

Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy

Basic Training Overview

2021



As a means to disseminate information on the activities surrounding basic training provided by the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy, we have assembled a summary of the training and related data. This report contains specific information on the training activities of 2021 and, in some cases, supporting historical data and related time lines. It is the intent of the WLEA to present an annual basic training overview of the preceding calendar year at each WLEA Advisory Board meeting held in conjunction with WASCOP's Leadership Conference.

2021 Training

Curriculum and Training Structures established in 2021

2021 saw the development and implementation of a codified and deliberate approach to curriculum and training structures; more than has ever been done.

Developed the Basic Training Tenets for three distinct areas.

- Practice evidence-based instruction
- Focus on effective outcomes
- Be deliberate and purposeful

Formulated Curriculum Content Structure: Five Main Competencies and 19 Performance Standards

- Criminal Law
 - Legal Limitations
 - Individual Rights
 - Legal Objectives
- Interpersonal Interactions
 - Shared Meaning
 - Conflict Management
 - Community Service
- Professional Skills
 - Ethical Standards
 - Critical Thinking
 - Problem Solving
 - Professional Responsibility
 - Personal Care
- Enforcement Skills
 - Controlling tools and skills
 - Controlling individuals
 - Controlling circumstances
 - Vehicle Operations
 - Information Processing
- Investigative Skills
 - Evidence Gathering
 - Evidence Analysis
 - Investigative Conclusions

Codified Training Delivery Structure centering on the adaption of Experiential Learning Theory to utilize the learning cycle and identify instructor roles within the cycle.

- Experience
 - Engage with the new content in a circumstance
- Qualify
 - Analyze the quality of performance
- Conceptualize
 - Associate experience with concepts, principles, and tactics
- Validate
 - Apply learned concepts

Developed standardized practical evaluation criteria and forms

Revised and validated exam questions to improve the quality of measurement.

Revised lesson plans to a narrative format of the entire Peace Officer Basic training curriculum and included training objectives and relevant job tasks as identified by the 2015 JTA. Re-allotment of training time from several Academic blocks towards application opportunities.

Converted many traditional lecture delivery topics to online, independent learning modules to provide custom-paced training for students. This also provides more consistent content delivery, learning checks as each student moves through the material, and covers all training objectives. Responsibility for learning is more centered on the student and enables every student to respond to and answer questions about their understanding of the material.

Peace Officer Basic (POB)

Number of students that were assessed on the first day for Basic training: 102

Number of students that completed their Basic training: 85 (83.33%)

Custody & Control - 85 (100%) received an Acceptable status in Phase I Testing.

EVO - 85 (100%) received an Acceptable status.

Examination Averages - A Basic = 88.01%

B Basic = 89.04%

C Basic = 85.64%

Overall Average = 87.56%

Firearms - 82 of 85 (96.47%) met Proficiency standards on their first attempt.

84 of 85 (98.82%) met Proficiency standards prior to graduation.

Average Final Handgun Proficiency score was 95.10 %.

Physical Training - 3 Basics with a total of 102 officers tested; 11 (10.78%) failed to meet entry standards.

Use of Force Exam - 84 students passed the initial exam (98.82%); 1 (1.18%) failed the initial but passed the retest.

Use of Force Practical - 80 (94.12%) received an Acceptable status; 5 (5.88%) went to Phase IV retesting, receiving Acceptable status.

Detention Officer Basic (DOB)

Number of students that were assessed on the first day of Basic training: 70

Number of students that completed their Basic training: 49 (70.00%)

Cell Search Practical - 49 (100%) received an Acceptable status.

Custody & Control - 47 (95.92%) received an Acceptable status in Phase I Testing.

1 (2.04%) received an Acceptable status in Phase II Testing.

1 (2.04%) received an Acceptable status in Phase III Testing.

Examination Averages - A Basic = 83.64%

B Basic = 81.98%

Overall Average = 82.81%

EVO - 49 (100%) received an Acceptable status.

Fingerprint Practical - 49 (100%) received an Acceptable status.

Firearms - 45 of 49 (91.84%) met Proficiency standards on their first attempt.

46 of 49 (93.88%) met Proficiency standards prior to graduation.

Average Final Proficiency score was 84.86%.

Physical Training - 2 Basics with a total of 70 officers tested; 19 (27.14%) failed to meet entry standards.

Use of Force Exam - 44 students passed the initial exam (89.80%); 6 (12.25%) failed the initial exam but passed the retest.

Use of Force Practical - 49 (100.00%) received an Acceptable status

Communication (PSCP)

Number of students attending training - 39

Number of students that completed their training - 39

Radio Practical - 39 (100%) received an Acceptable status.

Examination Averages - A Basic = 90.14%

B Basic = 88.49%

Overall average = 89.32%

Coroner (One course per year)

Number of students attending training - 9

Number of students that completed their training - 9

Examination Average - 85.78%

Supporting Data for 2021

Custody & Control

Basic

In 2021 there were a total of 134 officers who completed their training.

Student Injuries

- Defined injury characteristics:
 - Minor: No medical attention necessary; preventative measures taken, (i.e. ice/ibuprofen).
 - Major: Medical analysis or treatment necessary; precautions taken during training.
 - Serious: Medical treatment necessary; student was prevented from completing training
- 19 of 134 students were injured during training, a 14.18% injury rate. Of the 19 students injured, 9 of those were Peace Officer Basic students while 10 were Detention Officer Basic students.
- 100.00% of the injuries in 2021 were non-serious which allowed students to complete their training. Out of the 19 injuries, 100% (19) were minor injuries.
- Overview of classified major injuries:
 - Major Injuries:
 - No major injuries to report.
 - Serious Injuries:
 - No serious injuries to report.
- There was no noticeable consistency in the type of injury or body part injured.
- Partnered training is typical in the Custody & Control program, one student is the officer while the other acts as the suspect. All of the injuries occurred during this type of training.
- There was no noticeable consistency in the type of training method in 2021 that accounted for injuries.

- There were 10 students injured in the “A” Basics (7 POB, 3 DOB), 8 injuries in the “B” Basic (1 POB, 7 DOB), and 1 injury during the “C” Basic (1 POB).
- 5 of the injuries in 2021 occurred due to a pre-existing condition.

Course Overview

- **POB**
 - In 2021 there was a 0% failure rate during Phase I Testing.
 - All students passed phase I testing.
- **DOB**
 - In 2021 there was a 4.08% failure rate during Phase I Testing.
 - Of the 2 students moving into phase II testing, 1 (2.04%) failed.
 - 1 student failed phase III testing.

Physical Training:

6 Basic training courses were held in 2021 with a total of 172 students tested. Of those, 30 students (17.44%) failed to meet minimum entry standards.

WLEA Pistol Proficiency:

POB Averages

82 of 85 (96.47%) met Proficiency standards on their first attempt.
84 of 85 (98.82%) met Proficiency standards prior to graduation.

DOB Averages

45 of 49 (91.84%) met Proficiency standards on their first attempt.
46 of 49 (93.88%) met Proficiency standards prior to graduation.

Combined Averages

94.15% met Proficiency standards on their first attempt
96.35% met Proficiency standards prior to graduation.

The average Handgun Proficiency score was 89.98% (95.10% for POB and 84.86% for DOB).

Scholarships:

Honor Graduate:

6 students received the WLEA Honor Graduate Award in 2021 – one for each Peace Officer and Detention Officer Basic course. As a way of further rewarding this individual’s exceptional performance, each officer received a \$500 scholarship good for any advanced training at the WLEA.

Custody and Control:

There were no scholarships given for Custody & Control in 2021.

Firearms:

There were no firearms scholarships given in 2021.

EVO:

There were no scholarships given for EVO in 2021.

Pre-Service Program:

Two applications were sent to potential applicants in FY21. Both candidates failed to meet the minimum requirements to proceed through the process.

Since the inception of the program in 1991, 160 Pre-Service candidates have graduated from Basic training. To date, 142 (88.75%) of the candidates had been hired by a Wyoming law enforcement agency.