

**CODE OF MARYLAND REGULATIONS (COMAR)**  
**Title 12 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**  
**Subtitle 04 POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION**  
**Chapter 04 Minimum Standards for Certified Firearms Safety Training**  
Authority: Public Safety Article, §3-208, Annotated Code of Maryland  
*Compiled from Division of State Documents January 9, 2025*

## Table of Contents

12.04.04.01 Scope. ....	1
12.04.04.02 Definitions. ....	1
12.04.04.03 Certified Firearms Safety Instructor. ....	1
12.04.04.04 Certified Firearms Safety Training Course. ....	2

### **12.04.04.01 Scope.**

This chapter applies to:

- A. An individual who is required by law to attend a certified firearms safety training course in order to purchase, rent, or transfer a regulated firearm;
- B. A person seeking certification from the Commission to offer certified firearms safety training under this chapter;
- C. A firearms safety training course approved by the Commission; and
- D. A firearms safety instructor certified by the Commission.

### **12.04.04.02 Definitions.**

A. In this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

B. Terms Defined.

- (1) "Certified firearms safety instructor" means an individual certified under this chapter to conduct a certified firearms safety training course.
- (2) "Certified firearms training course" means an instructional program approved by the Commission to teach the safe handling of a regulated firearm.
- (3) "Commission" means the Police Training Commission or an employee authorized to act in its behalf.
- (4) "Deputy Director" means the Deputy Director of the Police and Correctional Training Commissions, or a designee.
- (5) "Police officer" has the meaning stated in Public Safety Article, §3-201(e), Annotated Code of Maryland.
- (6) "Regulated firearm" has the meaning stated in Public Safety Article, §5-101, Annotated Code of Maryland.

### **12.04.04.03 Certified Firearms Safety Instructor.**

A. A firearms safety instructor shall be certified in order to conduct a certified firearms safety training course under this chapter.

B. Requirements for a Certified Firearms Safety Instructor. An individual is eligible to conduct a certified firearms safety training course if the individual is:

- (1) A certified police officer who has completed:
  - (a) Commission requirements for entrance-level firearms training; and

- (b) Probationary employment requirements as a police officer; or
- (2) Certified to conduct a certified firearms safety training course by:
  - (a) The Commission;
  - (b) The Department of Natural Resources;
  - (c) The Department of State Police; or
  - (d) A reputable organization having as one of its objectives the promotion of competency and safety in handling handguns.

C. Commission Certification Procedure. An individual seeking certification as a firearms safety instructor under §B(2)(a) of this regulation shall:

- (1) Submit a request for certification to the Deputy Director for approval; and
- (2) Include a resume or other documentation indicating the individual's qualification to conduct the certified firearms safety training course.

#### **12.04.04.04 Certified Firearms Safety Training Course.**

A. Commission approval is required for a certified firearms safety training course designed to meet the requirements specified under Public Safety Article, §3-208, Annotated Code of Maryland.

B. A certified firearms safety training course shall include the following elements:

- (1) A handgun safety component;
- (2) Safe handling of a regulated firearm;
- (3) Rendering a regulated firearm safe;
- (4) Safe carrying and transporting of a regulated firearm;
- (5) Security and storage of a regulated firearm; and
- (6) Restricting access to a regulated firearm by an individual:
  - (a) Younger than 21 years old; or
  - (b) Not legally permitted to possess a regulated firearm.

C. A certified firearms safety training course shall:

- (1) Be approved by the Commission;
- (2) Have a handgun safety component; and
- (3) Be conducted by a certified firearms safety instructor.

D. If the certified firearms safety training course is offered by the Commission, it:

- (1) Shall:
  - (a) Be presented by a certified firearms safety instructor;
  - (b) Be open to all individuals required by law to complete a certified firearms safety training course;
  - (c) Be offered at least weekly in all geographic areas of Maryland after regular business hours;
  - (d) Require attendance throughout the duration of the course for successful completion; and
  - (e) Be free of charge to all individuals seeking to take the course; and
- (2) May not:
  - (a) Be more than 2 hours in length; and
  - (b) Include a test, examination, or other measure of comprehension.

E. Commission Approval Procedure. A person seeking approval for a certified firearms safety training course under this regulation shall:

- (1) Submit a request for approval to the Deputy Director; and
- (2) Include a description of the course to be presented.

F. Documentation of Completion.

(1) The certified firearms safety instructor shall provide to each individual attending the certified firearms safety training course a certificate of completion.

(2) The certificate of completion shall contain the following information:

- (a) Full name of the individual attending the course;
- (b) Address of the individual;
- (c) Date and location of the training course; and
- (d) Name of the certified firearms safety instructor.

(3) The certified firearms safety instructor shall forward a list of all individuals attending the certified firearms safety training course to the Commission within 2 weeks.