

West Virginia Drug Evaluation & Classification Program

WV Governor's Highway Safety Program

5707 MacCorkle Ave SE

PO Box 17600

Charleston, WV 25317

Phone: (304)926-3821

Fax: (304)926-3880



Name (Last, First) _____ Rank _____

Agency _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Current Assignment _____ Hire Date _____

E-Mail _____ Work Phone # (____) _____

The DEC Program: The Drug Evaluation Classification (DEC) Program has received national acclaim for its success in identifying the drug-impaired driver. Officers trained as Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) are frequently called upon to differentiate between drug influence and medical and/or mental disorders. The certified DRE is an extremely valuable tool in combating the adverse impact of drug and alcohol impaired driving in our communities.

The DRE School is extremely demanding. To receive certification as a DRE, three phases of training must be completed. The following summarizes each phase:

ACADEMIC TRAINING (Phase I & II): Phase I & II will be conducted in ten (10) days encompassing 80 hours of classroom instruction. Phase I is known as the 2-Day DRE Pre-School. Phase II is the 7-Day DRE School. Both phases include courses in physiology, vital signs, standardized field sobriety testing (SFST), and extensive material on each of the seven drug categories. The training includes two written examinations, an SFST proficiency examination and five written quizzes. Students must achieve a minimum of 80% on the two examinations, and must demonstrate proficiency in administering SFST's. We have 1 additional day added to Phase II for State specific reporting, training, and program details.

CERTIFICATION PHASE (Phase III): After successfully completing the academic portion, the students must complete the certification phase. At the conclusion of the classroom training, students will attend five days of field certification training at different sites across the country. These requirements include conducting a minimum of 12 drug influence evaluations while

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under the supervision of a DRE instructor; identifying subjects under the influence of three of the seven drug categories confirmed by toxicological evidence. In addition, the student must maintain a progress log, rolling log and submit a curriculum vitae (CV). Finally, the student must pass a comprehensive final knowledge examination, and obtain the written endorsement of two certified DRE instructors.

Candidates should be comfortable with traveling cross country. WV Dec Program has utilized field certification sites in Arizona and New Jersey. We have not developed a certification site in West Virginia at this time.

Recertification: DRE certification is valid for two years. In order to maintain certification, DREs must conduct a minimum of four evaluations every two years, submit an updated rolling log, an updated CV, and attend eight hours of approved recertification training.

To be considered for DRE training, the applicant *must* meet the following criteria:

- Must be a full-time law enforcement officer
- Presently commissioned as a peace officer as defined by West Virginia Code
- Have a minimum of three (3) years of full-time law enforcement experience
- Be in "good standing" with their agency
- Not currently on a probationary status with their agency
- Presently assigned to patrol and/or traffic enforcement duties
 - a. Those not assigned to patrol / traffic duties may be considered for DRE training on a case by case basis
- Successfully completed the IACP/NHTSA approved Standard Field Sobriety Testing Training (SFST)
 - a. ARIDE training is required
 - b. Must have successfully completed the NHTSA's SFST/DWI Detection Process training at the West Virginia State Police Academy

Application Process: A candidate is required to submit the following information to the Technical Advisory Committee for consideration:

- Student Application
- Copies of SFST and ARIDE Training certificates (or dates completed/attending)
- Copies of two (2) adjudicated DUI arrest reports, with video tapes if available, from the previous 12-month period (one (1) involving drugs if possible)
- A letter from your Chief, Sheriff or Post Commander supporting your application in to the DEC program.
- A letter from your prosecutor supporting your application in to the DEC program.

To assist in the selection of quality personnel for the DEC Program, please complete the following information: (use additional paper if needed.)

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Date of SFST Training Updates: _____ Date of ARIDE Training: _____

EMT/Paramedic? _____ Number of DUI arrests in the last 2 years: _____

Number of DUI drug arrests you have made in the past 2 years: _____

Summarize your prior assignments related to, or of interest to, the DRE Program.

Summarize your formal education, work or practical experience and training that may be related to, or may be interest to, the DRE Program. (EMT training, college, etc.)

How do you expect DRE training to benefit you and your department?

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List anything else that would assist in your selection as a DRE.

I solemnly affirm that the information contained in this application is true and accurate. I will comply fully with all requirements set forth for certification as a Drug Recognition Expert.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Submit application and all supporting documents to:

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