

# ILLINOIS DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT SCHOOL

## Application Form

**(Must Be Type)**

Class dates: **October 28 – November 7, 2024 (Mon-Fri)**  
**2024**

Application Due: **August 31,**

Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Hire date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ IL ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Work E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program has received national acclaim for its success in identifying the drug-impaired driver. Officers trained as drug recognition experts (DREs) are frequently called upon to differentiate between drug influence and medical and/or mental disorders and their training is an extremely valuable tool in combating the adverse impact of drug/alcohol-impaired driving in our communities.

The DRE School is extremely demanding. Pre-course study materials will be sent to each candidate. Staying at the designated hotel is beneficial to candidates and preferred to commuting. To receive certification as a DRE, three phases of training must be completed. The following summarizes each phase:

**The 2 DAY PRE-SCHOOL OCT. 28 – 29, 2024:** This phase includes Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), and introductory information on the seven categories. Participants must pass a SFST proficiency test and achieve **80%** on the pre-school exam. Any student unable to meet these standards will not be permitted to attend the DRE School.

**The 7 DAY DRE SCHOOL OCT. 30 – Nov. 7, 2024 (Off on Nov. 2 & 3):** This phase includes detailed instruction regarding physiology, vital signs, eye examinations and their relationship to the seven drug categories. Participants will learn how to conduct a 12-step evaluation on a drug impaired subject. There are five written quizzes and a final written exam. Participants must achieve a minimum of 80% on the final exam to progress to the certification phase.

**CERTIFICATION PHASE: Nov. 8, 2024 and 8 additional dates TBD:** After successfully completing the academic portion, participants must complete the certification phase. It is the participant's responsibility to complete the certification requirements within **six months** following the DRE School. These requirements include conducting a minimum of 12 drug influence evaluations with

approved reports while under the supervision of a DRE instructor; identifying subjects under the influence of three of the seven drug categories; and attaining a 75% toxicological confirmation rate. In addition, the participant must maintain a progress log, rolling log and submit a curriculum vitae (CV). Finally, the participant must pass a comprehensive final knowledge examination, and obtain the written endorsement of two certified DRE Instructors.

**LOCATION:** The DRE Pre-School, DRE School and Certification Phase will be conducted at the Decatur Conference Center Hotel in Decatur, Illinois.

DRE certification is valid for two years. To maintain certification, DREs must conduct a minimum of four evaluations every two years, submit an updated rolling log, and updated CV and attend eight hours of approved recertification training.

**To be considered for DRE training, the applicant *must* meet the following criteria:**

- Have a minimum of two years of law enforcement service
- Be off probation with your agency
- Be working in patrol with your agency
- Be SFST trained and proficient in its use
- Must have completed ARIDE training
- Have a reasonable background and experience making DUI arrests
- Submit a minimum of two actual DUI arrest reports (**Narrative Only**) for review
- Have a completed recommendation form from your prosecutor

**NOTE: An ISP applicant must meet the criteria listed in ENF-018, Addendum 2, section 3 (DRE selection/certification process)**

To assist in the selection of quality personnel for the DEC Program, please complete the following information. **Attach additional pages if necessary.**

Date of SFST training: \_\_\_\_\_  8 hrs  16 hrs  24 hrs

Date of ARIDE training: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the DRE who recommends you for this school: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of DUI arrests in **the last 2 years:** \_\_\_\_\_

- List any additional DUI or Drug Investigation related training:
  
- Summarize your prior assignments related to, or of interest to, the DEC Program:
  
- Summarize your formal education, work or practical experience, and training that may be related to, or may be of interest to, the DEC Program (EMT training, college, etc):

- How do you expect DRE training to benefit you and your agency?
- Anything else who you think would assist in your selection as a DRE:

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I affirm that I:

- Have a minimum of two years of law enforcement service
- Am not on probation with my agency
- Am working in patrol with my agency

I have included in my application:

- A minimum of two actual DUI arrest reports (Narrative Pages Only) for review.
- Have obtained a recommendation form from my prosecutor

I have read the listed requirements, have submitted the required information, and I am applying for acceptance into the DRE Training Program.

Applicant Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Scan and return the completed application, approval, and narratives by August 31, 2024 to:*

[Mike.Pappas@Illinois.gov](mailto:Mike.Pappas@Illinois.gov)  
Sgt Mike Pappas, Illinois State Police  
(618) 218-3736

(Note: email address will change August 1, 2024. Call for new email after Aug. 1st)

*Questions about the course may be sent to:*

**Cara Dasher**  
**Law Enforcement Training Advisory Commission**  
[Cara@letac.org](mailto:Cara@letac.org)  
217-726-7014 phone

**RECOMMENDATION TO ATTEND DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT SCHOOL**

For Officer \_\_\_\_\_

From Police Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

*This Recommendation is requested for the listed officer who is applying to Drug Recognition Expert School. Prosecutors have the opportunity to observe the officer testify in hearings and trials and can give another perspective on this officer. The DRE program is very intense and takes conscientious officers to succeed. Upon completion of the school, the officer will have the knowledge and experience to be qualified as an expert in DUI-D cases.*

***Please take a few minutes to check the appropriate boxes and return an electronic or scanned version to the address below.***

- Gives a professional appearance and demeanor in court
- Is on time or early for hearings
- Understands the elements of the DUI statutes
- Makes solid, logical arrests
- Writes detailed narrative reports
- Testifies clearly and convincingly
- Is articulate and knows the terminology in DUI cases
- Understands and uses Standardized Field Sobriety Tests
- Argues with the defense attorney
- Gets visibly shaken when s/he can't remember the facts
- Testimony matches the narrative and video of the incident
  
- I recommend this officer for DRE School
- I do not recommend this officer for the DRE School.

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm or Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

***Scan and email this form to: Mike.Pappas@Illinois.gov*** (Note: email address will change August 1, 2024. Call for new email after Aug. 1st)

***Sgt. Mike Pappas, 618-218-3736***

## Supervisor and Commanding Officer Approval:

I have read the listed requirements and I recommend this officer for DRE training (required). I understand and agree to the following:

1. The two-day Drug Recognition Expert Pre-School is 16 hours of class time. The seven-day Drug Recognition Expert School is 56 hours of class time. Participants are not allowed to miss any sessions absent emergency. Any missed sessions must be made up with an instructor prior to continuing. The course manager makes the final determinations on approving absences and making up missed sessions. Instructors make themselves available for voluntary study sessions outside regular scheduled class times. Some days will be longer than a standard 8-hour training day, particularly when wet labs are scheduled. There will be two wet labs the first week of the full 9-day training curricula.
2. **No travel expenses will be covered for officers/deputies** for the two weeks absent extraordinary circumstances and prior approval by the SFST/DRE Program Coordinator.
3. Nine days have been allocated for the DRE Candidate to obtain the required 12 field evaluations. He/She will be required to attend these events or work with a Certified DRE Instructor to obtain the required evaluations. These are typically two-night events, with approximately 8 hours of evaluation each night. Where travel is required, the Illinois DRE program will not reimburse/cover travel expenses, including hotel, per diem, and mileage. **The police agency agrees to allow attendance at and make their DRE candidate available for said field evaluations.**
4. The DRE Candidate will be required to complete a Final Knowledge Exam before becoming fully certified. He/She may be required to take this exam at some time other than during a Field Evaluation Event. The Exam typically takes 3-6 hours to complete. Travel to a central location may be required. Where travel is required, the Illinois DRE program will not reimburse/cover travel expenses, including hotel, per diem and mileage. **The police agency agrees to allow attendance at and make their DRE candidate available for said final knowledge exam.**

Supervisor Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Commanding Officer Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Commanding Officer's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Commanding Officer E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_