MD Police and Correctional Training Commissions

Entrance-Level Training Waiver Requests

The MD Police & Correctional Training Commissions (PCTC) Comparative Compliance Training Course is an abbreviated entrance-level training program designed for previously certified Maryland police officers who have been separated from law enforcement between 3 and 5 years, and non-Maryland officers who completed an acceptable entrance-level training program in another state or through the federal government.

An agency requesting a waiver of entrance-level training from the Police Training and Standards Commission (Commission) on behalf of an individual must submit the entrance-level training curriculum/course outline and the number of hours of the course (COMAR 12.04.01.14E(2)) to the Director of Law Enforcement Training at mpctcletu.dpscs@maryland.gov. All submissions must be made by an agency representative and will not be accepted from individual applicants.

COMAR 12.04.01.14E outlines the minimum requirements needed to grant a waiver of entrance-level training. Two main areas are reviewed in this process: hours and curriculum.

Requests must include:

- Entrance-level academy curriculum/course outline, including hours and academy name
- Copy of graduation certificate from entrance-level academy
- Starting and separation dates from all previous agencies
- In-service history, including topics and hours

The review will compare the applicant's approved academy hours with the amount of Maryland academy hours required by regulation at the time of academy attendance as detailed below. For example, if the officer graduated from entrance-level training on June 6, 1996, the 600-hour mandate would be used.

Minimum Hours for Police Entrance-Level Training	
January 1975 - November 1975	259 hours
November 1975 - June 1980	350 hours
June 1980 - March 1983	385 hours
March 1983 - May 1995	400 hours
May 1995 - June 2009	600 hours
July 2009 – July 2023	750 hours
August 2023 - present	850 hours

The minimum hour requirement includes entrance-level firearms training and qualifications but does not include field training. If field training is included in the overall total hours, those hours are subtracted.

Topics taught during the applicant's in-service training may be considered toward the minimum academy hourly requirement. An annual repetitive topical area may only be considered once.

Specialized training received during the applicant's career that is relevant to the topical areas may be considered toward the minimum academy hourly requirement.

In addition to the hours of training, a complete review of the entrance-level training curriculum is conducted. The curriculum must meet the enumerated topics in COMAR 12.04.01.09C as detailed below.

Police Entrance-Level Training Topics	
Graduation Date:	Topics Needed:
Prior to July 1, 2003	• Administration • Arrest, Search & Seizure • Patrol • Traffic • Criminal Investigation
July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2009	• All the above plus: • Terrorism and weapons of mass destruction
July 1, 2009 – December 31, 2014	• All the above plus: • Emergency medical care, which shall also provide training in lifesaving techniques, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) • Communications • Report writing and composition • Crime prevention • Crisis intervention • Protective strategies and tactics • Emergency vehicle operations • Prisoner processing and security • Courtroom preparation and testimony • Health and wellness
January 1, 2015 – present	• All the above plus: • Sensitivity to cultural and gender diversity • Individuals with physical, intellectual, developmental, and psychiatric disabilities

Pursuant to COMAR 12.04.01.14E(8)(d), the individual must complete entrance-level firearms training and qualification under COMAR 12.04.02. If the individual previously completed entrance-level firearms training that is equivalent to the entrance-level firearms training required under COMAR 12.04.02 for the agency-approved firearm and has received a waiver from the Commission, the individual shall be required to complete annual firearms classroom instruction and training and qualification COMAR 12.04.02.