

Rule 10 – Basic Peace Officer Certification

Effective November 15, 2025

- a) The POST Board is authorized to issue POST Basic Peace Officer Certification to any applicant who meets the following requirements:
 - (I) Possesses and submits a copy of their high school diploma, high school equivalency certificate, or other evidence of successful completion of high school, including official college transcripts or degree;
 - (II) Possesses and submits a copy of their current first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification, or equivalents;
 - (III) Truthfully completes and submits the POST Form 1 - *Application for Basic Peace Officer Certification*;
 - (A) If previously certified as an officer in another state but is ineligible to apply as a provisional applicant, the applicant must be in good standing with the other certifying state and must complete and submit to POST a POST Form 3 – Application for Provisional Certification and a Release of Information Form within thirty (30) days of starting the academy.
 - (IV) Is in good standing with Colorado POST as determined by the Director; and,
 - (V) Successfully completes the fingerprint-based criminal history record check required under Rule 14 and meets all of the following requirements:
 - (A) If applicable, submits a copy of their official military discharge documents showing character of service other than discharge under dishonorable conditions, per § 24-31-301(5), C.R.S.
 - (B) Successfully completes an approved basic training academy, including skills training, and passes the written certification examination.
 - (C) Submits a copy of their academy certificate of completion.
 - (D) Possesses and submits a copy of their current Driver's License or State-Issued Identification card.

- (E) Documentation pertaining to certification requirements must be submitted to POST via the law enforcement training academy, if applicable.
 - (F) Testing is valid for two years from the date of completion. After this time has elapsed, if full certification was not issued, the applicant must successfully complete an additional basic academy program.
- b) POST Basic Peace Officer Certification qualifies the person to seek employment and serve as a fully authorized peace officer with any Colorado law enforcement agency recognized in Article 2.5 of Title 16, C.R.S.
- c) Upon issuance of a basic certification, if all training requirements under § 24-31-315, C.R.S., have not previously been met, the individual must complete all requirements within six (6) months from date of appointment.
 - (I) Complete two (2) hours of training in each of the following areas: anti-bias; community policing; situational de-escalation; and proper holds and restraints.
 - (II) Complete one (1) hour of training in each of the following areas: improving first responder interactions with persons with disabilities; and issues related to missing and murdered indigenous persons.
- d) If a basic certificate holder has not served as a peace officer or reserve peace officer for a total of at least six (6) months during any consecutive three-year period, the certification automatically expires at the end of such three-year period, unless the certificate holder is then serving as a peace officer or reserve peace officer.
 - (I) If a basic certificate holder is deployed for military service, the certification automatically expires at the end of a three-year period from the date of certification or the date of separation from a Colorado law enforcement agency. If expired, the basic certificate holder is eligible to complete the certification renewal process. If employed at time of deployment, the certificate holder, at the agency's discretion, may remain on the employment roster and their certification will not expire.
 - (II) A certificate may remain active and unexpired if the certificate holder works for a law enforcement agency in a non-peace officer role and maintains annual training requirements established by the POST Board. Such training must be completed each calendar year and cannot be completed cumulatively before entering a peace officer role.

- (A) Persons serving in this capacity do not have peace officer authority and may not act as a peace officer.
 - (B) Failure to complete the annual in-service training within 30 days after receiving the preliminary report from POST pursuant to Rule 28(e)(II)(A)(2)(a) will result in certification expiration three (3) years from the last date worked in a peace officer role.
- e) A certified peace officer who has obtained basic certification may maintain current status as a certified peace officer while serving in a reserve peace officer position, recognized in § 16-2.5-110, C.R.S.
- f) A certified reserve peace officer seeking regular basic peace officer certification may apply their successfully completed skills training, obtained through the reserve peace officer certification program at a POST approved reserve academy, towards basic peace officer certification. Acceptance of the skills training is at the option of the Director of the basic peace officer training academy to which the applicant is seeking enrollment

