

RPC – POLICE TRAINING

Fund 075

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide high quality in-service training and career development opportunities for local law enforcement, corrections, and criminal justice professionals. Course development, selection, and associated activities are determined in concert with agency administrators, training officers and command staff.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Project revenue and expenditures have remained relatively stable over the past decade. However, project revenue may be decreased for FY21 due to state legislation that has negatively impacted funds for the Traffic and Criminal Conviction Surcharge Fund (TACCSF). TACCSF is a “special fund” and the only source of state revenue for local law enforcement training. Unless resolved at the state level, the funding situation will result in significantly fewer courses for local police and corrections.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Curriculum development and comprehensive programming (1) develop and maintain officer job skills and (2) assist government entities and policymakers in limiting their exposure to civil liability.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The East Central Illinois Police Training Project is an in-service, regional training program serving law enforcement agencies in Champaign, Piatt and Vermilion counties, as well as selected (member) jurisdictions outside the three-county area. The Training Project operates under the authority of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board and is well established as the major delivery system for career development and advanced training in the region. This program serves a target population of 705 full-time law enforcement officers and 98 sworn part-time officers. Regional coverage has been expanded to 46 units of local government. Accurate needs assessment, innovative programming, and high-quality instruction have resulted in consistently high levels of training participation.

The length and subject matter of training courses vary according to the interests of local departments. Ranging from one day to two weeks in duration, courses are offered at various locations throughout the region to enable the maximum number of officers and departments to participate. Facilities currently available for regional training include the Danville Police Department training room with a capacity of 48 trainees and the Champaign Police Department training room with a capacity of 55 trainees. For larger conferences, excellent classroom facilities are available for temporary rental at various hotel establishments and convention centers, as well as the ILEAS Training Complex in Urbana. Firearms training may be conducted at the Urbana Police Range, the Illinois State Police Range in Pesotum, or the Tactical Training Center at PTI. Hands-on defensive tactics training is typically conducted at the ILEAS Training Center or at PTI’s tactical facilities on the grounds of Willard Airport in Savoy.

To identify the specific training needs of member agencies, Training Staff maintain close, ongoing contact with all levels of law enforcement personnel in the region. However, the interests of local departments are ultimately specified by the Regional Training Advisory Board, which is composed of police executives, training officers, and command staff. Advisory Board meetings are held quarterly to evaluate completed programs as well as to assess and prioritize the current training needs of the respective jurisdictions.

In keeping with the expressed interests of local law enforcement and the basic philosophy of regional training, the Project has adopted the following goals:

- To significantly improve the quality and quantity of in-service training for user agencies.
- To make training more accessible and flexible in meeting the needs of agencies and individuals.
- To enhance the cost effectiveness of training by encouraging multi-jurisdictional participation and sharing of local resources.
- To make specialized training available for upper and middle management as well as for operational level personnel and to provide training across these areas when appropriate.
- To increase the percentage of officers receiving a forty-hour minimum of in-service training annually.

In order to continue in-service training on a regional basis, local units of government make an annual contribution to the Training Project. Because there is an annual buy-in fee to participate in the Project and the fee is the same regardless of the number of officers enrolled, the efficiencies achieved by local departments are only limited by the number of personnel they send to various programs. This approach enables a department to expose each officer to a reasonable level of training rather than having only a small number of personnel who receive specialized instruction.

None of the local participating agencies is large enough to achieve cost effectiveness by sponsoring law enforcement training programs on its own initiative. However, by drawing a limited number of officers from each of the participating agencies, the Training Project has achieved class sizes large enough to reach significant economies of scale. The Training Project has been able to bring customized law enforcement training to the local agencies, rather than each agency sending individual officers to specialized courses which may not be custom designed to meet their particular needs. Consequently, the Training Project has been able to achieve higher levels of efficiency than would otherwise be found in the expenditure of local training funds.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide a minimum of 1,500 hours of training for law enforcement and corrections officers in the mobile team service area.
- To achieve a minimum of 30,000 man-hours of in-service training through regional offerings.
- To serve 2,000 participants through in-service offerings.
- To provide a minimum of 150 hours of in-service training on communication skills, citizen interaction, de-escalation techniques, and mental health intervention.
- To provide a minimum of 100 hours of in-service training on subjects directly related to officer safety, deadly force encounters, and force mitigation.
- To provide a minimum of 250 hours of in-service training on minority relations, implicit bias, and community policing.

- To provide a minimum of 80 hours of in-service training specifically designed for supervisors, command staff and field training officers.
- To actively participate in supplemental training projects developed under the auspices of the Illinois Police Training Board; i.e., Police Traffic Services Training Project, Police Executive Institute, Homeland Security Training Program, CIT Officer Certification, Lead Homicide Investigator Certification, Sexual Assault Investigator Certification, and Trauma Informed Sexual Assault Certification for Patrol.
- To assist local units of government to meet new training standards enacted by the Illinois General Assembly through the Police Community Improvement Act. By state law, all local officers are now required to complete in-service training on an annual and 3-year basis in nine (9) mandated subject areas, i.e., Legal Updates, Use of Force, Civil Rights, Human Rights, Cultural Competency, Constitutional & Proper Use of Authority, Mental Health Awareness, Officer Wellness, and Procedural Justice. In addition, all officers are required to attend in-service training on Domestic Violence every 5 years.
- To participate in short-term training programs in collaboration with professional law enforcement associations, the State Police Academy, and neighboring ASSIST Mobile Teams.
- To actively participate in training programs implemented on a statewide basis under the direction of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Indicator	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Estimate
Number of courses delivered	85	103	71
Total course hours	1,334	1,550	907
Number of training days	133	160	103
Total number of students	2,237	2,455	1,485
Total man-hours of training	31,433	33,540	19,161
Courses offered via supplemental grants	9	15	8
New training programs delivered	16	26	29