

**TRAINING AND TESTING  
SPECIFICATIONS FOR LEARNING DOMAIN #35  
FIREARMS/CHEMICAL AGENTS**

August 1, 2013

| RBC | Other Basic Courses |     |    |   |      | Requal |
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|     | 832                 | III | II | I | SIBC |        |
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I. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know and practice all procedures for the safe handling of all firearms while on and off duty.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. State the four fundamental rules of firearms safety
- B. Explain basic safety guidelines to be followed at a firing range
- C. Describe the safety precautions for proper storage of firearms

II. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the workings, the capabilities, and limitations of firearms in order to operate them safely and effectively.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Describe the basic information about a semiautomatic pistol and magazine, including:
  - 1. Primary components and their functions
  - 2. Steps for loading/unloading
  - 3. Steps for rendering the semiautomatic pistol safe

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B. Describe the cycle of operation that takes place with each single pull of a semiautomatic pistol trigger

C. Describe the basic information about a revolver, including:

1. Primary components and their functions
2. Steps for loading/unloading
3. Steps for rendering the revolver safe

D. Describe the basic information about shotguns, including:

1. Advantages and limitations
2. Primary components and their functions
3. Steps for loading/unloading
4. Steps for rendering the shotgun safe

### III. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the capabilities and limitations of the ammunition they use in their firearms to operate them safely and effectively.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. State the guidelines for the safe handling of ammunition

B. Describe the primary components of firearm cartridges

C. Explain the chain of events that takes place when a projectile is discharged from a cartridge

D. Describe the primary components of a shotgun shell

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E. Define shot pattern as it relates to shotgun shells

F. Explain the correlation to the distance traveled by the shot and the size of the shot pattern

G. Describe the three ways shot placement can stop a threat, to include:

1. Central nervous system
2. Critical blood loss
3. Psychological

IV. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know how to properly inspect, clean, and care for their firearms to ensure that they function safely and effectively.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. Describe the components that may prevent problems and that should be examined during a routine safety inspection

B. Describe the materials, equipment, and environment needed to properly clean firearms

C. Apply routine procedures for cleaning firearms

V. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must comprehend and practice the fundamental skills of firing firearms to be effective in reactive and precision situations during live fire exercises.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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- A. Apply the proper steps for drawing and holstering
- B. Demonstrate the following elements to accurately shoot a firearm:
  - 1. Grip
  - 2. Stance
  - 3. Breath control
  - 4. Sight alignment/sight picture
  - 5. Trigger control
  - 6. Follow-through
- C. Describe the types of malfunctions and demonstrate clearing methods for:
  - 1. Semiautomatic pistols
  - 2. Revolvers
  - 3. Shotguns
- D. Describe limitations officers may encounter when shooting under low light/nighttime conditions
- E. Describe conditions an officer may face when in a combat situation
- F. Describe possible physiological and psychological responses an officer may experience under the stress of a combat situation
- G. Explain steps officers can take to prepare themselves for the extreme stress of combat

VI. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must know the terminology, capabilities, exposure symptoms, and decontamination procedures in order to safely and effectively handle and deploy chemical agents and gas masks.

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#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. State the statutory requirements for the possession and use of chemical agents
- B. Describe four methods used to deploy chemical agents
- C. Describe environmental and physical conditions that can impact the effectiveness of a chemical agent
- D. State the guidelines for safely carrying, drawing, and deploying hand-held canisters of chemical agents
- E. Apply decontamination procedures that should be followed after a chemical agent has been used
- F. Discuss the physiological and psychological effects of each of the following chemical agents used by peace officers:
  1. OC (oleoresin capsicum)
  2. CN (chloroacetophenone)
  3. CS (ortho-chlorobenzylidene-molonitrile)
- G. Demonstrate proper procedures peace officers should follow when using gas masks, to include:
  1. Inspection and proper fit
  2. Cleaning and storage

#### VII. REQUIRED TESTS

Exercise testing is mandated and regulated by POST Commission Procedure D-1, which states:

Academies/presenters shall provide the following to students who fail a required exercise test on the first attempt:



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5. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- B. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in **basic** handgun shooting principles using a handgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **low light/night** conditions (for outdoor ranges testing must be done during the hours of darkness as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) on a **basic** course of fire.

The student is required to shoot from multiple distances of 1 to 15 yards or greater using a presenter approved service handgun and fire a minimum of 50 rounds of service ammunition with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load and reload the handgun using the loading device authorized by the presenter and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Basic Shooting Principles
5. Flashlight/Lighting System/Existing Light
6. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- C. An **exercise test** that requires a student to demonstrate competency in **combat** shooting principles and tactics using a handgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **daylight** conditions on a





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The student is required to tactically load, unload and reload the shotgun and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Basic Shooting Principles
5. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- F. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in **basic** shotgun shooting principles using a shotgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment under **low light/night time** conditions (for outdoor ranges testing must be done during the hours of darkness as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) on a **basic** course of fire.

The student is required to fire 20 rounds of service ammunition at multiple distances from 3 to 15 yards or greater using a presenter approved shotgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load, unload and reload the shotgun and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Basic Shooting Principles



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exercise test.

- H. An **exercise test** that requires the student to demonstrate competency in **combat** shooting principles and tactics using a shotgun, while wearing body armor and duty equipment, under **low light/night time** conditions (for outdoor ranges testing must be done during the hours of darkness as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) on a **combat** course of fire.

The course of fire must simulate the physical and mental stress that would be most nearly created by actual field **combat** situations. The test will minimally include threat assessment, multiple targets, left and right handed shooting positions, multiple shooting positions and the use of cover and concealment.

The student is required to fire a minimum of 12 rounds of service ammunition using a presenter approved shotgun, with acceptable accuracy standards and under time restrictions established by the presenter.

The student is required to tactically load, unload and reload the shotgun and clear any malfunctions that may occur during the course of fire.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Firearms Safety
2. Mechanical Functions
3. Manipulations
4. Judgment/Decision Making
5. Basic Shooting Principles
6. Combat Shooting Principles/Tactics
7. Flashlight/Light System/Existing Light
8. Accuracy

Presenters must use the POST-developed Firearms Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.



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- A. Each student will participate in a simulation that requires exposure to a non-lethal, riot control chemical agent. The simulation must involve the following:
1. Exposure to a non-lethal, riot control chemical agent
  2. Proper use of a gas mask including the pre-inspection, fitting and clearing of the mask
  3. Decontamination techniques
- B. Each student will participate in a simulation that requires exposure to a non-lethal, aerosol chemical agent. The simulation must involve the following:
1. Exposure to a non-lethal, aerosol chemical agent
  2. Proper care, maintenance and deployment of a non-lethal, aerosol chemical agent
  3. Decontamination techniques
- C. Each student will participate in a learning activity designed to reinforce the ability to manipulate their assigned firearm.
- If the firearm is a semiautomatic pistol, the learning activity shall minimally include the following techniques to safely and effectively manipulate the semiautomatic pistol in both the left and right hand:
1. Render the weapon safe
  2. Release slide
  3. Lock slide open
  4. Rack slide
  5. Holster weapon
  6. Unholster weapon
  7. Load weapon
  8. Unload weapon from the holster
  9. Clear any malfunctions
  10. In battery reload
  11. Out of battery speed reload
- If the firearm is a revolver, the learning activity shall minimally include the following techniques to safely



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XI.

REVISION DATE

January 1, 2004  
 July 1, 2005  
 January 1, 2006  
 January 19, 2007

July 1, 2008  
 January 1, 2009  
 July 1, 2009  
 January 1, 2010

July 1, 2010  
 July 1, 2011  
 August 1, 2013