

1 AN ACT relating to peace officer certification.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 15.382 is amended to read as follows:

4 A person certified after December 1, 1998, under KRS 15.380 to 15.404 or qualified  
5 under the requirements set forth in KRS 15.440(1)(d)6. shall, at the time of becoming  
6 certified, meet the following minimum qualifications:

- 7 (1) Be a citizen of the United States;
- 8 (2) Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- 9 (3) (a) Be a high school graduate, regardless of whether the school is accredited or  
10 certified by a governing body, provided that the education received met the  
11 attendance and curriculum standards of Kentucky law at the time of  
12 graduation, as determined by the Kentucky Department of Education; or
- 13 (b) Possess a High School Equivalency Diploma;
- 14 (4) Possess a valid license to operate a motor vehicle;
- 15 (5) Be fingerprinted for a criminal background check;
- 16 (6) Not have been convicted of any felony; a misdemeanor under KRS 510.120,  
17 510.130, or 510.140; a second or subsequent offense under KRS 510.148; or a  
18 criminal attempt, conspiracy, facilitation, or solicitation to commit any degree of  
19 rape, sodomy, sexual abuse, or sexual misconduct; or have had any offense listed  
20 under this subsection expunged;
- 21 (7) Not be prohibited by federal or state law from possessing a firearm;
- 22 (8) Have received and read the Kentucky Law Enforcement Officers Code of Ethics as  
23 established by the council;
- 24 (9) Have not received a dishonorable discharge, bad conduct discharge, or general  
25 discharge under other than honorable conditions, if having served in any branch of  
26 the Armed Forces of the United States;
- 27 (10) Have passed a medical examination as defined by the council by administrative

- 1 regulation and provided by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced  
2 practice registered nurse to determine if he or she can perform peace officer duties  
3 as determined by a validated job task analysis. However, if the employing agency  
4 has its own validated job task analysis, the person shall pass the medical  
5 examination, appropriate to the agency's job task analysis, of the employing agency.  
6 All agencies shall certify passing medical examination results to the council, which  
7 shall accept them as complying with KRS 15.310 to 15.510;
- 8 (11) Have passed a drug screening test administered or approved by the council by  
9 administrative regulation. A person shall be deemed to have passed a drug  
10 screening test if the results of the test are negative for the use of an illegal  
11 controlled substance or prescription drug abuse. Any agency that administers its  
12 own test that meets or exceeds this standard shall certify passing test results to the  
13 council, which shall accept them as complying with KRS 15.310 to 15.510;
- 14 (12) Have undergone a background investigation established or approved by the council  
15 by administrative regulation to determine suitability for the position of a peace  
16 officer. If the employing agency has established its own background investigation  
17 that meets or exceeds the standards of the council, as set forth by administrative  
18 regulation, the agency shall conduct the background investigation and shall certify  
19 background investigation results to the council, which shall accept them as  
20 complying with KRS 15.310 to 15.510;
- 21 (13) Have been interviewed by the employing agency;
- 22 (14) Not have had certification as a peace officer permanently revoked in another state;
- 23 (15) Have taken a psychological suitability screening administered or approved by the  
24 council by administrative regulation to determine the person's suitability to perform  
25 peace officer duties as determined by a council validated job task analysis.  
26 However, if the employing agency has its own validated job task analysis, the  
27 person shall take that agency's psychological suitability screening~~[examination]~~,

1 appropriate to the agency's job task analysis. All agencies shall certify  
 2 psychological suitability screening~~examination~~ results to the council, which shall  
 3 accept them as complying with KRS 15.310 to 15.510;

4 (16) (a) Have passed a physical agility test administered or approved by the council by  
 5 administrative regulation to determine his or her suitability to perform peace  
 6 officer duties as determined by a council validated job task analysis.  
 7 However, if the employing agency has its own validated job task analysis, the  
 8 person shall take the physical agility test~~examination~~ of the employing  
 9 agency. All agencies shall certify physical agility test~~examination~~ results to  
 10 the council, which shall accept them as demonstrating compliance with KRS  
 11 15.310 to 15.510.~~;~~ ~~and~~

12 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, a person shall not be  
 13 required to pass a physical agility test if the person can provide certified  
 14 documentation that at the time of his or her application to the employing  
 15 agency, the person:

16 1. Is currently employed, or has been separated from service for less than  
 17 three (3) months, as a certified law enforcement officer in another  
 18 state;

19 2. Is currently in good standing, or separated from service in good  
 20 standing, with the other state or law enforcement agency where he or  
 21 she is certified; and

22 3. Has been continuously employed as a law enforcement officer in the  
 23 state where he or she is certified for at least ten (10) years prior to his  
 24 or her application; and

25 (17) Have taken a polygraph examination administered or approved by the council by  
 26 administrative regulation to determine his or her suitability to perform peace officer  
 27 duties. Any agency that administers its own polygraph examination as approved by

1 the council shall certify the results that indicate whether a person is suitable for  
2 employment as a peace officer to the council, which shall accept them as complying  
3 with KRS 15.310 to 15.510.

4 ➔Section 2. KRS 15.530 (Effective until July 1, 2026) is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 For the purposes of KRS 15.530 to 15.590:

7 (1) "CJIS" means the Criminal Justice Information System;

8 (2) "CJIS-full access course" means an online~~[a]~~ training program administered  
9 and~~[of forty (40) hours]~~ approved by the Kentucky State Police CJIS Services  
10 Agency~~[Kentucky Law Enforcement Council];~~

11 ~~(3) ["CJIS telecommunicator" means any public employee, sworn or civilian, whose~~  
12 ~~primary responsibility is to dispatch law enforcement units by means of radio~~  
13 ~~communications for an agency that utilizes the Criminal Justice Information~~  
14 ~~System, and is part of or administered by the state or any political subdivision;~~

15 ~~(4) ["Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Criminal Justice~~  
16 ~~Training;~~

17 ~~(4)~~~~(5)~~ "Public safety telecommunicator" or "telecommunicator" means any  
18 public employee, sworn or civilian, who functions as a public safety dispatcher,  
19 911 telecommunicator, or 911 call taker, whose duties and responsibilities  
20 include:

21 (a) Answering, receiving, transferring, or dispatching functions related to 911  
22 calls, as the primary or secondary public safety answering point or  
23 emergency communication center;

24 (b) Dispatching law enforcement officers, fire rescue services, emergency  
25 medical services, emergency management, and other public safety services  
26 to the scene of an emergency; or

27 (c) Providing real-time information from federal, state, and local crime

1            databases; ~~["Non-CJIS telecommunicator" means any full-time public~~  
 2            ~~employee, sworn or civilian, whose primary responsibility is to dispatch law~~  
 3            ~~enforcement units by means of radio communications for an agency that does~~  
 4            ~~not utilize the Criminal Justice Information System and is part of or~~  
 5            ~~administered by the state or any political subdivision;~~

6            ~~(6) "Non-CJIS telecommunicator academy" means a training course of one hundred~~  
 7            ~~twenty (120) hours approved by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council; and]~~

8            ~~(5)~~~~(7)~~ "Telecommunications academy" means a training course of one hundred sixty  
 9            (160) hours approved by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council; and

10          (6) "Telecommunicator overview training" means a forty (40) hour online course  
 11          approved by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council.

12          ➔Section 3. KRS 15.530 (Effective July 1, 2026) is amended to read as follows:

13          For the purposes of KRS 15.530 to 15.590:

14          (1) "CJIS" means the Criminal Justice Information System;

15          (2) "CJIS-full access course" means an online training program administered and  
 16          approved by the Kentucky State Police CJIS Services Agency;

17          (3) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Criminal Justice  
 18          Training;

19          (4) "Full-time public safety telecommunicator academy" means a training course of  
 20          at least one hundred sixty (160) hours approved by the Kentucky Law  
 21          Enforcement Council and delivered by one (1) of the Kentucky Law Enforcement  
 22          Council-approved academies in the state;

23          (5) "Public safety telecommunicator" or "telecommunicator" means any public  
 24          employee, sworn or civilian, who functions as a public safety dispatcher, 911  
 25          telecommunicator, or 911 call taker, whose duties and responsibilities include:

26          (a) Answering, receiving, transferring, or dispatching functions related to 911  
 27          calls, as the primary or secondary public safety answering point or emergency

1 communication center;

2 (b) Dispatching law enforcement officers, fire rescue services, emergency  
3 medical services, emergency management, and other public safety services to  
4 the scene of an emergency; or

5 (c) Providing real-time information from federal, state, and local crime databases;  
6 and

7 ~~(5) "Public safety telecommunicator academy" means a training course of at least one  
8 hundred sixty (160) hours approved by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council  
9 and delivered by one (1) of the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council approved  
10 academies in the state]~~

11 **(6) "Telecommunicator overview training" means a forty (40) hour online course**  
12 **approved by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council.**

13 ➔Section 4. KRS 15.552 is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) The Public Safety Telecommunicator Work Group is hereby established as an  
15 independent entity to develop a new delivery format for the public safety  
16 telecommunicator academy which will incorporate in-person and online training  
17 components. The work group shall meet as necessary and submit to the Kentucky  
18 Law Enforcement Council within one (1) year of July 15, 2024, a training delivery  
19 format that shall be developed and unanimously agreed upon by the work group.  
20 The work group shall cease to exist after the developed training delivery format is  
21 submitted to the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council for approval unless the  
22 council directs its continuance. The members of the work group shall not be paid or  
23 reimbursed for travel or other expenses. The work group shall consist of at least one  
24 (1) member of the following entities:

25 (a) Department of Criminal Justice Training;

26 (b) Kentucky Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association; and

27 (c) Association of Public Safety Communications Officials.

- 1 (2) The Kentucky Law Enforcement Council shall, upon approval, implement the new  
2 training delivery format developed under subsection (1) of this section for the  
3 public safety telecommunicator academy on July 1, 2026.
- 4 (3) All part-time telecommunicators~~[ hired prior to July 1, 2026,]~~ shall successfully  
5 complete the forty (40) hour online course, "telecommunicator overview training."  
6 ~~[All part-time telecommunicators hired after July 1, 2026, shall successfully~~  
7 ~~complete the public safety telecommunicator academy]~~
- 8 **(4) A part-time telecommunicator who successfully completes the forty (40) hour**  
9 **telecommunicator overview training course and moves to a full-time**  
10 **telecommunicator position shall be credited forty (40) hours toward the training**  
11 **requirements of the full-time public safety telecommunicator academy.**
- 12 ➔Section 5. KRS 15.560 (Effective July 1, 2026) is amended to read as follows:
- 13 (1) (a) All full-time public safety telecommunicators not previously certified as a  
14 telecommunicator by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council shall complete  
15 the full-time public safety telecommunicator academy within twelve (12)  
16 months from the date of hire.
- 17 (b) All part-time public safety telecommunicators not previously certified as a  
18 telecommunicator by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council shall  
19 complete telecommunicator overview training within twelve (12) months  
20 from the date of hire.
- 21 (2) All public safety telecommunicators shall successfully complete each calendar year  
22 an in-service training course, appropriate to their job assignment and responsibility,  
23 of eight (8) hours' duration at a school certified or recognized by the Kentucky Law  
24 Enforcement Council. Each in-service training course shall include a mental health  
25 component which highlights post-traumatic stress disorder and work-induced stress,  
26 including symptom recognition, treatment, and available resources.
- 27 (3) In the event of extenuating circumstances beyond the control of a telecommunicator

1           that prevent completion of training within the time specified, the commissioner or  
2           the commissioner's designee may grant the telecommunicator an extension of time,  
3           not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, in which to complete the training.

4   (4) A telecommunicator who fails to complete the training within a period of twelve  
5       (12) months and any extension of time granted under this section shall be  
6       terminated by the employing agency and shall not be permitted to serve as a  
7       telecommunicator with any governmental agency in the Commonwealth for a  
8       period of one (1) year.

9       ➔Section 6. Sections 3 and 5 of this Act take effect July 1, 2026.