

**International Standards of
the
Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement
Program**



A Product of

**The DEC Program Technical Advisory Panel of
the International Association of Chiefs of Police**

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Use of the Masculine Pronoun in this Document

“He”, “him” and “his” are used throughout this document wherever a singular pronoun is required to refer to either the male or female gender. This is to avoid awkward phrasing such as “he/she” or the inaccurate use of the plural pronoun “they” or “them” when used with a singular verb.

Table of Contents

Preface	3
Definitions	4
I. General Standards for the ARIDE Training Program	8
II. Standards for Instructors Training the ARIDE Program	9
III. ARIDE Refresher Training	10
IV. Standards for Removal of an ARIDE Instructor	11

Preface

Since the mid-1970s the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), with the cooperation and assistance of the law enforcement community, has conducted research that resulted in the development of programs to aid law enforcement in the detection, apprehension and prosecution of impaired drivers.

In 1986, the Advisory Committee on Highway Safety of the International Association of Chiefs of Police passed a resolution which recommended that law enforcement agencies adopt and implement the field sobriety testing training program developed by NHTSA. The SFST program trains officers to identify and assess drivers suspected of being under the influence of alcohol while the DEC Program provides more advanced training to evaluate suspected drug impairment. The SFST assessment is typically employed at roadside, while an officer trained as a drug recognition expert (DRE) through the DEC Program conducts a drug evaluation in a more controlled environment such as a detention facility.

The Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) program was developed in 2009 by NHTSA with input from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. The ARIDE training curriculum prepares police officers and other qualified persons to conduct various drug-impairment detection tests at roadside for use in drugged driving investigations. The ARIDE program was created to address the gap in training between the Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) and the Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program (also referred to as “The DRE Training Program”).

ARIDE is intended to bridge the gap between these two programs by providing officers with *general knowledge* related to drug impairment and by promoting the use of DREs in states that have the DEC Program. One of the more significant aspects of ARIDE is its review and required student demonstration of the SFST proficiency requirements. The ARIDE program also stresses the importance of securing the most appropriate biological sample in order to identify substances likely causing impairment.

ARIDE is not intended to replace DRE training, which is much more intensive and skill-based. ARIDE is a not a prerequisite for DRE training, (however, some states have elected to enhance their standards and do require ARIDE to attend DRE training). Officers who complete ARIDE may decide to further enhance their skills and complete DRE training. ARIDE meets a need for increasing the knowledge base for officers in identifying drugs that impair driving. In addition, ARIDE helps to promote the DEC Program. As the program has grown, it was apparent that in order to ensure continued success, nationally accepted standards must be established. These standards, which establish criteria for the selection and training of ARIDE practitioners, would help insure the continued high level of success of the ARIDE program. In 2019, the IACP Technical Advisory Panel Committee recommended the development of this system of nationally accepted standards.

ARIDE is taught by DRE instructors; that is, they (1) hold currently valid certificates as DREs; (2) have completed the NHTSA/IACP DRE Instructor Training Course; and (3) have completed the required delivery of both classroom and certification training, under the supervision of credentialed DRE instructors. Certain portions of the curriculum, as identified in the Instructor Guide, may be taught by SFST instructors who are also DREs.

Definition

ADVANCED ROADSIDE IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT (ARIDE):

The Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) program was developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) with input from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Technical Advisory Panel and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. ARIDE is a 16-hour training program created to address the gap in training between the Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) and the Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) programs.

BLOOD OR BREATH ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION (BAC):

A measurement that indicates the grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of a person's blood or 210 liters of his breath. For example, a BAC of 0.08% means that there are 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 milliliters of the person's blood.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION:

NHTSA/IACP impaired driving curriculum courses (i.e. Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, Drug Recognition Expert) have approved curriculums. Attendees may receive a Certificate of Completion upon successfully attending the ARIDE training, but do not receive certification from the IACP or NHTSA.

COURSE MANAGER:

An individual who ensures that each training event follows the standardized curriculum and evaluates the training event. The course manager represents NHTSA and the IACP and resolves issues with the content and/or delivery of the training.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY:

For purposes of these standards, a criminal justice agency is any organization, funded by public monies, that is involved in the apprehension, prosecution, and adjudication of public miscreants; or in the incarceration, detention, supervision, or control of said miscreants following apprehension, prosecution, and/or adjudication.

DRE INSTRUCTOR:

A trained, certified and credentialed drug recognition expert (DRE) who has received further training and experience instructing within the DEC Program and who has successfully completed the NHTSA/IACP Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Instructor Development Course (IDC) or an approved equivalent. A DRE Instructor is qualified to teach ARIDE based upon the qualification as a DRE Instructor.

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE:

A standing committee of the IACP that addresses highway safety and other traffic safety related issues.

HORIZONTAL GAZE NYSTAGMUS (HGN):

An involuntary jerking of the eyes, occurring as the eyes gaze towards the side.

IMPAIRMENT:

One of the several terms used to describe the degradation of mental and/or physical abilities necessary for safely operating a vehicle.

IMPLIED CONSENT:

Every state has enacted a version of an Implied Consent Law, which serves to encourage persons arrested for DWI to submit to a chemical test to determine blood alcohol content. Many states also allow for the testing of blood, breath, or urine for the presence of drugs and/or alcohol. The concept of implied consent is that the state views the suspect as already having agreed to take the test as a condition of operating a vehicle in the state.

INSTITUTION:

An entity receiving funding from federal agencies, IACP, or the State Office of Traffic or Highway Safety, for instruction or research of the NHTSA/IACP Standardized Field Sobriety Testing curriculum; or state P.O.S.T.-recognized training academy.

INTOXICATION:

One of the several terms used to describe the degradation of mental and/or motor skills and other faculties due to use of alcohol or other drugs.

NHTSA:

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, within the United States Department of Transportation that exercises primary responsibility for coordinating federal efforts to ensure the safe design and operation of motor vehicles.

STANDARDIZED FIELD SOBRIETY TESTING INSTRUCTOR:

An individual who has successfully completed the NHTSA/IACP approved Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) Instructor Development Course (IDC), the Drug Recognition Expert IDC, or an approved equivalent.

STANDARDIZED FIELD SOBRIETY TESTS (SFSTs):

A battery of three tests developed and validated through a series of controlled research studies supported by research grants from NHTSA. The three tests include: Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN); Walk and Turn (W&T); and One Leg Stand (OLS).

STATE:

In addition to the designated states within the United States, this term is used to indicate other recognized jurisdictions including U.S. Territories and other approved jurisdictions outside the United States. In jurisdictions outside of the United States, the applicable geographic title may be substituted throughout this document as needed and as directed by that country's national DRE Coordinator. (e.g. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the TAP-recognized coordinator for Canada, can choose to apply the title "Province" for jurisdictions in Canada).

TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL (TAP):

A group formed to assist NHTSA and the IACP on specific matters relating to SFST, ARIDE and DRE. These matters include, but are not limited to, the revision of the approved training curriculum, review and approval of proposed alternative training programs, and other matters relating to the technical aspects of each program.

I. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR THE ARIDE TRAINING PROGRAM

The ARIDE course will train law enforcement officers to observe, identify, and articulate the signs of impairment related to drugs, alcohol, or a combination of both in order to reduce the number of impaired driving incidents, serious injury, and fatal crashes. The ARIDE course is not developed to act as a substitute for the DEC Program and will not qualify or certify an individual as a Drug Recognition Expert.

- 1.1 In order to be considered for training in ARIDE, a candidate shall be in the employ, including part- time and unpaid positions, and under the direct control of a public criminal justice agency involved in the enforcement of criminal or traffic safety laws as a credentialed law enforcement officer/employee or an institution involved in providing training services to officers of law enforcement agencies.
- 1.2 The candidate shall have attended and successfully completed a NHTSA/IACP approved Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFST) training.

Commentary: At the discretion of the agency head or administrator, and with consent of the training authority, other persons may audit or observe any or all portions of the ARIDE training.

- 1.3 The information presented as part of the ARIDE course is not intended nor meant to equip the officer with the knowledge or ability to categorize the impairment observed with a specific drug category.
- 1.4 ARIDE-trained officers should only provide an opinion concerning if the suspect is, or is not, impaired.
 - 1.4.1 If the opinion is that the suspect is impaired, the ARIDE trained officer should support their opinion with indicators of impairment. Only a certified DRE should offer an opinion regarding which drug category is causing the impairment.
- 1.5 A certified DRE should be utilized in all drug impaired driving investigations in which the ARIDE-trained officer suspects drug impairment or drug and alcohol combinations, regardless of the BAC.

Commentary: ARIDE-trained officers should be familiar with the DEC program in their state and be aware of a procedure to obtain the assistance of a certified DRE to aid in the evaluation, documentation and prosecution of a drug impaired driving case. The use of a DRE as part of the DUI investigation is to support and provide more in-depth investigation and documentation of the suspect's impairment and to identify potential medical issues which may be causing the signs of impairment. The use of a DRE is not intended to take away an arrest from the arresting officer but is intended to be a supplemental tool for the arresting officer's use.

- 1.6 It is recommended that all ARIDE classes be coordinated through the state's DRE coordinator. The state's DRE coordinator may assist in managing qualified DRE instructors to instruct in the ARIDE classes.
- 1.7 ARIDE candidates shall complete an approved classroom training course which shall, at a minimum, achieve the learning objectives as stated in the NHTSA/IACP approved training curriculum.
- 1.8 All ARIDE candidates shall attend and complete all classroom portions of an approved ARIDE curriculum. This shall include satisfactorily completing all assignments and required examinations. In order to satisfactorily complete the training, the student must complete the final examination with a score of no less than 80%. Candidates shall not be permitted to "test out" of any portions of the training nor shall they be permitted to attend only those sessions they have not previously completed.

Commentary: Class sessions missed should be made up at the earliest possible time. In order to satisfactorily complete the classroom portion of the training, ARIDE candidates must complete the NHTSA/IACP approved Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Proficiency examination.

Candidates who have not successfully completed the SFST proficiency examination on the first attempt may be allowed a retest before the end of the first day of training. If the candidate does not demonstrate proficiency during the reexamination, the candidate should be dismissed from the training.

II. STANDARDS FOR INSTRUCTORS TRAINING THE ARIDE PROGRAM

Because of the technical nature of the ARIDE class, only persons experienced in the techniques of drug influence evaluation should instruct in ARIDE classes. In general, these instructors will be certified DREs with experience in performing drug influence evaluations and in providing testimony in court in the area of drug recognition; however, persons who possess specialized skills or credentials may be utilized to teach certain parts of the training course as adjunct instructors.

- 2.1 Only persons certified as DRE instructors may be principal instructors for this course. That means that they: (1) Are currently certified as DREs, (2) Have completed the NHTSA/IACP DRE Instructor Development Course, and (3) Have completed the required delivery of both classroom and certification training, under the supervision of certified DRE instructors.

- 2.2 A qualified SFST instructor may only instruct sessions one (1) through three (3) leading to the preparation and evaluation of participants during the SFST proficiency examination.

Commentary: In addition to their occupational competencies, all instructors must be qualified to instruct within their state and need to understand and be able to apply fundamental principles of instruction. Perhaps most importantly, they need to be competent coaches. Much of the classroom training is devoted to hands-on practice. The quality of coaching will have a major impact on the success of those practice sessions.

However, some agencies may wish to enlist instructors with special credentials for certain blocks of instruction. For example, a physician would be well qualified to assist/teach Session 4, and a prosecutor might be a good choice for Session 8.

These requirements do not preclude state or local jurisdictions from placing additional requirements on persons assigned to teach additional local law enforcement programs.

All training sessions conducted as part of the ARIDE program shall be coordinated by a designated lead ARIDE instructor who has previously instructed, to insure proper content and delivery of the approved curriculum.

III. ARIDE REFRESHER TRAINING

The standards in this section outline the recommended requirements for refresher/update training of ARIDE practitioners and ARIDE instructors.

- 3.1 It is recommended that all law enforcement agencies maintain records concerning the training of law enforcement officers trained in the ARIDE Program.
- 3.2 It is recommended that states adopt ARIDE refresher/update training guidelines for ARIDE practitioners to ensure they remain proficient and knowledgeable in the administration and interpretation of the SFST's and remain current on the latest drug trends.
- 3.3 It is recommended that all ARIDE practitioners complete a state approved ARIDE refresher/update training at a minimum of every three years from the date of their most recent state refresher/update training as an ARIDE practitioner.
- 3.4 It is recommended that all SFST instructors who instruct in sessions one through three of

the ARIDE curriculum complete a minimum of 8 hours of state approved SFST refresher/update training at a minimum of every two years from the date of their most recent state refresher/update training as an SFST instructor.

Commentary: The methods and frequency of the ARIDE refresher/update training are left to the individual states. However, the training should include curriculum revision updates to ensure consistency and accuracy in the delivery of the ARIDE training.

IV. STANDARDS FOR REMOVAL OF AN ARIDE INSTRUCTOR

- 4.1 It is recommended that any issues related to the teaching of an ARIDE class be directed to the instructor's DRE state coordinator.
- 4.2 Actions could include, but not be limited to; failure to instruct all course objectives and requirements, demonstrates unethical or unprofessional behavior, conduct that reflects adversely on the program.
- 4.3 The DRE state coordinator can directly address any issues relating to a DRE instructor and if the state coordinator is not also the SFST coordinator, they can forward any issues about and SFST instructor to the SFST regulating body in their state.

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