



Control Tactics 2026 Minimum Course Requirements



It is recommended the Use of Force training be completed prior to teaching Control Tactics and completing the Control Tactics Qualification Course.

COURSE PURPOSE: The 2026 Control Tactics Course is a performance-based program designed to improve officer safety, ensure ethical and legally defensible use of force, and align training with contemporary best practices. The overall goal is to better prepare Pennsylvania law enforcement officers in mission-critical physical control skills, whether upright or on the ground.

Officers are rigorously trained and evaluated on handcuffing proficiency, defensive countermeasures, and rapid ground-recovery tactics, ensuring every graduate can dominate dynamic encounters while adhering to proportionality standards. Clear, measurable performance objectives and qualification drills greatly improve outcomes.

This skill list **MUST** be covered during the training:

1. Break Fall
 2. Getting to Base (3 Points of Contact)
 3. Guard and Rotating Guard
 4. Trap and Roll
 5. Handcuffing (Standing)
 6. Handcuffing (Prone)
- **These core concepts will now be a part of the Control Tactics Checklist.**
 - **Successful completion of CT Training requires a “YES” (Pass) for all criteria by the end of this course**
 - **No section of this class can be missed.**
 - **To get credit, you must actively participate**
 - **Watching or observing doesn't count for attendance**

SAFETY PROTOCOLS:

WEAPONS PROHIBITION – ZERO TOLERANCE

- NO LIVE FIREARMS, CHEMICAL AGENTS (OC), KNIVES, BATONS, CEDs, OR ANY WEAPONS permitted in the training area.

MANDATORY WEAPONS SWEEP

- Every instructor and student must undergo full 360° visual and tactile inspection by an instructor **before** stepping onto the mat.
 - Consider this a practice search. All officers should be able to successfully complete a search so use this as a training opportunity.
- Duty belt = handcuffs and holder ONLY. Everything else away from training area (preferably secured elsewhere).

PRE-TRAINING HYGIENE & SAFETY PROTOCOL

- Remove ALL jewelry (rings, watches, necklaces, earrings, nose rings, bracelets — everything).
- Trim fingernails.
- No cologne, perfume, or strong scented deodorants.

INSTRUCTOR MANDATE – SAFETY & DISCIPLINE

- Create & enforce a safe, weapon and bad attitude free, professional training environment at all times.
- Maintain zero-tolerance discipline.

STUDENT MANDATE – COMPLIANCE & SAFETY

- **Follow every instructor directive**
- **Train with effort within your physical limits — no ego, no shortcuts.**
- **Pre-disclose ALL injuries/conditions to lead instructor before first drill.**
 - If you can't do all requirements, come back another time.
 - **Any injury, no matter how minor → STOP, REPORT, and STAND BY** for instructor evaluation.
 - Follow agency policy!

Train hard. Train smart. Train safe

Note: If you are teaching officers outside of your own agency; please inform the students that they **MUST** review their own department-specific use of force and arrest-related policies.

This course is hosted at [PAVTN | Home](#)