

## **New Free Online Training Courses Available from APPA for Tribal Community Corrections Professionals**



The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) has just released two new **FREE** online courses for tribal community corrections professionals. These courses were developed in partnership with the Pretrial Justice Institute with funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance under Cooperative Agreement 2012-IP-BX-K001. Both courses have been accredited by the American Probation & Parole Association.

### **Skills for Pretrial Services Practitioners: Interviewing Techniques**

One of the most basic skills needed in pretrial services is to be able to conduct effective interviews with defendants to obtain the information needed to assess risks of pretrial misconduct or to supervise defendants on pretrial release. Through this lesson, pretrial services staff, or probation or jail staff who have been assigned pretrial services duties, will learn the skills needed to conduct an effective pretrial interview. This online self-paced training course provides tribal community corrections professionals with an overview of the interview process, key interviewing skills and ethical responsibilities of the pretrial interviewer.

Specifically, by the conclusion of this course, learners will be able to:

- Discuss the purposes of interviews in pretrial settings.
- Describe several barriers to conducting effective interviews, and how to address those barriers.
- Discuss the basic concepts of interviewer reliability and communications theory.
- Use six key interviewing skills.

### **Pretrial Risk Assessment & Risk Mitigation Strategies**

The primary purpose of pretrial is to protect the community and ensure individuals appear for future court proceedings. In order to make release, bail, or detention decisions, pretrial officers should be utilizing a pretrial risk assessment tool. This lesson is designed to provide learners with an understanding of pretrial risk assessment and risk mitigation strategies. Learners will see an example of a validated pretrial risk assessment instrument and have the opportunity use that instrument to assess the risks of several defendants and develop a risk mitigation plan that could be recommended to the court based upon your risk assessment findings. This online self-paced training course provides tribal community corrections professionals with an overview of risk assessment and risk mitigation strategies to inform and enhance tribal pretrial decision-making and supervision.

Specifically, by the conclusion of this course, learners will be able to:

- Describe how objective assessments are preferred over the subjective assessment of experts in the field.
- Define several key terms relating to risk assessment.
- Describe how to complete a pretrial risk assessment.
- Identify appropriate pretrial release options that are matched to identified risks.

To register for these free courses, go to the following direct link on the APPA Relias Academy website:  
<http://appa.academy.reliaslearning.com/tribal-community-corrections.aspx>