



MEMORANDUM

To: Law Enforcement Administrators
From: Thomas Quinlan, OPOTC Executive Director *TAQ*
Date: July 21, 2026
Subject: **CPT Memo on Required Hours for 2027**

Pursuant to [Ohio Administrative Code §109:2-18-02](#), the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) sets the minimum number of hours for continuing professional training (CPT) based on training needs and availability of reimbursement funding. For 2027, OPOTC has set the minimum at **24-hours**, including **(6) six hours** of topics mandated by OPOTC and 18 hours of pre-approved topics selected by each agency.

MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT: Officers completing more than the required 24-hours of training may be reimbursed for up to a maximum of 32-hours in total.

OPOTC-Mandated Topics

All peace officers and troopers must complete the three training topics bolded below. These topics, selected by OPOTC, satisfy six of the 24-hours of mandatory CPT. (*REMINDER: Those who successfully complete their basic training or highway patrol cadet program and exam in calendar year 2027 are exempt.*)

2027 Mandated Topics as set by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission.

- **2 hours of Legal Topics**
- **2 hours of ICAT Familiarization**
- **2 hours of Sit-D Familiarization**

Written curricula for the OPOTC-mandated topics will be posted to the OPOTA Portal in early December 2026 for use by instructors qualified under [OAC 109:2-18-03\(A\)\(4\)](#) to satisfy all six hours of training. Also, in early January, the OPOTC-mandated topics will be made available on OPOTA Online. Agencies do not need to obtain prior approval when using OPOTA curricula.

While agencies may create their own curricula for the 6 hours of mandated topics, the content must be inclusive of the course descriptions provided below.

CPT Training Topic	Details of OPOTC-Mandated Curricula	Required Hours
Legal Topics	Legal Topics: Recent Legislative and Case Law Update is a mandatory two-hour course designed to keep Ohio peace officers informed of significant legal developments affecting law enforcement enacted within the past three years. The course provides a practical review of Ohio statutory changes, Ohio appellate districts, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Ohio and United States Supreme Court decisions, and emerging legal trends that influence daily policing and officer decision-making. Upon completion of this course, participants will have an updated understanding of recent legal developments, enhanced awareness of emerging legal issues, and greater confidence in making lawful, constitutional, and professionally sound decisions that support effective policing and maintain public trust.	2
ICAT Familiarization	Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics (ICAT) Familiarization, introduced by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), provides law enforcement officers with an overview of the ICAT critical decision-making model and its application to incidents involving persons in crisis or other situations where time, distance, communication, and tactical coordination can improve outcomes. This familiarization course introduces the core principles of ICAT, including critical thinking, de-escalation, crisis recognition, tactical repositioning, teamwork, and proportional decision-making. Upon completion, participants will have a greater understanding of how ICAT supports effective decision-making, enhances officer safety, and promotes successful resolutions to critical incidents.	2
Sit-D Familiarization	Situational Decision-Making, introduced in the Blue-Ribbon Task Force Report on the Future of Police Training, in partnership with the University of Chicago Crime Lab, will familiarize law enforcement officers with a practical framework for making sound, lawful, and ethical decisions in rapidly evolving situations. Building upon critical thinking, communication, and threat assessment principles, this familiarization course emphasizes recognizing changing circumstances, evaluating available options, and selecting responses that are proportional, reasonable, and consistent with professional standards. This 2-hour training module will provide a base line familiarization on the techniques linked to Sit-D should officers or agencies wish to complete the full 16-hour course at an approved training site.	2
Mandatory Hours		6



Agency-Selected Topics (Must be Pre-Approved by OPOTC)

For the remaining **18 hours** of required training, each agency will determine pre-approved curricula based on agency CEO's approval for topics. OPOTC strongly recommends in-person training to an extent practical, which should include scenario-based training and a component of skills-based subject control and compliance training. While these topics are strongly recommended, it remains the direction of the agency CEO to approve course topics relevant to their officer/deputy/troopers' needs.

OPOTC will make available a list of pre-approved courses and the agencies providing that training. The additional 18 hours are traditionally completed using a combination of **several available options:**

- OPOTA will release many online courses that qualify for CPT.
- All in-person courses delivered by OPOTA, including our regional partners, are CPT pre-approved, unless otherwise noted.
- OPOTA's virtual reality series consisting of 19 modules, or 19-hours, of training, are available for CPT. The 19 courses offered are in-person courses and there will be supplemental online content to accompany the in-person courses also with CPT credit available. ****The online VR content is stand alone and may be completed without first having completed an in-headset experience.**
- The annual Law Enforcement Training Symposium (**LETS**) is a reliable option for obtaining the required 6-hours of mandated training and up to 12 additional CPT hours, all in person.
- CPT is available by attending courses offered under the Tactical Patrol Officer program in partnership with the Ohio Tactical Officers Association (OTOA).
- Completion of a state or nationally recognized leadership course is pre-approved by the Executive Director and includes any of the following courses:
 - FBI NA, NEI, or LEEDA
 - PELC, CLEE, STEP (delivered by OACP and the Ohio Law Enforcement Foundation)
 - PSLA (delivered by OSHP)
 - SPI
 - Northwestern School Staff and Command
 - ***Note:** Officers using a state/national leadership course for CPT hours still must complete the 6 mandatory hours.*
- Agencies may create their own content and submit a lesson plan for CPT pre-approval.
- Third-party providers offer a wide range of in-person and online training that receives pre-approval. A full list of courses can be located on the OPOTA CPT website. [Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy - Ohio Attorney General](#)



Pre-Approval Requirement for Agency-Selected Topics:

Agencies are free to develop and/or use non-OPOTA curricula for the 18 hours of agency-selected training. If non-OPOTA curricula is to be used for CPT, **pre-approval of the content is required under [OAC 109:2-18-03](#)**. The OAC requirements apply to both the course content and the instructor qualifications, and approval is required **prior to** course delivery. Any courses taught without pre-approval **will not** count toward the required CPT hours and will be ineligible for reimbursement.

See instructions above on agencies creating their own content to meet the 6 mandatory hours of training.

All courses previously approved in prior years are not eligible for CPT unless prior approval is obtained in 2027 using the regular or expedited approval application, with the exception of the Virtual Reality Training series, which are all approved for 2027. Expedited applications approved in 2026 may not be re-submitted for 2027 on the expedited application. To re-submit a course previously approved on an expedited application, intended for a one-year extension only, requires a full application to be submitted.

Legal topics must clear a review by OPOTA legal staff and require a full application; the expedited form cannot be submitted for legal topics.

Pre-approval forms and instructions can be found on the OPOTC CPT website and must be sent to: CPTPreApprovals@OhioAGO.gov. Applications for 2027 CPT approval will be available on OPOTA's website by Dec. 1, 2026.

“Training that prepares officers to think clearly, communicate effectively, and exercise restraint under pressure is not simply instructional innovation, it is a strategic investment in the future legitimacy of policing.” – Quinlan | Police Chief Magazine, July 2026

Thank you for training with us!



Thomas Quinlan
Executive Director
Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission

