



D.A.R.E.
Drug Abuse Resistance Education

TENNESSEE HIGHWAY PATROL
D.A.R.E. TRAINING CENTER

POLICY
AND
PROCEDURES

Number: D-89-01

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Subject: CRITERIA FOR SELECTION
OF D.A.R.E. OFFICERS

Date: October 12, 1989
Revised: June 29, 2002

PURPOSE: To establish the minimum criteria to be utilized for a law enforcement officer to be considered for selection to become a D.A.R.E. Officer.

POLICY: It is the responsibility of the Tennessee D.A.R.E. Training Center to provide instruction. Success in reaching this goal is largely dependent upon the officer selection criteria. The officer in an elementary school serves as a positive role model. It is incumbent upon the officer to maintain the highest level of integrity to assure the D.A.R.E. goals and objectives are met.

PROCEDURE:

1. The D.A.R.E. Officer must meet the following criteria:
 - a. **Must be P.O.S.T. certified in the state in which he/she will teach D.A.R.E.**
 - b. **Must have at least two (2) years experience as a full-time sworn law enforcement officer and must fully meet the statutory requirements by law.**
 - c. Must not have a history of drug abuse.
 - d. Preferably a non-user of alcohol or tobacco products.
 - e. Demonstrate the ability to relate to children.
 - f. Have oral and written communication skills that are adaptable to age-specific audiences.
 - g. Ability to organize.
 - h. Responsiveness to instruction.
 - i. Ability to develop interpersonal relationships.
10. Promptness.

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- j. One who refrains from sexual, racial, stereotyping or insensitive remarks.
 - k. Be committed to the faithful replication of the program model.
 - l. Have demonstrated attention to neatness and detail in personal appearance.
 - m. Have demonstrated a desire to participate in the D.A.R.E. Program and to be involved in drug abuse prevention activity.
2. While meeting the above criteria is important, a D.A.R.E. officer must also demonstrate an exemplary law enforcement work record. Each applicant must consent to a departmental background check by Training Center Staff before being allowed to attend a D.A.R.E. Officers Training Seminar.
2. If the D.A.R.E. Officer Training candidate is unable to comply with 1.b., a waiver of experience may be requested from the Training Center.
3. Once a waiver is granted, the D.A.R.E. Officer Training candidate will be placed on the training list, but will be accepted into the training only as long as training positions remain after all fully qualified officers are accepted.