



Application to Attend Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) School



The Pennsylvania Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program will assist officers in identifying the drug-impaired individual. Although the focus of the DRE curricula is on the identification of the drug-impaired driver, DRE skills are applied to many different law enforcement activities. In addition, DREs are frequently called upon to differentiate between drug influence and medical and/or mental disorders. The certified DRE is a valuable resource for combating the adverse impact of drugs on the communities we serve.

Due to class size, needs of the program, and funding concerns, not all applicants are selected to attend. All applicants will receive written correspondence indicating acceptance or denial to the training at least fourteen days prior to the start of training. All Applicants must be committed and determined to successfully complete the training. The DRE School is extremely intensive and demanding. To receive certification as a DRE, two phases of training must be completed. The following summarizes each phase:

ACADEMIC TRAINING: This phase is typically conducted over two weeks (72 actual classroom hours). It includes courses in physiology, vital signs, standardized field sobriety testing (SFST), as well as extensive material on each of the seven categories of the drugs of abuse. The training includes three written examinations, an SFST proficiency examination, and five written quizzes. Students must achieve a minimum of 80% on the three examinations, and must demonstrate proficiency in administering the SFST in order to progress to the certification phase. The academic training is conducted utilizing creative, participant-centered teaching techniques.

CERTIFICATION PHASE: Upon successfully completing the academic portion, all students will be scheduled to attend the certification phase for at least 10 consecutive days. It is the student's responsibility to complete the certification requirements within six months following the DRE school. These requirements include: conducting a minimum of 12 drug influence evaluations while under the supervision of a DRE instructor; identifying subjects under the influence of three of the seven drug categories; and attaining a 75% toxicological confirmation rate. In addition, the student must maintain a progress log, rolling log, and submit a quality resume. Finally, the student must pass a comprehensive final knowledge examination which takes approximately eight to twelve hours, and obtain the written endorsement of two certified DRE instructors.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the Pennsylvania State Police are the regulating and certifying organizations for the DRE program. DRE certification is valid for two years. In order to maintain certification, DRE's must conduct a minimum of four evaluations within this time period, submit a rolling log, submit a current resume, and attend eight hours of recertification training.

DRE Candidate Summary

Name: _____ Rank: _____

Agency: _____ Experience: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Current Assignment: _____

How many arrests have you made for Driving Under the Influence (DUI)? _____.

How many DUI arrests for controlled substances have your made? _____ .

↓↓ ↓↓ ↓↓ **IMPORTANT** ↓↓ ↓↓ ↓↓

You must be currently certified in the Standardize Field Sobriety Tests (SFST), SFST Instructor, and possess any type of class A breath-test operator certification. Please attach your course completion certificates. Also attach a narrative regarding your work experience, and why you want to become a DRE.