

109:2-18-03

Training and instructor qualification.

(A) The requirements set forth herein are intended as minimum qualifications for continuing professional training. Appointing authorities are encouraged to exceed these minimum standards whenever possible. Continuing professional training shall be conducted in a program approved by the executive director and shall address matters directly related to the duties and responsibilities of a peace officer or trooper. The training shall serve a recognized law enforcement purpose and shall have significant intellectual or practical content, the primary objective of which shall be to improve a participant's professional competence as peace officer or trooper. In addition, such training shall meet or exceed the following minimum requirements:

- (1) Other than training conducted via E-OPOTA or other online training program pre-approved by the executive director, continuing professional training programs shall be conducted with a written, formal lesson plan. Such lesson plan shall be typewritten and shall contain, at a minimum, a list of stated goals and objectives for the training, a description of the material to be covered, a bibliography of references, and a list of necessary teaching aids. Lesson plans developed by the commission for continuing professional training will be made available online through OHLEG. These lesson plans will be formatted such that they may be customized locally. Each year, the executive director will provide new lesson plans representing no less than the required minimum number of hours of continuing professional training, and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission will provide at least that many hours of online continuing professional training via E-OPOTA.
- (2) Other than training conducted via E-OPOTA or other online training program pre-approved by the executive director, the training shall be conducted in a setting that is safe, physically suited to the educational activity, and conducive to effective learning. Classroom space shall have adequate heating, lighting, ventilation, and restroom facilities; a chalkboard, whiteboard, or equivalent; tables and chairs suitable for writing; audio visual equipment; a lectern, stand, or table for the instructor's use; and be relatively free from external distractions. Physical skills training shall be conducted in a gymnasium or large indoor area with appropriate training and safety equipment. Firearms training shall be conducted only on commission approved ranges or ranges approved by the appointing authority for annual in-service firearms re-qualification.
- (3) Other than training conducted via E-OPOTA or other online training program pre-approved by the executive director, the training shall be conducted in blocks of no less than one hour, where fifty minutes of actual instruction or other approved training activity constitutes one credit hour. Officers shall be approved provided at least one ten minute break each hour and at least one thirty-minute break every four hours.

- (4) The training shall be conducted only by instructors who meet at least one of the following three criteria:
- (a) The individual has five years of full-time law enforcement experience and meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - (i) The individual is a commission-certified peace officer basic training instructor; or
 - (ii) The individual has, at a minimum, a four-year college degree; or
 - (iii) The individual has completed an instructional skills course approved by the executive director; or
 - (iv) The individual is a licensed or certified trainer.
 - (b) The individual is a certified or licensed professional and is providing instruction in a subject area directly related to the field for which the individual is certified or licensed.
 - (c) The individual or training program is pre-approved by the executive director.
- (5) Appointing authorities may submit proposed lesson plans for prior review and approval by the executive director.
- (B) Individuals who are commission-certified instructors and who have allowed such certification to lapse and are not otherwise qualified to teach continuing professional training under this rule, have had such certification revoked, or whose certification is under suspension, shall not qualify to teach continuing professional training. Decisions of the executive director with respect to instructor qualifications are subject to the appeals process in section 119 of the Revised Code.
- (C) Continuing professional training does not include annual in-service firearms re-qualification pursuant to Revised Code section 109.801, nor does it include any form of training elsewhere mandated for peace officers by the general assembly or the attorney general.

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Certification

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Date

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