



# New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Believing. Healing. Preventing.

## JOIN OUR STUDENT ACTIVIST NETWORK AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT!

### What is the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA)?

The New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault is a private, nonprofit coalition of community-based rape crisis programs that deliver free, confidential sexual assault crisis intervention services in every county. Our mission is to end all forms of sexual violence and exploitation, and we also work to address the impacts of sexual assault and abuse. We advocate for policy/ systems changes, provide training and technical assistance, serve as a clearinghouse of information, develop and distribute resources, offer consultation, and provide pass-through funding to rape crisis programs. We recognize that sexual trauma often is linked intrinsically with other forms of trauma and oppression.

### What is the Student Activist Network Against Sexual Assault (SANASA)?

NYSCASA's Student Activist Network Against Sexual Assault (SANASA) will develop a statewide network of strong student activists leading efforts to increase campus engagement in genuinely and meaningfully meeting victims' needs. We aim to ensure campus sexual assault survivors, especially historically underserved groups (including BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, international students, immigrants, foster students, students with disabilities) receive responsive services and harm-doers are consistently held accountable. We will create collective spaces where information can live to support institutional memory and where student activists can connect with each other to reduce isolation.

We will select five student-led activist groups across New York State to receive training, peer support, and customized assistance during a two-year period. Our work together will include assessments that inform the development and implementation of plans based on your campus' unique needs and resources. The goal is to establish sustainable, multi-level, community-specific approaches to address sexual violence on college campuses.

### Does student activism make a difference?

Student activists are vital in moving campuses forward in addressing sexual violence. Student activist efforts have successfully placed a much-needed spotlight on campus sexual assault and informed the national conversation in ways that inspired action including the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Campus Sexual Assault, Campus Accountability and Safety Act, It's On Us Summit, campaigns, films, and the creation of activist-led organizations such as End Rape On Campus and SurvJustice.

### Timeline

We are calling the group of five student-led activist groups in the SANASA a cohort. NYSCASA plans to work with two cohorts during the next four years. This is the anticipated timeline for SANASA activities.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Cohort Period 1</b>	<b>Cohort Period 2</b>
Project Preparation	11/1/21-12/1/21	1/1/23-2/28/23
Application Phase	11/1/21-11/30/21	3/1/23-6/30/23
Cohort Kickoff and Assessment Phase	12/1/21-12/31/21	9/1/23-11/30/23
Plan Development Phase	1/1/22-4/30/22	12/1/23-5/31/24
Plan Implementation Phase	5/1/22-3/31/23	6/1/24-3/31/25
Lessons Learned and Wrap-Up	4/1/23-6/30/23	4/1/25-6/30/25

## What is expected of SANASA members?

Cohort participants will be challenged to think critically about their student group and activism on their campus and in their larger community. With NYSCASA's support, SANASA members will assess dynamics in their group and campus culture, listen to those community needs, and enhance their sexual violence advocacy efforts and student activist leadership on campus.

Expectations of SANASA members for successful outcomes include:

- A willingness to be open to self- and group-examination and change
- Participation of the student group members and student group advisor(s)
- Review/ use of information/ materials provided by NYSCASA
- Participation in a 30-minute check-in call at the start of each month
- Collaboration with NYSCASA during each phase of the cohort
- Participation in a 1-to-2-hour activity each month (e.g., in-depth one-on-one technical assistance call, collective peer learning call, or training presentation)
- Equipment/ technology needed to participate in videoconference calls, webinars, and other virtual meetings (e.g., computer with webcam and internet access)

Stipends will be available to support student-led groups who participate in the SANASA.

## Who can join the SANASA?

Student-led activist groups at a university or college based in New York State interested in improving sexual violence advocacy and activism efforts for their respective campus and community are eligible to apply.

Please note:

- For the purposes of the SANASA, a "student-led activist group" may be a group of students engaging in activism and advocacy on your campus. Your student-led activist group does not need to be an "official" student organization recognized your college/university.
- Your student-led group must have an advisor of choice who, in conjunction with NYSCASA, is willing to mentor and support your group. The advisor can be a faculty member or professor, administrator, or employee of the college. The advisor will serve a key role to help your group complete cohort phases and to ensure your group's efforts continue despite turnover (e.g., as seniors graduate).
- Students enrolled in undergraduate programs, graduate programs, and community college programs throughout New York State are encouraged to participate.

## How do I join the SANASA?

Eligible student-led groups on New York State campuses who are interested in participating must complete the online application. We ask for the following information in the application:

1. Provide your college information (name and address).
2. Provide the name of your student-led group.
3. Provide contact information for members of your student-led group planning to participate in the SANASA.
4. Provide your advisor's contact information (name, email, title, department).
5. Describe your student-led group, including your purpose and goals.
6. Provide a summary of your sexual violence advocacy efforts on campus.
7. Explain your main focus or reason for wanting to participate in this project.
8. How do you do outreach for addressing campus sexual violence?
9. How much experience do you have as a student activist? Please describe your knowledge, skills, and experience.
10. How does your student-led group connect with your campus community?
11. Describe the changes you hope to see on your college campus by being involved in this project.
12. Describe the supports you have in executing this project (e.g., fellow students, advisor, administration, campus community).

### How will applicants be selected to participate in the SANASA?

Applications will be reviewed by a committee. We will be making selections based on the student-led groups' and colleges' efforts regarding sexual violence education, prevention, and programming. We will consider the attributes of each student-led group applicant and how those strengths can promote their own and other cohort members' successes. NYSCASA will prioritize the recruitment of marginalized communities (e.g., BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, immigrants), since they experience higher rates of sexual victimization.

### Questions/Contact

If you have questions, please contact E Bjorkman, Director of Campus Projects: [ebjorkman@nysasa.org](mailto:ebjorkman@nysasa.org)

**APPLY HERE → <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LMMQWHZ>**

**The Student Activist Network Against Sexual Assault  
will launch on December 1, 2021.**