

Colorado Enhanced Standards



The International Standards of the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program

Revised August 2020



Introduction

The International Standards of the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program (DECP) were approved by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in October 1992. Periodically, revisions and updates are made to these standards.

This document presents the minimal standards specifying the requirements for certification and recertification of DREs and DRE instructors; standards for decertification and reinstatement; and standards for agency participation.

Individual states are not restricted from adopting or implementing reasonable standards that are more stringent. These standards are implemented by the Colorado DRE State Coordinator. These enhanced standards have been reviewed by the TAP Standards Committee to ensure they are reasonable, in-line with, and support overall goals and objectives of the DEC program.

The Colorado Enhanced DRE Standards are listed below, categorized into each of the original documents numbering system. Please refer to your copy of both standards for reference. You can access the most up-to-date version of these standards on the CDOT Safety webpage.

I. Standards for Certification as a Drug Recognition Expert

(1.1C) Any DRE Training school in Colorado must be approved by the Colorado State DRE Coordinator.

(1.3C) DRE candidates must have successfully completed the 24-hour SFST training course, be compliant with Colorado SFST recertification standards and attended an in classroom IACP /NHTSA Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving Enforcement (ARIDE).

(1.4 C) DRE Candidates must obtain a score of eighty percent (80%) or higher on the Pre-School Final Exam to continue DRE training, specifically Phase II.

(1.6 C) Any classroom sessions missed or not completed for a Colorado DRE school must be made up before the end of the 56-hour main school.

(1.8 C) A final examination retest will be given by a DRE Instructor who is not from the same agency as the student.



(1.10 C) DRE students shall administer a minimum of eight (8) evaluations. Each DRE student, whether serving as an evaluator, observer, or recorder, shall independently complete the narrative portion of the evaluation and October 2018 15 shall independently identify the category(s) of drugs affecting the subject to a DRE Instructor. All Narratives should be completed by the end of the certification event, unless authorized by an onsite DRE Instructor, and shall be signed off by the instructor(s) who observed the complete evaluation process.

(1.11C) Toxicology confirmations are required on at least three (3) separate and distinct drug categories. The three distinct (3) drug categories must also be identified by the DRE candidate in their written opinions.

(1.12 C) A candidate DRE is eligible to take the final examination when they have completed a minimum of ten (10) drug evaluations, presented their up-to-date progress log and had their curriculum vitae reviewed and approved.

II. Standards for Certification as a Drug Recognition Expert Instructor

(2.2 C) DRE Instructor Candidates shall meet the following requirements: be a certified Colorado DRE for a minimum of one (1) year and be recommended by two (2) Colorado DRE Instructors. The agency coordinator will verify to the Colorado State DRE Coordinator that the candidate meets all requirements. The Colorado State DRE Coordinator will announce DRE Instructor Schools and solicit candidates. The Colorado State DRE Coordinator shall make the final determination as to whether the candidate shall be accepted into training as a DRE Instructor.

(2.9 C) The Course manager(s) will be selected by and serve at the pleasure of the Colorado DRE Coordinator who can relieve any course manager of their course manager responsibilities and duties without cause.

III. Standards for Recertification

(3.3 C) The Colorado State DRE Coordinator will notify DREs of recertification due dates. The Coordinator will forward IACP required recertification forms to IACP and return certification cards to the DRE.

(3.4 C) Colorado State Standards require the following evaluations, which must be completed as a minimum requirement, to maintain certification.

- One Instructor Observed Evaluation - This must be enforcement, certification night, alcohol only or a mock evaluation.
- Certification Night Evaluation – one certification night evaluation is allowed in addition to the instructor observed evaluation
- Alcohol only Evaluation – one allowed
- Enforcement Evaluation - An enforcement evaluation must be completed on a person who is suspected of impairment other than alcohol. Enforcement evaluations are the preferred type of evaluation.

Effective January 1, 2019, all evaluations shall be entered into the Sobriety Testing website. These entries must match the records maintained on the DRE Rolling Log.

(3.6 C) DRE Instructors who maintain DRE Instructor certification can teach as SFST Instructors.

IV. Standards for Decertification or Deactivation of Drug Recognition Experts and Instructors

(4.5 C) In Colorado, the agency coordinator or training coordinator is responsible for providing any and all information and paperwork to the Colorado State DRE Coordinator.

V. Standards for Reinstatement of Drug Recognition Expert with Expired or Deactivated/Decertified Status

No Colorado Enhancements for Section V

VI. Standards for Agency Participation

No Colorado Enhancements for Section VI

VII. Standards for a DEC Program State Coordinator

No Colorado Enhancements for Section VII

VIII. Standards for a DEC Program Regional Coordinator

No Colorado Enhancements for Section VIII

IX. Standards for Conflict Resolution

No Colorado Enhancements for Section IX