

TRAINING BULLETIN

Number 186

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

February 2026

FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

The Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB) is pleased to announce the 2026 training schedule for the Train the Trainer Program. This voluntary program is designed to develop in-house trainers that will be certified by the SDSETB to train Pennsylvania Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs across the Commonwealth. Each Sheriff's office may elect to participate and send staff they would like to develop as trainers. Deputies must have the approval of their Sheriff to be eligible for participation. The 2026 schedule will include a Firearms Instructor Course, Patrol Rifle Instructor Course, and a Firearms/Patrol Rifle Instructor Re-Certification Course.

Basic Firearms Instructor Course

This course is designed for sheriffs and deputies that have not previously attended the course and have not been certified by the SDSETB as a Firearms Instructor. As a pre-requisite to attending this course, all enrollees must have previously completed the SDSETB sponsored Instructor Development Course or must submit written documentation indicating their completion of another accredited Instructor Development Program and/or their experience as an instructor. Registration is completed electronically, using the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Information System (SDSIS). All pre-requisite documentation must be submitted prior to enrolling in the Firearms Instructor Course. The documentation must be submitted via email to Mr. Doug Hummel (PCCD) at dohummel@pa.gov. All registrations entered prior to submitting the pre-requisite documentation will be removed by SDSETB program staff.

The Firearms Instructor Course (Class Code T-26-02) is being hosted by the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training Academy in State College, PA. Course dates are May 18, 2026 through May 22, 2026. This is a five-day course (40 hours). On the first day of class, attendees are required to pass a qualification course of fire to remain in the course. Class size is limited to 20 attendees with a minimum enrollment of 12. Attendees must register for the course no later than May 1, 2026. As in the past, there are no training registration fees or attendance costs and lodging and meals will be provided.

The SDSETB will not provide for the reimbursement of travel costs and salary.

Attendees are required to bring their duty handgun. Shotguns will be provided, but attendees are welcome to bring their agency approved shotgun for qualification and training. Attendees are required to supply their own ammunition. All ammunition must be "new," factory-manufactured ammunition. Re-loaded ammunition will not be permitted.

Firearms Instructor ammunition requirements:

- 600 rounds of handgun ammunition
- 25 rounds of 10z. shotgun slugs
- 50 rounds of .00 buckshot – 9 pellet shotgun ammunition

Patrol Rifle Instructor Course

This course is designed for those sheriffs and deputies that have not previously attended the course and have not been certified by the SDSETB as a Patrol Rifle Instructor. As a pre-requisite to attending this course, all enrollees must have previously completed the SDSETB sponsored Firearms Instructor Training. Registration is completed electronically, using the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Information System (SDSIS).

The Patrol Rifle Instructor Course (Class Code T-26-04) is being hosted by the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training Academy in State College, PA. Course dates are August 24, 2026 through August 28, 2026. This is a four and a half-day course (36 hours). Attendees are required to pass a qualification course of fire to remain in the course. Class size is limited to 20 attendees with a minimum enrollment of 12 no later than August 7, 2026. As in the past, there are no training registration fees or attendance costs, and lodging and meals will be provided. Patrol Rifles will not be supplied. Weapons must be chambered to use .223 or 5.56 caliber ammunition.

The SDSETB will not provide for the reimbursement of travel costs and salary.

Attendees are required to bring their agency issued patrol rifle and duty handgun and are required to supply their own ammunition. All ammunition must be “new,” factory-manufactured ammunition. Re-loaded ammunition will not be permitted.

Patrol Rifle Instructor ammunition requirements:

600 rounds of patrol rifle ammunition
100 rounds of handgun ammunition

Combined Firearms/Patrol Rifle Re-certification Course

The Firearms/Patrol Rifle Instructor Re-Certification Course is a three-day course (24 hours). It replaces the former, separate recertification courses. Current and former SDSETB certified firearms and patrol rifle instructors are eligible to attend this course. Instructors needing to recertify in only one discipline (Firearms or Patrol Rifle) are required to complete the entire three-day training for recertification as a firearms instructor and/or patrol rifle instructor. Recertification is required every three years.

The Firearms/Patrol Rifle Instructor Re-Certification Course (Class Code T-26-03) is being hosted by the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Training Academy in State College, PA. Course dates are August 4, 2026 through August 6, 2026. Attendees are required to pass a qualification course of fire with their handgun and/or patrol rifle to remain in the course. Class size is limited to 20 attendees with a minimum enrollment of 12 no later than July 17, 2026. As in the past, there are no training registration fees or attendance costs, and lodging and meals will be provided.

The SDSETB will not provide for the reimbursement of travel costs and salary.

Attendees are required to bring their duty handgun, agency issued patrol rifle, and their own ammunition. All ammunition must be “new,” factory-manufactured ammunition. Re-loaded ammunition will not be permitted.

Firearms/Patrol Rifle Instructor Re-certification ammunition requirements:

- 400 rounds of handgun ammunition (for Firearms re-certification)
- 300 rounds of rifle ammunition (for Patrol Rifle re-certification)
- 25 rounds of 1oz. shotgun slugs
- 25 rounds of .00 buckshot – 9 pellet (only) shotgun ammunition.



PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
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