

**TRAINING AND TESTING
SPECIFICATIONS FOR LEARNING DOMAIN #19
VEHICLE OPERATIONS**

~~October 1, 2020~~ [April 1, 2022](#)

RBC	Other Basic Courses					Requal
	832	III	II	I	SIBC	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	

I.

LEARNING NEED

Peace officers need to know the importance of defensive driving principles and techniques in order to develop safe driving habits.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- A. Determine a safe distance when following another vehicle
- B. Identify the effect of speed on a driver's peripheral vision
- C. Discuss how perception and reaction time affects a vehicle's total stopping distance
- D. Demonstrate appropriate actions to prevent intersection collisions
- E. Recognize potential hazards of freeway driving and appropriate actions to prevent collisions
- F. Demonstrate appropriate actions to prevent collisions when operating a vehicle in reverse
- G. Demonstrate the importance and proper use of safety belts in a law enforcement vehicle
- H. Identify psychological and physiological factors that may have an effect on a peace officer's driving
- I. Identify hazards of various road conditions

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X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X		
X		X		X		X
X X		X X		X X		X X
X		X		X		
X		X		X		
X		X		X		
X		X		X		
X		X		X		

II.

J. Discuss the components of a vehicle inspection

K. Demonstrate proper techniques for recognizing and coping with distractions while operating a law enforcement vehicle

LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must recognize that emergency response (Code 3) driving demands a thorough understanding of the associated liability and safety issues.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. Identify the objectives of emergency response driving

B. Recognize the statute(s) governing peace officers when operating law enforcement vehicles in the line of duty

1. Rules of the road
2. Liability

C. Explain the importance of agency-specific policies and guidelines regarding emergency response driving

D. Identify the statutory responsibilities of non-law enforcement vehicle drivers when driving in the presence of emergency vehicles operated under emergency response conditions

E. Demonstrate the use of emergency warning devices available on law enforcement vehicles

F. Identify factors that can limit the effectiveness of a vehicle's emergency warning devices

G. Demonstrate the use of communication equipment

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X		X		X		
X		X		X		
X		X		X		X
X		X		X		X
X		X		X	X	
X				X	X	
X		X		X	X	

H. Identify the effects of siren syndrome

I. Recognize guidelines for entering an intersection when driving under emergency response conditions

III. LEARNING NEED

All peace officers who operate law enforcement emergency vehicles must recognize that even though the purpose of pursuit driving is the apprehension of a suspect who is using a vehicle to flee, the vehicle pursuit is never more important than the safety of peace officers and the public.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. Discuss the requirements of Penal Code Section 13519.8

B. Discuss the requirements of Vehicle Code Section 17004.7

IV. LEARNING NEED

Peace officers must be proficient in the operation of the vehicle and know the dynamic forces at work. Proper steering control, throttle control, speed judgment, and brake use enhances driving expertise.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A. Distinguish between longitudinal and lateral weight transfer

B. Demonstrate the ability to mitigate the effects of spring loading

C. Demonstrate proper techniques for two-handed shuffle steering

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X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X		X		X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	

- D. Demonstrate proper throttle control
- E. Demonstrate proper roadway position and the three essential reference points of a turning maneuver
- F. Explain the primary effects speed has on a vehicle in a turning maneuver
- G. Demonstrate proper braking methods
- H. Distinguish between and describe the causes of the following types of vehicle skids:
1. Understeer skid
 2. Oversteer skid
 3. Locked-wheel skid
 4. Acceleration skid
 5. Centrifugal skid
- I. Identify the causes and contributing factors of vehicle hydroplaning

V. REQUIRED TESTS

VEHICLE OPERATIONS SAFETY

All vehicle operations exercise testing must be conducted under written academy/presenter safety procedures and or protocols established in accordance with the POST safety guidelines. Students are required to comply with every aspect of presenter safety procedures and or protocols during vehicle operations training and testing.

- A. An **exercise test** that requires the student drive a law enforcement vehicle not equipped with Electronic Stability Control (ESC) and demonstrate the ability to control the vehicle during understeer and oversteer conditions or drive a law enforcement vehicle equipped with ESC and demonstrate the ability to control the vehicle during understeer conditions.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

[illegible]

2. Situational Awareness
3. Braking Technique(s)
4. Steering Technique(s)
5. Throttle Control

Presenters must use the POST-developed Vehicle Operations Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- E. An **exercise test** that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle and demonstrate a series of slow speed precision driving maneuvers. The slow speed precision driving maneuvers must include at least **three (3) tested maneuvers** contained in the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Instructor Manual. The instructor manual slow speed maneuvers are listed as follows:

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

Presenters must use the POST-developed Vehicle Operations Competency Exercise Test Form or a

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X				X		
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X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		

presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

- F. An **exercise test** that requires a student to drive a law enforcement vehicle during which the student must reach a speed of at least 65 mph prior to entering a turn of sufficient radius to require a minimum 30 mph deceleration. This exercise test may be tested concurrently with emergency response or pursuit tests.

The student will demonstrate competency in the following performance dimensions:

1. Safety
2. Situational Awareness
3. Braking Techniques(s)
4. Steering Technique(s)
5. Throttle Control
6. Speed Judgment
7. Roadway Positioning
8. Fluency of Performance
9. Level of Response

Presenters must use the POST-developed Vehicle Operations Competency Exercise Test Form or a presenter-developed form approved by POST, which minimally includes the performance dimensions used for this exercise test.

VI. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- A. The student will participate in a learning activity that requires the student to brake suddenly and engage the Anti-lock Braking System (ABS)
- B. The student will participate in a learning activity that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle during the hours of darkness (as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) utilizing headlights. The activity must include emergency response and/or pursuit.

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X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X		
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
X				X	X	
40		8		40	12	62

C. The student will participate in a learning activity that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, during which the student will demonstrate the ability to accurately steer and control the vehicle under high performance cornering conditions, including but not limited to:

1. Safety
2. Situational Awareness
3. Braking Technique(s)
4. Steering Technique(s)
5. Throttle Control
6. Speed Judgment
7. Roadway Positioning
8. Control of Weight Transfer

D. The student will participate in one or more learning activities from the POST-developed Instructor's Guide to *Learning Activities for Leadership, Ethics and Community Policing (December 2005)* or other comparable sources regarding vehicle operations. At a minimum, each activity, or combination of activities must address the following topics:

1. Use of critical thinking and decision making to balance the apprehension of violators against the obligation to drive safely, tactically and responsibly
2. Effects of personal attitudes on emergency or pursuit driving and the interests of public safety
3. Community expectations that officers should be exemplary drivers
4. Accountability as it relates to officer actions during vehicle operation
5. Universal concepts of *Penal Code Section 13519.8* and *Vehicle Code Section 17004.7*

VII. HOURLY REQUIREMENTS

Students shall be provided with a minimum number of instructional hours on vehicle operations. This instruction is designed to satisfy the requirements for law enforcement high-speed vehicle pursuit training as required in Penal Code Section 13519.8.

VIII. ORIGINATION DATE

January 1, 2001

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IX.

REVISION DATE

January 1, 2002
January 1, 2004
September 15, 2004
July 1, 2005

January 1, 2006
July 1, 2008
July 1, 2009
July 1, 2011

January 1, 2012
August 1, 2013
February 1, 2016
February 1, 2017

October 1, 2020
[April 1, 2022](#)