

# NDOT HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE

## Nebraska Drug Evaluation and Classification Program

### Drug Recognition Expert Course

### 2023 Training Application

The Drug Evaluation and Classification Program (DECP) is a transportation safety initiative focusing on the detection and apprehension of drug-impaired drivers. The program is managed and coordinated by the *International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)* with support from the *National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)* of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The DECP has received international acclaim for its success in helping officers identify the drug impaired driver. Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) are frequently called upon to differentiate between drug influence and medical and/or mental disorders. The certified DRE is an extremely valuable tool for combating the adverse impact of drug and alcohol impaired driving.

DRE training is extremely demanding. Students must successfully complete three separate phases of training. The following summarizes each phase:

**Phase I & Phase II (Combined School):** Consists of 74 hours of basic knowledge, the prospective candidate will need to successfully demonstrate administration of the SFST's to continue in the training. Training also consists of skills learned in taking accurate vital signs, pulse, blood pressure and body temperature. Students are also given hands-on practice in pupillary estimation, pupillary response, examination of muscle tone and an overview of the seven major drug categories used in the DECP. The training also includes teaching about physiology, toxicology and the overall drug evaluation and familiarization with the signs and symptoms of the seven drug categories. This portion includes two written examinations, in which the student must pass with a minimum of 80%; five quizzes; and a demonstration of proficiency in SFST and the entire drug evaluation process. **Students must successfully complete all portions to proceed to Phase III - Field Certification Phase.**

**Phase III (Field Certification):** The responsibility of successfully completing the field certification phase lies with the student. Certification nights will be scheduled the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday and Saturday night immediately following the conclusion of the DRE School and **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY**. The remainder of Field Certification will take place approx. one month after the DRE School and will be at an out of state location. We will complete the remainder of Field Certs over a 5-day period. **ALSO, MANDATORY**. Additional information will be sent to those selected for the course.

The requirements of this phase include evaluating and writing a report on at least 12 drug impaired individuals under the supervision of a DRE instructor, identifying individuals under the influence of at least three of the seven drug categories and attaining an 80% toxicological confirmation rate.

In addition to the hands-on evaluations, a DRE candidate must maintain a progress log of individuals they have evaluated, an up-to-date rolling log and, submit a written curriculum vitae for approval. Finally, the DRE candidate must pass a comprehensive final knowledge examination and obtain the written endorsement of two certified DRE instructors who have observed the DRE candidate during the training phases. **This final knowledge exam will take place at the conclusion of the Field Certification Phase in or out of state.** The DRE certification is valid for a period of two years. In order to maintain certification as a DRE, the officer must complete a minimum of four "for prosecution" evaluations, one under the direct supervision of a DRE

instructor, submit an up-to-date rolling log and curriculum vitae, upload evaluations into the National Data Tracking System and attend a minimum of 8 hours of approved re-certification training.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Officers must have completed the Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) training (24 hrs.), completed an in-person ARIDE (16hrs) course, be proficient in administering the SFST battery, be active in DWI enforcement, have two years law enforcement experience since certification and be off probation with your agency.

**COURSE GOALS:** To enable the course participants to distinguish if an individual is under the influence of a drug(s) other than alcohol, or under the combined influence of alcohol and other drugs, and to identify the broad category or categories of drugs inducing the observable signs of impairment.

**LOCATION:** The 2023 DRE School will take place at the Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters Troop building – 4600 Innovation Drive, Lincoln NE 68521

**DATES AND TIMES:** The Schedule for this school will be one for a combined curriculum. Both the Pre-School and DRE School curricula will be utilized each day of training.

Schedule	Dates	Time (Military)	CST
Day 1	April 17, 2023	1000 hrs. – 1700 hrs.	10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Day 2 - 9	April 18-21 & 24-27, 2023	0800 hrs. – 1700 hrs.	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Day 10	April 28, 2023	0800 hrs. – 1200 hrs.	8:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Field Certifications will be conducted at Lincoln PD on the following dates and times:**

Schedule	Dates	Time (Military)	CST
Day 1 Field Certs	April 28, 2023	1900 hrs. – 0300 hrs.	7:00 pm – 2:00 a.m.
Day 2 Field Certs	April 29, 2023	1900 hrs. – 0300 hrs.	7:00 pm – 2:00 a.m.
** Field Certification starting, and end times can vary **			

**Attendance is mandatory for all sessions of the school and Field Certifications.**

All of DRE School and the first weekend of Field Certifications will take place in Lincoln NE.

\*\*The first weekend of field certifications all DRE candidates will be staying in Lincoln for field certifications \*\*

**REGISTRATION FEES, MEALS, AND LODGING:**

- There is no registration fee for Nebraska officers.
- All course materials and equipment are provided (does not include laptops or ADOBE Reader).
- Participants are responsible for their own meals and transportation.
- Lodging is provided near the training site for participants who are located or will have to travel more than 60 miles to attend the training.

**\*\* APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 10, 2023 \*\***

# 2023 DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT (DRE) TRAINING APPLICATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address \_\_\_\_\_

Agency E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ (required)  
Other Email \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

SFST Training Date \_\_\_\_\_ ARIDE Training Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of LE Certification (Academy graduation date) \_\_\_\_\_ SFST Instructor Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

# Of DWI arrests in the last 2 years \_\_\_\_\_

### Recommendation of a Local DUI Prosecutor

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Recommendation of a Certified DRE

DRE's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DRE #: \_\_\_\_\_

### **MUST INCLUDE WITH APPLICATION**

- A copy of your SFST & ARIDE Course Completion Certificates
- SFST/HGN log if you maintain one
- Copy of your last 3 redacted DWI reports which is indicative of your report writing and documentation skills.

Will you need lodging for this training? Yes: \_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_  
If yes, dates you will need lodging: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Heads Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Please send completed applications to: [dustin.stewart@nebraska.gov](mailto:dustin.stewart@nebraska.gov) \*\*  
Class size is limited – you will be contacted once your registration is approved.  
**\*\* APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 10, 2023 \*\***

<b>Official Use Only</b>	Date Received: _____ SFST Certificate: ____ ARIDE Certificate: ____
	SFST/HGN Log: ____ DWI Reports: ____ Approved: ____ Denied: ____
	Prosecutor Recommendation: ____ DRE Recommendation: ____