Coalition Use of Online Training Platforms

In 2019, RSP asked state and territorial sexual assault coalitions a series of questions to find out how they are, or are not, using online learning as part of their advocate and community education work. We heard back from 28 coalitions. Of those 28 coalitions, 22 are currently using some form of online learning technology. 18 coalitions stated they are using webinars or online meetings, 13 shared they are using learning modules hosted on a learning management system (LMS) or website, and 1 shared they are offering other types of online learning (live streaming of in-person events). 12 of 22 coalitions indicated that they offer a combination of webinars and LMS modules or other online learning opportunities.

There is a broad range of training topics coalitions offer online. Aside from sexual assault 101 and advocacy basics-type trainings, training topics include:

- Campus and Title IX
- Population-specific advocacy (i.e. LGBTQ, youth, incarcerated survivors, etc.)
- Prevention
- Legislative advocacy
- New or trending topics
- Legal library
- Healing and self-care
- Anti-oppression
- Child sexual abuse

The majority of respondents offer training primarily to their member, or local, programs. 9 coalitions also offer their trainings to other groups such as allied professionals, subgrantees, workgroup members, and systems representatives. Representatives of systems include state Departments of Corrections, Social Services, STOP/SASP administrators, human trafficking professionals, law enforcement officers, trauma experts, and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). 2 coalitions specifically mentioned that their online trainings are available to the general public or anyone who registers.

Webinar and training platforms also vary by coalition. 20 coalitions indicated what technology they are using to deliver webinars and eLearning modules. Many coalitions are using multiple platforms.

Product Name/Type	Number of Coalitions Using
Zoom	8
Moodle	6
GoToWebinar	4
Their website	2
GoToMeeting	2
Teachable	2
Coalition Manager	2
Unspecified LMS	3
Other (ReadyTalk, Thinkific, Articulate)	3

When asked what they wish they knew when they started the process of creating online learning opportunities, the number one response coalitions shared was how much time it takes to successfully create and launch the product (8 of 20 responses). Other tips people shared include:

"I would recommend going through a training on how to present via webinar if the staff haven't presented online material before"

"Be kind to yourself as you're learning to use it [the online learning program]."

"Breathe and move forward."

"I would say to do your research. Then sit down and research it some more and listen to experts and those who have already engaged in online learning and listen to the critiques of the people taking the program. Do not be afraid to revisit your modules and make adjustments."

When asked why coalitions weren't offering online trainings, people cited lack of consistent access to electricity or internet, trouble finding time to create curricula, online formats not accessible to target population, cost, and overall capacity. Several coalitions also noted that, while they offer some portion of their advocate core training online, there are some portions that must be completed in person.

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