



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
Department of Public Safety
MAINE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY
15 Oak Grove Road
Vassalboro, Maine 04989



Michael J. Sauschuck
Commissioner

Lincoln E. Ryder
Director

- 16 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
- 227 MAINE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
- Chapter 5: TRAINING STANDARDS
-

Summary: Chapter 5 of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees' rules sets forth the training requirements established by the Board for actively employed full-time law enforcement officers. The following is an excerpt and the complete rule is available at the following link: [Chapter 5: Training Standards](#)

2. Basic Law Enforcement Training Program

- A. Pursuant to 25 M.R.S. §2804-C, every full-time law enforcement officer must successfully complete the Academy's Basic Training Course, the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program (BLETP), within 12 months of initial full-time employment subject to the waiver and extension provisions of Chapter 9 of these rules. The BLETP curriculum approved by the Board is 720 hours and can be delivered in 18 to 20 weeks at the discretion of the Director based on needs related to class size, availability of training facilities, and availability of instructors / cadre / assisting instructional staff.
1. Upon successfully completing the Basic Training Course and meeting the required standards, an individual will receive a Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Board. This certificate will be considered a license to perform law enforcement officer's duties in the State of Maine and be considered lapsed when an officer is no longer employed by a law enforcement agency. All students who attend the BLETP shall have met the Board's preservice requirements, per 25 M.R.S. §2804-B, if they are employed as a full-time law enforcement officer. These officers will be given a provisional Certificate of Eligibility to act as a full-time law enforcement officer in the State of Maine upon being hired. All other students who attend the BLETP that are non-sworn employees of a law enforcement agency, or any tuition student, will not be given a provisional Certificate of Eligibility to act as a full-time law enforcement officer in the State of Maine.
 2. This section does not apply to any law enforcement officer certified as meeting the law enforcement training requirements or to any full-time law enforcement officer employed by a state agency including the University of Maine system as of July 1, 1990.
 3. The Board may waive portions of the Basic Police Training Course for persons who have been employed full-time with a State agency and who have been granted law enforcement powers. The initial employment must have occurred prior to September 23, 1971. The employment must be for a minimum of 20 years on the date of application to the Board.
-

- B. Pursuant to 23 M.R.S. §6072, every railroad police officer must successfully complete the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program at the Academy.
- C. The following requirements are specified for the certification of Basic Law Enforcement Training Program graduates. The Director, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, sets standards for successful completion. If a student fails to meet any of the requirements described below, the student and the student's agency may petition the Board for a waiver or modification of the requirements in question.
- D. Application procedures for the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program (BLETP). Upon hiring as a full-time law enforcement officer applicant for the BLETP, the employing agency will submit the following information to the Board on forms approved by the Director:
1. MCJA notice of employment signed by the agency's Chief Administrative Officer
 2. MCJA application to attend the BLETP signed by the applicant and the agency's Chief Administrative Officer.
 3. MCJA medical examination form signed by a licensed physician and the applicant.
 4. MCJA background information form signed by the applicant and the agency's Chief Administrative Officer.
 5. MCJA Pre-employment Polygraph Report Form (PE-1) signed by the polygrapher.
 6. MCJA Polygraph examination form signed by the agency's Chief Administrative Officer.
 7. MCJA Psychological Examination form signed by the agency's Chief Administrative Officer.
 8. MCJA Motor Vehicle License Status Verification form signed by the agency's Chief Administrative Officer.
- E. Certification: The Board will issue a certificate of eligibility to perform the duties of a full-time law enforcement officer in the State of Maine to a BLETP student who completes all of the following:
1. Attends all sessions of the BLETP, except absences approved by the Training Supervisor.
 2. Attends a minimum of 90% of the prescribed curriculum.
 - a. EXCEPTION: If a student has successfully completed at least 560 hours of the 720-hour BLETP course and passed all course requirements to the point of leave / absence for either leave under the Family Medical Leave Act or a military commitment, the student and the student's agency may petition the Director to complete the remainder of the unfinished session in the next available session of the BLETP.
 3. Successfully passes all weekly and major academic exams with a minimum score of at least 75% and shall achieve a minimum cumulative academic average of 75% or greater. If a student fails an exam, no more than two make-up exams will be offered.
 4. Achieves a passing professional score of 80% or greater at the conclusion of the program. This score is a reflection of the Professional Value System, as outlined in the BLETP Cadet Orientation and Curriculum Guide.
 5. Demonstrates competency and safety in the handling of his or her service weapons. Each student shall achieve a minimum proficiency over a course of fire approved by the Director. This score is a reflection of the Firearms Course, as outlined in the BLETP Cadet Orientation and Curriculum Guide. The proficiency standard is 80%.

6. Demonstrates proficiency in the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC), by successfully completing a program approved by the Board. This score is a reflection of the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, as outlined in the BLETP Cadet Orientation and Curriculum Guide. The proficiency standard is 70%.

7. Demonstrates proficiency in the Mechanics of Arrest, Restraint and Control (MARC) Course by successfully completing a program approved by the Board, which test counts for 50% of the final grade. The student must pass a MARC scenario at the end of the program, which counts for 50% of the final grade. If a student fails the MARC scenario, no more than two make-up scenarios will be offered. This total score is a reflection of the MARC Course, as outlined in the BLETP Cadet Orientation and Curriculum Guide. The proficiency standard is 75%.

8. Fully participates in all aspects of firearms and MARC training. Each student must also attend at least 75% of firearms and MARC skills training, notwithstanding the requirement outlined in section 2.E.2, above.

9. Meets the physical fitness exit standard at the time of their final physical fitness assessment at the 50th percentile according to age and gender normed standards, as approved by the Board.

10. Successfully takes and passes the certification exam, which is administered at the end of the course, with a minimum score of 75%.

F. Tuition students who have successfully completed all of the requirements in section 2.E will receive a Certificate of Completion of the BLETP. Upon the Academy's receipt of the Notice of Employment form indicating that a tuition student has been hired as a full-time law enforcement officer by a law enforcement agency, the tuition student will receive a Certificate of Eligibility to act as a full-time law enforcement officer in the State of Maine.

G. Continuing certification. To maintain a Certificate of Eligibility to act as a full-time officer in the State of Maine, a law enforcement officer must complete the annual mandatory in-service training, per 25 M.R.S §2804-E by December 31st of each calendar year.

H. Recertification.

1. For recertification as a full-time law enforcement officer with less than 2 years of inactivity, the following documentation must be submitted:
 - a. MCJA Notice of Employment signed by the Chief Administrative Officer.
 - b. Proof of completion of the prior mandatory in-service law enforcement training during which they were inactive.
2. For Recertification as a full-time law enforcement officer with 2 or more years of inactivity, the following documentation must be submitted:
 - a. MCJA Notice of Employment signed by the Chief Administrative Officer.
 - b. MCJA background form signed by the applicant and the Chief Administrative Officer.
 - c. Proof of completion of the 2 years of prior mandatory in-service law enforcement training.
 - d. Proof of completion of the Board approved Law Enforcement Recertification Course.
 - e. Proof of successful completion of the Law Enforcement Recertification Exam.
3. After the required documentation is submitted and approved by MCJA staff, a Provisional Certificate of Eligibility will be issued for a full-time law enforcement officer. The Provisional Certificate is valid for up to 6 months to successfully complete the full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Exam.
4. If a full-time law enforcement officer with a Provisional Certificate of Eligibility passes the full-time Law Enforcement Officer's Certification Exam, with a minimum score of 75%, the Director will issue a Certificate of Eligibility for a full-time law enforcement officer.