

New requirements for Basic Law Enforcement Equivalency Academy

To meet the legislative statute of E2SSB 5051 (RCW 43.101), the WSCJTC decided to evaluate each academy curriculum/syllabus hours on a case-by-case basis. This would ensure the intent of the law (RCW 43.101.020) which mandates enhancement of our law enforcement personnel by increasing the integrity, effectiveness, and professionalism as we continue to build public trust.

WAC 139-05-210(2)(3)(a)(b) has not yet been revised due to the WAC revision process but are still relevant.

By not reviewing applications on a case-by-case basis, it could potentially cost agencies time and money. An agency may have hired an applicant with the intent of a two-week academy, only find out they did not qualify. Under the revised process, the WSCJTC will work with agencies at the beginning of the hiring phase. This will validate the training and certification to ensure the correct academy is attended.

- **Current process with new requirement.** This process applies to both the Basic Law Enforcement Equivalency Academy (BLEEA) and the Corrections Officer Equivalency Academy (COEA) (unless otherwise noted):
 - Agency provides current employment information including agency and timeframe of employment (**no change**)
 - The following are required for registration: (**no change**)
 - Acadis registration request
 - Previous law enforcement or corrections employer and dates of employment
 - Certificate of completion of previous training academy
 - BLEEA only – Completion of comparable EVOC training
 - Statement of fitness
 - Student liability release
 - BLEEA only – firearms proficiency test
 - **New** – With new legislative changes to policing across the nation, the previously used reciprocity sheet created at the WSCJTC is no longer valid. To ensure proper review of training from out-of-state lateral transfers, the WSCJTC is requesting agencies have their applicant provide their basic training academy curriculum/syllabus hours.
 - A curriculum/syllabus should include training titles and the corresponding training hours.
 - Agencies can have the applicant provide their complete training records along with the curriculum/syllabus for WSCJTC staff to consider.
 - This will help WSCJTC review all training, including academies that have been previously denied.
 - Agencies **are not** required to review this curriculum/syllabus.
 - The WSCJTC has a review team that includes staff from each of these divisions: Basic Training, Certification, and Curriculum
 - The curriculum/syllabus can be submitted at any stage of the hiring process that is convenient to the agency:
 - During the hiring agencies' initial application review; or
 - During the hiring agencies' background phase; or

- At the time of registration for the Equivalency Academy, with the understanding the applicant may not be eligible to attend the Equivalency Academy and may have to attend the Basic Law Enforcement Academy.
 - Submit the requested curriculum/syllabus documents from the hiring agency to certmail@cjtc.wa.gov
 - The WSCJTC understands it may be difficult to produce the curriculum/syllabus from an officer with a long career.
 - Unlike the previous process, the WSCJTC will now be able to work with each agency to help facilitate the outliers. The reciprocity sheet was a guide for agencies to determine if they could offer employment to an applicant. Now, the WSCJTC will look at the person, as well as the training.
 - Upon completion of review by the WSCJTC, the hiring agency will be notified which academy is necessary for the applicant to attend – BLEA/COA or BLEEA/COEA.
 - The Equivalency Academy will provide training to bridge any training gaps and specific training mandated by Washington State.
- The new requirement of a letter stating the applicant's certification status is in good standing from the last employer. This may be waived for COEA due to new certification legislation.