



## Drug Recognition Expert School Student Application Connecticut



The State of Connecticut's Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program has received national attention for its success in DRE enforcement evaluations identifying and prosecuting drug impaired drivers. Although the focus of the DRE curriculum is on the identification of the drug impaired driver, DRE skills are applied to many different law enforcement activities. In addition, DREs are frequently called upon to differentiate between drug impairment and/or medical issues. The certified DRE is a valuable tool for combating impaired driving.

To receive certification as a DRE, all phases of training must be successfully completed

**Academic Training-** This phase is conducted over a two-week period. It includes courses in physiology, vital signs, standardized field sobriety testing (SFST), as well as extensive material on each of the seven categories of drugs. The training includes three written examinations, an SFST proficiency examination, and five written quizzes. Students must achieve a minimum score of 80% on the examinations and must demonstrate proficiency in administering the SFST's to advance to the certification phase.

**Certification Phase-** After successfully completing the academic portion, the students must complete the certification phase. These requirements include conducting a minimum of twelve drug influence evaluations while under the supervision of a DRE instructor, identifying subjects under the influence of at least three of the seven drug categories, and attaining a 75% toxicological confirmation rate. In addition, the student must pass a comprehensive final knowledge examination. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) are the regulating and certifying organizations for the CT DRE Program. *DRE certification is valid for two years. To maintain certification, DRE's are required to complete (as the evaluator) a minimum of four evaluations (one of which is observed by a DRE Instructor), submit a rolling log and current resume, and attend eight hours of approved training approved during the two-year period.*

To apply for DRE School, you must be a certified Connecticut Police Officer in compliance with current Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) requirements. You must have attended the NHTSA/IACP 24 hour Basic SFST Class, with a minimum of one live alcohol lab. You must have successfully attended the NHTSA Advance Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) class. It is preferred that the applicant have traffic enforcement experience, specifically in regards to impaired driving enforcement and courtroom testimony. Due to class size, needs of the State, and budget constraints, not all applications are accepted. Furthermore, if the applicant is successful, it should be noted that the DRE School is extremely demanding.

**Applicant**

- Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_
- Current Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_ Hire Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Phone: \_\_\_\_\_
- Cellular Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
- Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Certification Information**

- Date of SFST 24 hr. Basic Certification Class: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of Live Alcohol/Wet Lab: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of any SFST Training Updates: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of ARIDE Training: \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of Alcohol Impaired Driving Arrests in the past 2 years: \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of arrests made for possession of a controlled substance in the past 2 years: \_\_\_\_\_

List two DREs who would recommend you for DRE training:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ IACP # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ IACP # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Written Essay**

Please describe a professional or personal experience with impaired driving and how your experience has influenced your decision to pursue DRE training. **Use 12pt font** and limit your response to one (1) typed page. Be sure to review your submission for spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

### **Submission Instructions**

Please collect and complete all sections of this application, including the essay question.

*I affirm that the information contained in this application is true and accurate. I will fully comply with all requirements set forth for certification as a Drug Recognition Expert. Understanding the requirements, I submit this request for an interview by the candidate screening committee.*

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*I have read the listed requirements and I recommend this officer for DRE training.*

Supervisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Chief or Troop Commander Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Application Checklist**

- Completed Student Application
- SFST Basic Certificate
- ARIDE Certificate
- Written Essay
- A letter from the Chief or Troop Commander supporting the use of DREs in impaired driving arrests locally and for neighboring departments, police trainings, and case consultations
- Copies of two adjudicated DUI reports from the previous twelve months, one involving drugs if possible (redact identifying information)
- Any additional documentation that will support your appointment to DRE

**Scan all documents into a single PDF file and email the file to [Robert.Klin@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.Klin@ct.gov) by **May 1, 2022****

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**Late or incomplete applications will not be considered**

## **Selection Criteria and Process**

### **To be considered for DRE training, the applicant must meet all the following requirements:**

- Must be a full time Police Officer; as defined by Connecticut State Statutes
- Be in “good standing” with their agency
- Not currently in a probationary period with their agency
- Completed the NHTSA-approved SFST and ARIDE training

### **Additionally, preference will be given to candidates who meet the following criteria:**

- Minimum of three years of full-time law enforcement experience
- Presently assigned to patrol/traffic duties
- Experience with DUI laws and arrest procedures
- Experience testifying at administrative per se hearings and/or court proceedings

### **Selection Process:**

Following review of all written application packets received, candidates will be contacted for an interview. The interviews are anticipated to be held the **first week of June 2022**. Selected candidates and their departments will be notified by **July 1, 2022**. These candidates will be enrolled in the DRE School presently scheduled for **October 31, 2022 through November 10, 2022** with field certifications to take place the week of **December 6, 2022** in **Jacksonville, Florida**.

*By submitting this application packet and proceeding through this process, candidates are committing to attending both of these training phases, as scheduled.*

Applicants with scheduling conflicts during these dates are still encouraged to apply and will be considered for later classes. Such applicants should notate any scheduling conflicts in their application packet.