



Funded by
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Roper Victim Assistance

Academy of Maryland

www.RVAAM.US

School of Criminal Justice
University of Baltimore

With the support of:

Victim Services Professional Network
(RVAAM Alumni Association)

Maryland State Board of Victim Services

WINTER APPLICATION

FEBRUARY 22 - 26, 2021



The Roper Victim Assistance Academy of Maryland (RVAAM)

The University of Baltimore (UB) is pleased to announce the 20th biannual Academy scheduled February 22-26, 2021. This will be RVAAM's second online Academy.

The Academy is modeled on the National Victim Assistance Academy, the nation's premier training and education program for professionals who assist victims of crime. The Academy offers a rare opportunity to live, work, study and interact with victim service providers from all areas of advocacy. While it is assumed that students have had previous training in their area of specialization, this course provides a fundamental overview of the entire field of advocacy including victimology, victim rights, and victim assistance for residents in Maryland.

RVAAM Goals

1. *Provide a broad spectrum of basic advocacy training that will standardize the training of crime victim advocates in Maryland.*
2. *Expand and enhance the level of professionalism within the victim services field.*
3. *Provide an opportunity to network with other victim service providers.*
4. *Increase knowledge of national, state, and local resources.*

Academy Partner

The University of Baltimore is located in the cultural district of Baltimore, the economic, cultural and governmental center of Maryland. UB offers more than 50 undergraduate, graduate and professional degree programs. Students acquire long-term learning skills that help them meet the challenges of a 21st-century career.



Academy Faculty

Outstanding state leaders in the field of victimology, criminal justice and victim rights join expert practitioners and host faculty from UB

to provide a rich education foundation grounded to practical application across the field.

Who Should Apply?

The RVAAM encourages the attendance of individuals from victim service agencies and other organizations that serve crime victims. This includes paid staff and volunteers from a variety of community-based and system-based programs and other allied professionals such as law enforcement and corrections. We encourage individuals to apply who are responsible for the training of staff who service crime victims.

Participant Eligibility

The Academy is designed primarily for victim service providers and allied professionals who have had a minimum of two years in the field of victim assistance. Due to the Academy being held online, up to 35 applicants will be accepted for the 2021 Winter Session.

Application Process

An application form is included with this brochure. In order to be eligible for selection, a candidate must submit one typed application and two letters of recommendation, one from your supervisor/ program coordinator. Please note that the application includes a Pledge that must be signed committing each applicant to complete the necessary preparation and required reading prior to February 22nd, the starting date of the Academy. The blank application form itself may be photocopied and shared but typed and completed; it should once be mailed in with recommendations included. *Faxed copies will NOT be accepted.*

Email a signed application to:

Anne Litecky
School of Criminal Justice
University of Baltimore
Roper Victim Assistance Academy
alitecky@ubalt.edu

Applications are due by

Friday, February 12, 2021

Selection Process

In selecting thirty-five (35) participants from among all those who apply, the Selection Review Board will engage in a process intended to promote an Academy class which reflects a balance in cultural, programmatic, professional, and geographic diversity. Applicants will be notified of their selection status *by NLT February 12, 2021*.

Orientation Meeting

A Pre-Academy Orientation meeting will be held online from 12:30PM - 2:30PM prior to the start of the Academy on February 22nd. Attendees will be notified of Orientation Online Meeting date prior to the meeting and it will be included in the acceptance letter.

Academy Logistics and Costs

In response to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Academy will be held online. Although participants are not residing overnight, there are still costs incurred to operate and manage the Academy. All participants must attend the entire Academy, be online with video camera on at all times. Tuition, course materials is \$300.00.

Academy Funding Options

Agencies receiving VOCA funding and have a line item in their budget earmarked for training may use those funds to defray the cost of the Academy. Agencies that do not have training funds designated as such in their approved budgets but have unspent VOCA funds they wish to transfer into a training line item for the Academy, must contact your VOCA Grants Office for approval to do so.

The National OVC offers scholarships for Professional Development. For more information go to www.ovcttac.org/scholarship

Applicants, who are able to demonstrate a financial need within their agency, may apply for an Academy Scholarship. There are a limited number of both full and partial scholarships. Once an applicant has been accepted, the applicant will receive a scholarship request form that requires a signature from their agency's financial officer that validates the financial need.

Academic Curriculum

A comprehensive academically based Curriculum manual that includes more than 30 subject areas has been developed to serve as the Academy's primary educational resource tool. The text, which will be provided at the pre-Academy meeting, provides the curriculum foundation and should be read in preparation for the Academy experience.

Academic Credit Option

Undergraduate and graduate level academic credits in criminal justice are available through UB for an additional fee. Credits will be granted upon fulfillment of all requisite conditions and Academy completion. Questions regarding academic credit may be emailed to: dstanley@ubalt.edu.

Academy Credit

Continuing education units will be available for selected professions (e.g. police, corrections, parole, probation, counseling, social workers, therapists, nurses, etc.).

Certificate of Graduation

Upon successful completion of the entire Academy, including participation in all Academy sessions, participants will be awarded a state certificate of completion. Participants may also apply for State of Maryland certification and may also be eligible for NOVA's National Certification.

Alumni Association

All Academy graduates are invited to participate in the Academy Alumni Association. The Alumni Association provides a vehicle by which Alumni may sustain an active and vibrant network of communication, coordination, and advocacy.

"I had the privilege to participate in the June 2004 RVAAM. An assembly of academics and professionals from a variety of disciplines and professionals embarked upon a week of full itinerary. We concluded with an unbreakable bond of wisdom, resources and friendships. The forum provided an opportunity to dialogue, expand and heal. To those brave men and women who found the strength to disclose their personal testimonies of how they evolved from victims to become victors: and to those who dedicate a full-time work week to provide support, assistance, and knowledge, I thank you. Thank you for allowing me to be in the midst of your growth."

-Cherie N. Peay (2004), Retired, Assistant Warden,

Winter 2021 (February) RVAAM Application

Submit the following application pages along
with:

personal statement

signed agreement

2 letters of reference

Email ONLY Completed Applications to:

Anne Litecky
School of Criminal Justice
University of Baltimore
alitecky@ubalt.edu
Phone 410/837-5055

February 22-26, 2021 Academy Application Form
 (Detach from first three informational pages of brochure)

Print Name _____ **Date** _____

Organization _____ **Work Phone: ()** _____

Work Fax: () _____ **Work Email:** _____

Work Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: () _____ **Cell Phone: ()** _____

Alternate Email Address: _____

Current Position: _____ (Circle 1) **Paid** or **Volunteer**

Number of years direct victim services _____ **From:** _____ **TO:** _____

Education/Degree(s) _____ **Year(s)** _____

Major(s) _____

Complete all of the following information by checking the appropriate responses:

1. Select the jurisdiction and one category below that best describes the type of organization you represent: Jurisdiction: ___Federal ___State ___Local ___ Tribal

Criminal Justice-based	Community/Nonprofit-based	Additional Agencies
<input type="checkbox"/> Police/Marshal-based	<input type="checkbox"/> All Victims	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Prosecution-based	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Assault	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Americans
<input type="checkbox"/> Court-based	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input type="checkbox"/> Probation-based	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital/Medical
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrections-based	<input type="checkbox"/> Drunk Driving	<input type="checkbox"/> State VOCA Assistance Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Parole-based	<input type="checkbox"/> Homicide Support	<input type="checkbox"/> State Victim Compensation Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Justice-based	<input type="checkbox"/> Missing/Exploited Children	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly Victims	

2. Select the types of victims that you primarily serve below. (Check no more than three).

<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/> Drunk Driving	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Americans
<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Assault	<input type="checkbox"/> Assault/Robbery	<input type="checkbox"/> Property/Economic
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly Victims	<input type="checkbox"/> Crime/Fraud
<input type="checkbox"/> Survivors of Homicide	<input type="checkbox"/> Missing/Exploited Children	<input type="checkbox"/> Victims with Disabilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Communities of Color	<input type="checkbox"/> Immigrant/Migrant Workers	<input type="checkbox"/> Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/ Transgender
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

3. Select the types of services that you *primarily* provide for crime victims in your current position. (Check no more than *five* boxes).

<input type="checkbox"/> Crisis Intervention	<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Justice System Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Advocacy
<input type="checkbox"/> 24-hour Hotline	<input type="checkbox"/> Court Accompaniment	<input type="checkbox"/> Information/Referral
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Medical	<input type="checkbox"/> Restitution Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Training/Technical Assistance
<input type="checkbox"/> Shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Short-term Counselin	<input type="checkbox"/> Victim Impact Statement Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care
<input type="checkbox"/> Long-term Counselin	<input type="checkbox"/> Compensation Claim Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

4. Briefly summarize your current and previous experience assisting crime victims and other relevant employment in the last five years. Provide position, responsibilities, and dates of service in chronological order.

Position _____ **From:** _____ **To:** _____

Organization _____ **Responsibilities** _____

Position _____ **From:** _____ **To:** _____

Organization _____ **Responsibilities** _____

Position _____ **From:** _____ **To:** _____

Organization _____ **Responsibilities** _____

5. Have you attended the National Victim Assistance Academy? ___ Yes ___ No If yes, what year _____.

6. Briefly describe your interactions with crime victims in your present position. (Please use a *separate sheet* of paper to complete your answer and limit your response to 300 typed words.)

7. Briefly state why you want to attend the RVAAM and how your participation will be of benefit to you (professionally and personally) your organization, and your community. Include any additional information that you believe is important for the applicant selection committee to consider. (Please use a *separate sheet* of paper to complete your answer and limit your response to 450 typed words.)
(Attach both your experience and statement of participation to this application form.)

8. If accepted, I am interested in receiving three credits in the School of Criminal Justice Program University of Baltimore payable to UB. If yes, please check one: ___ Undergraduate or ___ Graduate for an additional cost.

9. If accepted, I will be in need of applying for a scholarship through the Academy? ___ Yes ___ No MAIL original application, personal statement, signed commitment statement, and two (2) written letters of recommendation (one from your supervisor/program coordinator).

By signing below, I signify my commitment to: 1) complete the required preparation and reading; 2) I commit to being in attendance for the full 40-hour Academy, and 3) I agree to being physically present online with video camera on at all times. I acknowledge that the Academy includes some early evening hours as part of the 40-hour training, and that I have made necessary arrangements in advance with my employer regarding this schedule and these total hours, particularly if such hours may conflict with a typical work schedule.

I also agree to abide by all RVAAM Training rules and regulations by participating fully online for the entire training program. I agree to pay the required \$300.00 tuition fees if I am not eligible for a scholarship or other funding.

I am aware, that all cancellations 10 days prior to the start of the Academy, the overnight fees may be billed to the applicant. I also note that if I miss the application deadline of February 12, 2021, I will pay a late fee of \$30.00.

Signature: _____
(original signature required in blue ink)

Date: _____

Your application package must be received no later than Friday, February 12, 2021.

Primary Curriculum Topics:

- ◆ *History/Scope/Justice Systems*
- ◆ *Restorative Justice*
- ◆ *Victims' Rights and Compliance*
- ◆ *Financial Remedies*
- ◆ *Domestic Violence*
- ◆ *Child Victimization*
- ◆ *Sexual Assault*
- ◆ *Elderly Abuse*
- ◆ *Drunk Driving*
- ◆ *Homicide*
- ◆ *Substance Abuse*
- ◆ *Mental Health*
- ◆ *Workplace Violence*
- ◆ *Terrorism*
- ◆ *Hate Crimes*

- ◆ *Sexual Harassment*
- ◆ *Disabled Victims*
- ◆ *Funding and Evaluation*
- ◆ *Trauma*
- ◆ *Underserved Victims*
- ◆ *Stalking*
- ◆ *Crisis Intervention*
- ◆ *Grief Processing*
- ◆ *Advocacy*
- ◆ *Case Management*
- ◆ *Property/Non-Violent Crime*
- ◆ *Cyber Victimization*
- ◆ *Cultural Diversity/Interfaith*
- ◆ *Certification and Professional Standards*
- ◆ *Special Victim Populations*

The Academy warmly welcomes international applicants;

However, please note that all Academy sessions will be conducted in English.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions or need additional information about the Winter 2021 Academy, please contact:

**Anne Litecky
Program Coordinator
RVAAM
Email: alitecky@ubalt.edu
(410) 570-1115**

or

**Dr. Debra L. Stanley
Academy Director
RVAAM
Email: dstanley@ubalt.edu
(301) 461-9974**

Checklist for Applicants:

Have you remembered to enclose:

- ✓ **One completed application**
- ✓ **Personal and experiential statements**
- ✓ **Two letters of recommendation**
- ✓ **Signed statement of commitment**

NOTE: Payment is not required at the time of application. Upon receiving an acceptance letter, you will be asked to submit payment. *

***If you have any further questions regarding payment, or scholarships, university credits and tuition please contact dstanley@ubalt.edu.**

The Academy Staff and Alumni wish to thank GOCCP for their ongoing support.