

SOAR Leadership Academy

What is a SOAR Leadership Academy?

The SOAR Leadership Academy is a three-day training program presented by the SAMHSA SOAR Technical Assistance (TA) Center designed to prepare individuals to serve as Local Leads within their communities, guide the SOAR initiative, and support individuals who complete the SOAR Online Course.

Topics Covered:

- Creating and Leading a Local Steering Committee
- Facilitating Effective Meetings
- Using the Online Application Tracking (OAT) program
- Funding and Sustaining SOAR in Your Community
- Conducting a one-day SOAR Online Course (OLC) Review Session
- Supporting Quality SOAR Applications in Your Community
- Working with Special Populations and Special Considerations – Veterans, Children, Justice Involved Persons, American Indians and Alaska Natives, and Appeals
- Creating a Local Action Plan

Expectations of Leadership Academy Registrants

- Receive recommendation from the State Team Lead
- Successfully complete the SOAR Online Course (<https://soarworks.samhsa.gov/>) prior to attending
- Attend all three days of the program from 8:30 AM ET – 4:30 PM ET

Roles and Responsibilities of Local Leads Post-Leadership Academy

- Conduct periodic SOAR OLC Review Sessions to refresh SOAR core elements and train on state-specific SOAR processes
- Follow-up with SOAR trainees in regular meetings to discuss issues and progress on completing applications
- Collaborate with community providers and local SSA and DDS contacts to plan, implement and support local SOAR initiatives
- Work closely with the State Team Lead and SAMHSA SOAR TA Center to carry out the SOAR implementation plan in your region and to track and report outcomes

Successful SOAR Local Leads

- Have experience completing SSI/SSDI applications using the SOAR model (recommended but not required)
- Are invested in SOAR and the success of SOAR within their community
- Have the time and ability to work with multiple agencies and/or the Continuum of Care within their community
- Have the capacity to lead a SOAR steering community and follow-up with trainees regarding outcomes
- Will maintain and update their community's SOAR action plan
- Will be able to conduct SOAR OLC Review Sessions for individuals who successfully complete the SOAR Online Course