



Peace Officer Standards and Training

Academy Integrated Training Model

Effective Date: June 29, 2026 (Beginning with Class #395)

Beginning with Class #395, the POST Primary Sponsored Academy is transitioning to a single, integrated training track. This new structure prioritizes hands-on application and skill integration over the traditional siloed SFO/LEO blocks. This transition is designed to better prepare officers for the multifaceted challenges of modern law enforcement.

POST Academy Track Structure

- **Week 1 (Online “Foundations” Coursework, 40 Hours):** Cadets will complete online foundational coursework before attending the physical academy. SEE ATTACHED INFORMATION REGARDING THE **ONLINE FOUNDATIONS COURSEWORK**

The location of this training is at the hiring agency's discretion and may be completed at the cadet's home or at the agency facility.

- *Testing Note:* For Class 395, the final assessment for the Online Foundations coursework will be held at POST on Day 1 of Week 2. For all subsequent academies, this test will be held at the hiring agency.
- **Week 2 through Week 15:** A 14-week intensive, in-person, integrated skills-based academy held at the POST facility.

Physical Fitness Standards & LEO PT Entrance Requirements

All cadets should be physically capable of meeting the [LEO Entrance PT Standards](#) when entering the physical academy.

- **LEO Entrance PT Test:** A LEO Entrance PT test will be administered on **Day 1 of Week 4**. All cadets must pass the **LEO Entrance PT Standards** according to POST policy to remain in the academy.

Certified SFO or BCO Officers

No Online Foundations Course (Week 1) is needed to attend. **POST strongly recommends beginning at the start of the in-person academy (Week 2).** Enrolling from Week 2 ensures cadets achieve optimal learning outcomes by engaging with the full integrated curriculum and building the essential team camaraderie necessary for peak field performance. However, a certified SFO or BCO officer may enter the in-person LEO Track at **Week 4.**

LEO Entrance Exam Policy (Certified SFO or BCO Officers)

For certified SFO or BCO officers, the LEO Entrance Exam requirement is determined by their entry point:

Entry Point	LEO Entrance Exam Requirement
Standard Entry (Week 2) Ex. #395 - July 6, 2026	Exempt from the LEO entrance exam.
Delayed Entry (Week 4) Ex. #395 - July 20, 2026	Required to pass the LEO entrance exam to attend the academy. (Must be completed 4 weeks before the Late Entry date)

Upcoming Academy Schedules

Academy Class #	Full Track Dates	Foundations Online (Week 1)	In-Person Academy (Week 2-15)
395	6/29/2026 – 10/8/2026	6/29/2026 – 7/2/2026	7/6/2026 – 10/8/2026
396	9/8/2026 – 12/17/2026	9/8/2026 – 9/11/2026	9/14/2026 – 12/17/2026

Academy Class #	Full Track Dates	Foundations Online (Week 1)	In-Person Academy (Week 2-15)
397	10/5/2026 – 2/4/2027	10/5/2026 – 10/9/2026	10/13/2026 – 2/4/2027 <i>Holiday Break: 12/21 – 1/3</i>

Future Implementation: Potential Shift for Class 398

Pending the successful rollout of this new format, POST anticipates a further modification beginning with **Class 398 (January 2027)**. In this phase, a second week of Online Foundation coursework (80 hours total) will be added. Consequently, the in-person academy duration will be adjusted to 13 weeks to maintain the integrated training timeline.

Session 395 Conference Call: Roll Out Discussion

Please mark your calendars for **Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 10:00 AM** for a briefing on the implementation of the Integrated Training Model. A virtual meeting link will be distributed in the coming weeks to training supervisors and agency heads with cadets enrolled in Class 395.

We believe these changes will enhance the quality of training and the readiness of your cadets. Please contact Lt. Terry Buck if you have any questions regarding these changes.

Sincerely,

Lt. Terry Buck
Training Bureau Chief
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ONLINE FOUNDATIONS COURSE - 40 Hours

(WEEK 1)

Summary

To better prepare our cadets, POST is introducing an Online Foundations Course starting June 2026. This 40-hour prerequisite allows non-certified cadets to master foundational concepts before arriving at the academy. We are utilizing a structured pilot phase to refine the coursework; once we have incorporated feedback from our initial sessions, we will establish a definitive timeline for statewide implementation. **At this stage, the new requirement applies only to the POST Main Academy.**

Benefits of the Online Foundations Course

Online training can deliver greater efficiency and scalability for POST and provide a more concise, accessible program for agencies. Offering online knowledge training before academy attendance has these benefits:

1. Cadets learn at their own pace, thereby increasing their understanding.
2. In-person attendance time decreases, benefiting the agency and the cadet.
3. Provides greater access to training in rural counties.
4. Available on a flexible timeline to fit agencies' hiring practices.
5. Cadets learn uniform material regardless of training location.
6. Agencies have greater oversight into the cadets' performance before in-person attendance.

Cadet Expectations

Cadets are expected to be engaged learners who invest time interacting with the course material, studying, and applying knowledge. The course provides a flexible learning environment that uses innovative strategies grounded in concrete learning principles. Cadet success is driven by a thorough understanding of the foundations rather than a rapid progression through the modules.

It should be stressed to cadets that the material covered online will be assessed in a proctored exam on the first day of in-person training. The topics will be applied and reinforced at the academy, but not covered again in lecture, and the content will be on the final certification exam.

Cadets must complete the online modules, assignments, and self-assessments by the assigned deadlines. They will also be required to attend several Zoom sessions with webcams and microphones enabled.

Course Technical Requirements

The cadet will need access to the following equipment and resources:

1. PC (Windows, Mac, or Chromebook). Tablets not recommended.
2. Speakers, webcam, and microphone for Zoom and media sessions.
3. Reliable high-speed internet connection to support Zoom and media.
4. An email account to receive information and documents.
5. Note-taking material (electronic or paper).
6. Quiet/distraction-free location for study, homework, and meetings.

Course Timeline (June 29, 2026 - Session 395) - Week 1

Date	Time	Event/Topic
6/29	0800 hrs	Orientation & Login Account on Zoom
6/30	0800 hrs	Q&A Check-in on Zoom
6/30	2300 hrs	Job Task 01 Course Completed
7/1	0800 hrs	Q&A Check-in on Zoom (Optional)
7/1	1200 hrs	Observation Report Submitted
7/1	1200 hrs	Job Task 01 Self-Assessment Completed
7/1	2300 hrs	Job Task 02 Course Completed
7/2	0800 hrs	Q&A Check-in on Zoom (Optional)
7/2	1200 hrs	Incident Report 1 Submitted
7/2	1200 hrs	Job Task 02 Self-Assessment Completed
7/2	2300 hrs	Job Task 03 Completed
7/3	0800 hrs	Q&A Check-in on Zoom (Optional)
7/3	1200 hrs	Incident Report 2 Submitted
7/3	1200 hrs	Job Task 03 Self-Assessment Completed
7/3	2300 hrs	Additional Online Courses Completed
7/6	TBD	Foundations Course Final Assessment (In-Person At POST)