

Utah Highway Patrol Trooper Training Summary

The Training Division of the Utah Highway Patrol (UHP) oversees ongoing training for all of its troopers. The UHP requires specific department mandated trainings. In addition, troopers are provided with training courses from UHP trained personnel and other outside professionals (i.e., POST, various law enforcement agencies, conferences, consultants, etc.). Required training and additional training courses offered to troopers are outlined in the following sections.

I. Required Trainings

Firearms (16 or 18 hours required annual training)

Firearm training is required for all troopers semi-annually in the spring and fall. This training includes night and day shooting qualifications and other skill courses of fire. All troopers must annually qualify on their firearms, including handguns, rifles and shotguns.

Emergency Vehicle Operations (EVO) (8 hours required annual training)

EVO training, including Pursuit Intervention Techniques (PIT), spike deployment, pursuits and policy, is required for all troopers semi-annually in the spring and fall. This training is designed to provide troopers with instruction and proper driving techniques to avoid common mistakes that lead to officer involved crashes.

In-Service (24 hours required annual training)

In-service training is required for all troopers annually. This training is designed to provide troopers with classroom instruction and scenario training based on real-world officer involved situations. Courses are determined each year to support UHP training initiatives and address law enforcement issues and trends. Classroom instruction courses include, but are not limited to, accident investigations, safety inspections, investigative techniques, Taser, OleoResin Capsicum (OC) spray, mobile field force crowd management, etc. Scenarios include shoot/no shoot situations, arrest control techniques, and alcohol impairment detection.

Annual Conference (8 hours required annual training)

Troopers are required to attend the annual UHP trooper conference. Presenters, including UHP administration and other law enforcement professionals, discuss current law enforcement trends, identify potential issues, and provide instruction and recommendations. Supervisors are required to attend the annual UHP leadership conference where presenters review administrative procedures and discuss current law enforcement issues and trends.

Readings (48 hours required annual training)

Troopers are required daily to read a training scenario in a provided training bulletin and take a one question quiz to test his/her knowledge on the policy or law presented. In addition, troopers are required to review an assigned training topic with his/her staff monthly.

II. Additional Training Courses

In-House Academy (200 hours required training)

Troopers are required to attend the UHP In-House Academy after graduating from POST. This training focuses on Department of Public Safety (DPS) resources, policies and procedures; physical fitness; defensive tactics and vehicle extraction.

Defensive Tactics (DT) (4 hour course)

The DT program provides instruction and techniques used in controlling compliant and non-compliant suspects, weapon recovery and retention, arrest control techniques and control tactics.

Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) (16 hour course)

ARIDE training is intended to bridge the gap between the standardized field sobriety tests an officer learns in POST and advanced drug recognition courses. Officers learn how to observe, identify, and articulate signs of impairment related to drugs, alcohol, or a combination of both. ARIDE was developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) with input from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP).

Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) (80 hour course)

A DRE is trained to recognize impairment in drivers who are under the influence of drugs other than or in addition to alcohol. The DRE utilizes a 12 step standardized and systematic method of examining a suspect to determine whether the impairment is related to a drug or medical condition and what category or combination of categories of drugs are the likely cause of the impairment.

Phlebotomy (48 hour course)

Troopers are trained in all of the techniques of venipuncture, safety standards, basic anatomy, and physiology, and other factors involved in the phlebotomy profession. This skill set is utilized in the field to draw blood on suspects who have refused to give an adequate breath sample after being arrested for DUI or drug impaired individuals.

Intermediate Accident Investigation (40 hour course)

This class builds on the basic elements of crash investigation taught in POST. This training includes finding the drag factor of the roadway, kinematics, and introductions to crash data retrieval and light bulb analysis.

Advanced Accident Investigation (40 hour course)

This class provides troopers with advanced knowledge and skills in accident investigation and introduces accident reconstruction. This training includes investigation of vehicle crashes involving flips, falls, vaults, collinear momentum and angular momentum.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training (40 hour course)

CIT is a UHP salary benchmark class which assists troopers to react appropriately to situations involving mental illness or developmental disability.

Leadership in Police Organizations (LPO) (120 hour course)

The LPO program is based on a behavioral science approach to leading people, groups, and organizations. It also teaches group dynamics and how to become better at making groups cohesive and better able to reach organizational goals.

Courtroom Testimony (8 hour course)

The courtroom testimony course teaches troopers how to complete an accurate report. It also teaches proper court preparation techniques, courtroom etiquette and testifying techniques in enhance the professionalism of the trooper and organization. Troopers work in groups, present findings, and participate in a mock courtroom trial.

Below 100 (4 hour course)

Each year since 1943, there are more than 100 law enforcement line of duty deaths. This training provides five initiatives to bring the number of law enforcement line of duty deaths below 100.

Traffic Incident Management (TIMS) (4 hour course)

This course consists of planned and coordinated multi-disciplinary processes to detect, respond to and clear traffic incident so that traffic flow may be restored as safely and quickly as possible. TIMS also teaches officers improved safety of motorists, crash victims and emergency responders.

Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) (8 hour course)

TCCC introduces evidence-based, life saving techniques and strategies for providing the best trauma care on the battlefield and in law enforcement.

Miscellaneous Training

There are many other courses offered by the UHP, POST, and law enforcement professionals. Some of these courses include, but are not limited to, background investigations, armorer certification, advanced electronic accident diagramming, certification renewals, trooper salary benchmarks, and other courses based on law enforcement issues and trends.

III. Training Summary

| Required Trainings | Annual Total |
|--|-------------------------|
| Firearms | 16 or 18 hours |
| EVO | 8 hours |
| In-Service | 24 hours |
| Annual Conference | 8 hours |
| Readings | 48 hours |
| Total Required Annual Trainings | 104 or 106 hours |

| Additional Training Courses | Total Hours |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| In-House Academy | 200 hours |
| DT | 4 hours |
| ARIDE | 16 hours |
| DRE | 80 hours |
| Phlebotomy | 48 hours |
| Intermediate Accident Investigation | 40 hours |
| Advanced Accident Investigation | 40 hours |
| CIT Training | 40 hours |
| LPO | 120 hours |
| Courtroom Testimony | 8 hours |
| Below 100 | 4 hours |
| TIMS | 4 hours |
| TCCC | 8 hours |
| Miscellaneous Training | Varied hours |