Law Enforcement Certification Basic Training Course Syllabus

Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, under the direction of the Police Standards Advisory Council conducts Basic Law Enforcement Certification training that consists of 627 hours. The curriculum consists of courses in the following topic areas:

- Legal
- Patrol
- Officer Survival
- Investigations
- Human Understanding
- Traffic Operations

In addition to the topic areas listed above, the remaining hours are Skill Development (hands on application) training. Finally, a student will participate in and successfully complete the Practical Assessment (14 hours) as a part of the curriculum. Attendance is required for all activities of the program.

The Basic Law Enforcement certification program (Basic Training) is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills necessary to perform the functions of a basic law enforcement officer in the State of Nebraska. It also provides the student with insight into the operations of a law enforcement agency through the demands of assignments, changes in schedules and the use of teams and chain of commands.

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center is not a “boot camp” style of academy. It is based on adult learning theories with the emphasis placed on the learner. The instructional staff is willing to assist the student; however, the initiative for learning and performance rests with the student. Students must understand that the learning environment at the academy is not just about test scores. The real learning takes place when the student can apply the information provided. The information provided during the basic course is the foundation for a law enforcement officer’s career. This information will be used by officers from the first day of their career, to the day they take off the badge for the last time. Because of this, students are encouraged to study materials in a fashion that will allow them to recall and apply the information and skills for a longer period of time than just the test.
During the first phase of the Basic schedule, the student will primarily be in the classroom learning the foundational aspects of a law enforcement officer.

During the remaining weeks of training, the student will be scheduled for classroom instruction, interspersed skills development sessions. The skill development sessions afford the student the opportunity to practice skills previously taught in class. These sessions include driving, firearms, and defensive tactics. Practical exercises are graded exercises where the student must demonstrate proficiencies in the objectives taught in the course.

A minimum of 70% is required for all written examinations. There are approximately 14 examinations scheduled throughout the 15 week basic. Examinations are given in the evening hours and cover the material presented in both classroom instruction and skill development. In addition to written examinations, students will have to pass skills tests.

Graduation is typically held on Friday of week 15. In order to graduate, a student must have successfully completed all of the requirements of the Basic program.