

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you have additional questions that aren't answered in this document, please contact:
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CHIEFS

Will the Use of Force/Control Tactics course satisfy hours for Mandatory In- Service Training?

No. The new Use of Force and Control Tactics training is required annually and will be completed by Departments similar to the way Firearms Qualifications and First Aid/CPR training are completed. Use of Force and Control Tactics has its own place in TACS for you to enter information just like Firearms and First Aid/CPR.

How long is Use of Force & Control Tactics training supposed to be?

We did not set a specific time frame for Use of Force and Control Tactics training to allow Departments to integrate this training with similar types of training that they are already conducting. You are welcomed and encouraged to incorporate Use of Force and Control Tactics with other required training as long as the course requirements (also posted on this page) are met.

Will the Use of Force (classroom) portion of this requirement be available online?

No. Use of Force is a course best completed by the Department so that you can incorporate your own policies and procedures into the training.

Who can teach the department required Use of Force and Control Tactics training?

- Temporary MIST Instructors (TMI) (for the 2022 Control Tactics course) had already met requirements and were grandfathered in for 2023. However, for 2024, all TMI's should continue their education with additional training to maintain/update their certification. Any instructor who has not taken another instructor course should:
 - Satisfactorily complete a MPOETC approved Defensive Tactics Instructor's course - [MPOETC Approved DT Instructor Courses](#)
 - Complete MPOETC registration form - [MPO-239](#)
 - Scan and email registration form with current CT Instructor's certificate to ra-mpotraining@pa.gov. Once approved, the officer will be able to teach the Use of Force and Control Tactics training
- Academy Application of Force Instructors
- Law Enforcement Officer, certified as a Use of Force and Control Tactics Instructor that registers with MPOETC (see form on this webpage).

Officers can charge a fee for this class if training outside their own Department.

How can I get an officer trained to teach the Use of Force and Control Tactics training?

Any officer that wishes to teach Use of Force and Control Tactics training can do so by applying to MPOETC.

- Satisfactorily complete a MPOETC approved Defensive Tactics Instructor's course - [MPOETC Approved DT Instructor Courses](#)
- Complete MPOETC registration form - [MPO-239](#)
- Scan and email registration form with current DT Instructor's certificate to ra-mpotraining@pa.gov. Once approved, the officer will be able to teach the Use of Force and Control Tactics training

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Will Academies be offering the Use of Force and Control Tactics training?

Some Academies have expressed the desire to provide this training to assist agencies that can't afford or aren't prepared to register an instructor of their own. If you have an interest in obtaining training from an Academy near you, please reach out to that specific Academy. Academies can charge a fee for this class.

Is there anything extra I would have to do in my own Department if I used the services of an Academy or outside Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructor?

If you have your officers attend training at a Police Academy or through an outside Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructor, please make sure you augment that training with some type of roll call training to review your own Use of Force and Arrest policies and procedures.

How can officers in my department obtain this training?

Choose one of the three options:

- Use an in-house "Department Control Tactics Instructor"
- Ask a "Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructor" from another Department or an Academy "Application of Force Instructor" if they would be interested in training your officers.
List of available [Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructors](#)
- Ask a Police Academy near you if they will be or would be open to providing this training.

Police Academies and Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructors may charge a fee for their services. This fee is not set or monitored by MPOETC.

Are the resources available on the website the most current information?

Yes, the resources are current for this year. Look for updates in 2025 accompanied by a notification on the website.

INSTRUCTORS

Do I have to use the Use of Force and Control Tactics PowerPoint provided by MPOETC?

No. However, you MUST satisfy the areas specified in the "Use of Force Requirements" and the "Control Tactics Requirements" documents.

If I was a Temporary MIST Instructor for the Control Tactics course in 2022, am I still required to report/send information to the Academy that originally sponsored me?

No. You are no longer associated with the Academy that sponsored you. You now represent the Police Department that you work for. Any training that you provide to other Departments should be with the approval of your Chief.

How do I get acknowledged for completing the Use of Force and Control Tactics Training for my Department?

Enter yourself on a roster as a student as well as the instructor. Advise the Chief/Admin person to also enter your name into TACS by selecting the Use of Force and Control Tactics tab and entering the qualification date and instructor so it is documented in your TACS record you completed the training.

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Does there need to be a training site/facility approved by MPOETC to hold this training?

Use of Force and Control Tactics training will be performed under the guidance of a law enforcement agency and therefore the facility provided to do the training should be approved by the agency (not MPOETC). The following guidance is offered to the instructors on this issue:

The training area/facility used should be hazard free. (No broken glass, slippery surfaces, objects to run into or trip over, etc.)

Place a mat or barrier down on the ground when practicing prone techniques.

Does the Use of Force portion of the training require a written test be given?

No. You certainly may develop a written test if you wish to. MPOETC is not going to provide any type of written test.

NON-120 AGENCIES

Do Non-120 Agencies also have to participate in this new training program?

Use of Force and Control Tactics training was passed by the Commission as additional training that will be completed by individual agencies, similar to Firearms Qualification and CPR/First Aid. If you are required to follow the guidelines of what the Commission requires of Act 120 agencies, then your agency may also be required to complete this training.

How can we document the Use of Force and Control Tactics training in TACS?

Unfortunately, right now, unless you were previously an Act 120 officer, you cannot. Please document this training the same way that you would document your Firearms & First Aid/CPR for your agency.