31/20—KM