

**Domestic Violence Specialist/Domestic Violence Prevention Specialist
Recertification Evaluation**

Name of Applicant: _____

Type of Certification: Direct Service/Systems Advocacy Prevention Dual (Direct Service and Prevention)

The person named above is applying for recertification as a Domestic Violence Specialist or Domestic Violence Prevention Specialist. Please complete this form and return directly to the **Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence**. Please attach additional pages if necessary.

Your Name _____

Your Title _____

Name of Agency _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

What is your relationship to the applicant? Please check one or more of the following:

- Supervisor
- Coworker/Colleague
- Community Agency Representative

Please describe the applicant's ability to either a) provide direct services to victims, perpetrators, and/or family members affected by domestic violence; or b) provide prevention services/programming to the community.

Professional Code of Ethics of the DCADV Certified Specialist

The principles of ethics are models of exemplary professional behavior and express professionals' recognition of responsibilities to the public, victims/survivors, program participants, and to colleagues within and outside the field of domestic violence services. They guide Certified Specialists in the performance of their professional responsibilities and express the basic tenets of ethical and professional conduct. They are guided by core values and competencies that have emerged from domestic violence advocacy and the philosophical principles outlined in this document.

I. Non-Discrimination

Domestic Violence Specialists shall not discriminate against service recipients or colleagues based on race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, education level, socioeconomic or medical condition, or physical, cognitive or intellectual ability. Domestic Violence Specialists should broaden their understanding and acceptance of cultural and individual differences and, in doing so, render services, deliver programming, and provide information sensitive to those differences.

II. Competence

Domestic Violence Specialists shall master their specialty's body of knowledge and skill competencies, strive continually to improve personal proficiency and quality of service, and discharge professional responsibility to the best of their ability. Competence includes a synthesis of education and experience combined with an understanding of the context within which the application of service occurs. The maintenance of competence requires continual learning and professional improvement throughout one's career.

- a) Domestic Violence Specialists should recognize limitations and boundaries of their own competence and not use technique or offer services outside those boundaries. Domestic Violence Specialists are responsible for assessing the adequacy of their own competence for the responsibility to be assumed.
- b) Domestic Violence Specialists should seek supervision from their supervisors on competency and ethical issues. Additional supervision or guidance can be/should be sought from peers, other domestic violence service providers, and other Domestic Violence Specialists.
- c) When Domestic Violence Specialists have knowledge of unethical conduct or practice on the part of another professional, they have an ethical responsibility to report the conduct or practice to funding, regulatory, or other appropriate bodies.

III. Integrity

To maintain and broaden public confidence, Domestic Violence Specialists should perform all responsibilities with the highest sense of integrity. Personal gain and advantage should not subordinate service and the public trust. Due to the nature of domestic violence, Certified Specialists should pay particular attention to power and control dynamics in all professional capacities.

- a) All information should be presented fairly and accurately. Certified Specialists should document and assign credit to all contributing sources used in published material or public statements.
- b) Certified Specialists should not misrepresent either directly or by implication professional qualifications or affiliations.
- c) Certified Specialists should not be associated directly or indirectly with any service, product, individual, or organization in a way that is misleading.

IV. Nature of Services

Practices or programming shall do no harm to clients or the community in which they take place. Services provided by Certified Specialists shall be respectful and non-exploitive. Planning, implementation, and evaluation of services or programming should be evidence-informed or guided by best practices.

- a) Services should be provided in a way that preserves and supports the strengths and protective factors inherent in each culture and individual.
- b) Domestic Violence Specialists should use formal and informal structures to receive and incorporate input from service recipients in the development, implementation and evaluation of prevention and intervention services.
- c) Services and programming should facilitate shared power between the service provider and the service recipient.

V. Confidentiality

Domestic Violence Specialists are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Federal, State, and individual agency/employer confidentiality regulations and policies relevant to their specialty or role.

VI. Ethical Obligations for Community and Society

Certified Specialists are expected to respect the laws of the United States and the State of Delaware while working to change those that may be unjust or discriminatory. Certified Specialists are expected to seek opportunities to champion processes that aim to transform organizations, communities and systems from those perpetrating, tolerating or condoning oppression, abuse and violence to those upholding equity and respect. Individually, Certified Specialists should adopt a personal and professional stance that promotes health and safety of all individuals and alternatives to violence and abuse.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE PROFESSIONAL CODE OF ETHICS AND, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, BELIEVE THAT THE ABOVE APPLICANT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SPECIALIST/ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION SPECIALIST RECERTIFICATION FOLLOWS THE CODE OF ETHICS IN THEIR WORK AND TRAINING.

Print Name

Signature

Date

MAIL/FAX DIRECTLY TO:
 Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence
 Training & Prevention Department
 100 W. 10th St., Suite 903
 Wilmington, DE 19801

FAX: 302-658-5049

You may also scan/email the form to
training@dcadv.org.