

LETCSA

VIOLENCE DE-ESCALATION TRAINING – COMPLIANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION

Washington State

Criminal Justice Training Commission



E2SHB 1310

July - December 2024

PREPARED BY:

David M. Lett

De-escalation Program Manager





CONTENTS

- SECTION 1 Legislative Mandate
- SECTION 2 Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) Financial Commitment
- SECTION 3 Current and Future Hub Locations
- SECTION 4 Patrol Tactics Instructors Development
- SECTION 5 Patrol Tactics In-Service (PTIS)
- SECTION 6 Patrol Tactics In-Service by Region
- SECTION 7 Highlights & Forward Progress





SECTION 1

Legislative Mandate

During the 2021 Legislative session, Washington lawmakers passed E2SHB 1310, a new law governing when and how law enforcement officers can use force against members of the public. The law expects officers to de-escalate and requires law enforcement to exercise reasonable care in using physical force to reduce violence and prioritize the sanctity of life. RCW 43.101.450 and 2019, c 1 s 3 (Initiative 940) are each amended to read as follows:

- Beginning one year after December 6, 2018, all law enforcement officers in the state of Washington must receive violence de-escalation training. Law enforcement officers beginning employment after December 6, 2018, must complete such training within the first 15 months of employment. The commission shall set the date by which other law enforcement officers must complete such training. RCW 43.101.450.(1).
- All law enforcement officers shall periodically receive continuing violence de-escalation training to practice their skills, update their knowledge and training, and learn about new legal requirements and violence de-escalation strategies. RCW 43.101.450.(2).
- The commission shall set training requirements through the procedures in RCW 43.101.455.
- Violence de-escalation training provided under this section must be consistent with RCW 10.120.020 and the model policies established by the attorney general under RCW 10.120.030.
- The commission shall submit a report to the legislature and the governor by January 1st and July 1st of each year on the implementation of and compliance with subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

The report must include data on compliance by agencies and officers. The report may also include recommendations for any changes to laws and policies necessary to improve compliance with this section's subsections (1) and (2).

The report contains the number of officers trained since July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. It also contains year-to-date numbers as well as total number of officers trained since the beginning of this program.

The report highlights past and present achievements, as well as future goals and steps taken to ensure the best opportunities for agencies to reach the goal of training the approximate 11,000 Certified Peace Officers in the State of Washington.

Glossary of Terms

PTI	Patrol Tactics Instructor
PTIS	Patrol Tactics In-Service
PTIR	Patrol Tactics Instructor Recertification
PTB	Patrol Tactics Basic (delivered in BLEA)
BLEA	Basic Law Enforcement Academy
BLEEA	Basic Law Enforcement Equivalency Academy
LETCSA	Law Enforcement Training and Community Safety Act
WSCJTC	Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission
ASTD	Applied Skills Training Division
ECW	Electronic Control Weapon

Definitions

Patrol Tactics Regional Hub – A regionally located venue that has certified instructors and has been certified to host PTI, PTIS, and PTIR courses. Regional hubs are supplied with the needed training equipment by WSCJTC. The equipment is available for loan to smaller agencies located within the region that may need training materials to train their personnel.



Officers are trained on proper application of the tourniquet

Regional 24-hour In-Service – Three consecutive days (24-hours) In-Service Training that is open to all agencies. Must be delivered in a consecutive 3-day period.

Internal Only 24-hour In-Service Training – Training provided by an agency specifically to their own personnel. It can be delivered in 3 consecutive days or spread out over a maximum of 6 months.



SECTION 2

WSCJTC Financial Commitment

WSCJTC is committed to improving and increasing training opportunities for all agencies across the state. WSCJTC has increased training capacity by strategically establishing Patrol Tactics regional hubs throughout the state. The average cost of equipment at a PTIS regional hub is approximately \$46,000. To fully staff a PTIS regional hub course, the cost is approximately \$40,000.

PTI COURSE – Average instructor cost per 80-hour session – \$35,000

- Vancouver - \$34,700
- Wenatchee - \$42,450
- King County - \$22,000
- Yakima - \$43,000
- Tacoma - \$35,000

PTI RECERTIFICATION – Average cost per 24-hour session

- 5 classes this year - \$27,000
 - (average cost per session \$5,400)

REGIONAL TRAINING HUBS – Equipment - Average cost - \$46,000

- Everett
- Vancouver
- Wenatchee
- Yakima
- Tacoma

EXPENDITURES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING

- Contract Instructor Payment
- Lodging – for State Employees
- Per Diem – for State Employees
- Fuel costs
- Miscellaneous daily expenses

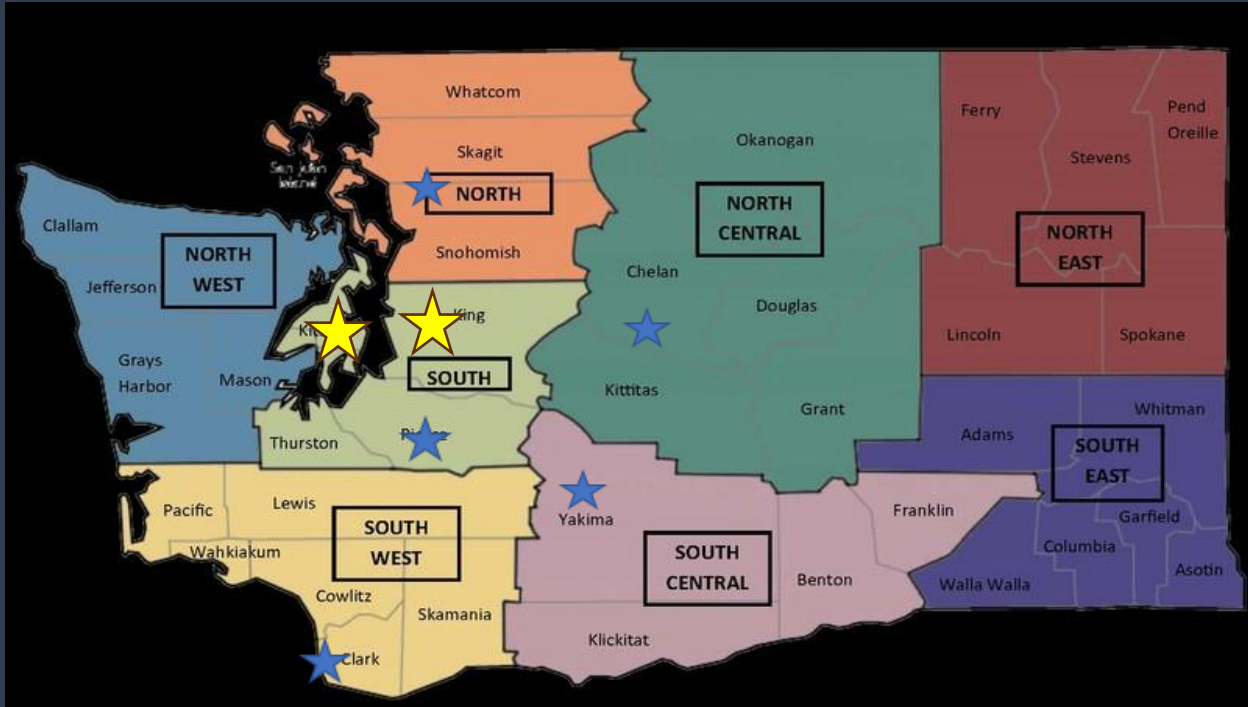


Officers uses gauze to learn wound packing during Critical Life Saving Skills training



SECTION 3

Current and Future Hub Locations



★ Currently Established Regional Training Hubs

1. North Region (Everett)
2. South Central Region (Yakima)
3. North Central Region (Wenatchee)
4. Southwest Regional Academy (Vancouver)
5. South Region (Tacoma)

★ Future Regional Hub Locations under consideration*

1. South Region (Kitsap)
2. South Region (King County)

*Under consideration means that the WSCJTC will conduct site inspections to ensure a viable area to conduct training, to determine which area best suits the South Region to service the most agencies.



SECTION 4

Patrol Tactics Instructor

WSCJTC has invested time and resources to ensure that Patrol Tactics Instructors are trained properly and ready to certify law enforcement across the state. Patrol Tactic Instructors can provide training within their agency as well as regional hubs. From 2018 to 2024, WSCJTC conducted an average of 4 Patrol Tactics Instructor Courses per year. (Figure 1).

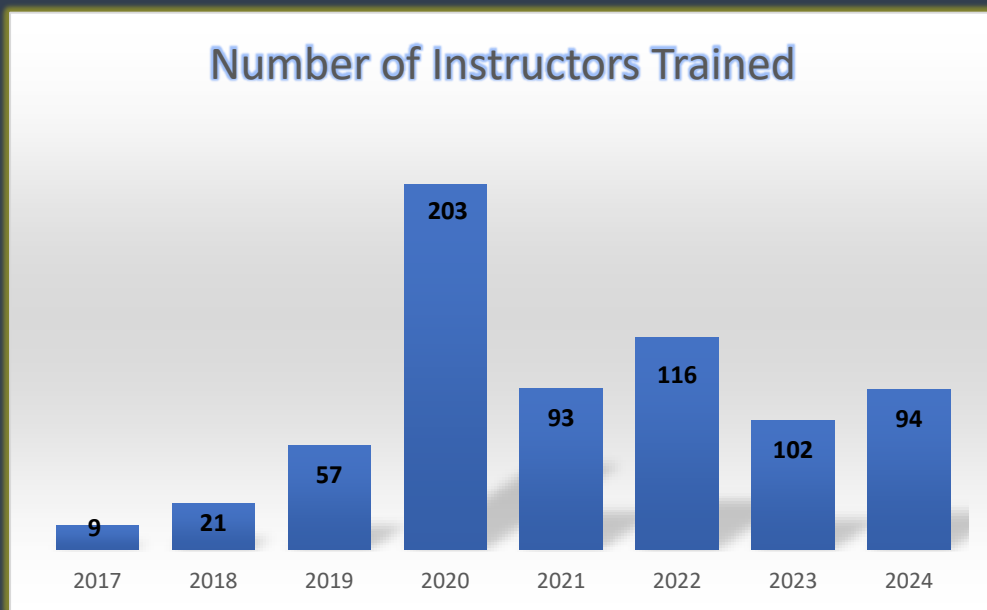


Figure 1

Total Number of Instructors trained from January 2024 - October 2024 = 94

Total Number of Instructors trained from 2017 to 2024 = 695



Officers being evaluated during Patrol Tactics Equivalency Academy (WSCJTC)



SECTION 5

Patrol Tactics In-Service (PTIS)

Patrol Tactics In-service (PTIS) course graduation rates have increased significantly since 2020 (See Figure 2). Recertification is required every three years after the completion date. WAC 139-11-020 (2). Those who have completed the certifications in 2020 and 2021 are due for recertification.



Figure 2

Critical Numbers

There are approximately 10,774 certified peace officers in Washington State. To date, approximately 4,684 have received the mandated 24-hour Patrol Tactics In-Service. At the current training rate of approximately 1,000 officers per year, an estimated 2,500 law enforcement officers are projected to still be non-compliant with their required violence de-escalation training by December 31, 2027, highlighting a significant gap in meeting statewide training mandates aimed at improving public safety and law enforcement accountability.

WSCJTC has increased the availability of training opportunities for agencies at each of the regional hubs, we anticipate the number of officers trained will increase to approximately 1,600 per year. WSCJTC is actively pursuing innovations to support law enforcement agencies in achieving the goal of training all 10,774 certified peace officers in the state. These efforts include optimizing training delivery methods, expanding access to training resources, and collaborating with agencies to overcome logistical and operational challenges. By implementing strategies like increasing training capacity,

streamlining curriculum delivery, and utilizing regional training hubs, WSCJTC aims to accelerate compliance with mandated programs such as the 24-hour Patrol Tactics In-Service and other essential courses.

Total Number trained from January 2024 - October 2024 = 1,255

Total Number trained from 2017 to 2024 = 4,603

Renewals/Recertifications to date = 493

Expired Certifications to date = 949 *As of today, 433 students are separated from law enforcement.



SECTION 6

Patrol Tactics In-Service by Region

Region	Number of Officers	Number of Officers trained in Patrol Tactics In-Service
North	1,477	988
North Central	480	299
Northwest	386	120
Northeast	756	326
South	5,974	2,329
Southcentral	716	186
Southeast	249	79
Southwest	754	357
Grand Total	10,792	4,684 (43.48 %)



Top 10 agencies for Patrol Tactics In-Service Training

Agency	Number of officers	Trained in PT In-Service	% trained in PT In-Service	Region
Kitsap County Sheriff	121	103	85.12%	South
Clark County Sheriff	131	105	80.15%	Southwest
Everett Police Department	188	139	73.94%	North
WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife	146	102	69.86%	South
Snohomish County Sheriff	279	155	55.56%	North

Seattle Police Department	1,019	522	51.23%	South
Spokane County Sheriff	225	105	46.67%	Northeast
Tacoma Police Department	330	141	42.73%	South
King County Sheriff	709	275	38.79%	South
WA State Patrol	899	175	19.47%	South

Total Number of Agencies below 10% = (51)



SECTION 7

Highlights and Looking Forward

Regional Hub – Full Equipment Deployment

Three new regional hubs—North Central (Wenatchee), Southwest (Vancouver), and South (Tacoma)—are now fully equipped and operational to support Patrol Tactics In-Service and Patrol Tactics Instructor sessions. Each hub features a range of specialized equipment to enhance training capabilities for local agencies, including:

- Wound Packing Stations and Medical Supplies for Critical Life-Saving Skills (CLSS) instruction
- Training Weapons for safe and realistic practice
- Radios to facilitate realistic scenario simulations
- Safety Mats for groundwork and physical exercises
- Safety Vests for identifying individuals as "armed" during training

Future Course Additions

To address staffing and financial challenges related to the intensive 80-hour Patrol Tactics Instructor (PTI) training course, the WSCJTC Violence De-Escalation team is pursuing partnerships with programs such as WSCJTC Instructor Development (ID) and the Seattle Police Department's EMT Unit. These collaborations aim to expand certification opportunities, including Instructor Development, Law Enforcement Casualty Care (LECC), and CPR. Additionally, integrating online components into PTI training will minimize the time personnel spend away from their agencies and enhance the overall value of the PTI curriculum.

Curriculum Review, Development, and Assessment

The Patrol Tactics program is conducting an in-depth review and development process for the PTI curriculum to ensure it includes the latest, most reliable information. This effort involves close collaboration with the WSCJTC Curriculum Development Team and

the Policy & Accreditation Unit to align the curriculum with WSCJTC policies and state legislative requirements.

Curriculum Division

The Patrol Tactics team is actively collaborating with a range of subject matter experts (SMEs) to support the revision and enhancement of the PTI curriculum. These SMEs bring specialized knowledge that ensures the curriculum is comprehensive, current, and effective. The team's partnerships include professionals such as:

- **Medical Professionals** for insights on critical life-saving skills and trauma response
- **Behavioral Health Specialists** to improve understanding and response to mental health crises
- **Psychologists** to inform approaches in de-escalation and stress management techniques
- **District Attorneys Specializing in Officer-Involved Shooting Response** to ensure legal perspectives are integrated into training

This multidisciplinary approach is essential to aligning the PTI curriculum with best practices and enhancing its impact on law enforcement training.