



The State of Kansas

Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training

November, 2005 – Updated July 24, 2015

Required Annual Firearms Qualification Standard

This document contains three sections:

- 1) KSCPOST Annual Firearms Qualification Requirements – Updated 7/24/2015
- 2) KSCPOST Firearms Qualification Course of Fire as Adopted 8/2/05
- 3) KSCPOST Firearms Qualification Course Management Rules

Section 1: KS-CPOST Annual Firearms Qualification Requirements

Kansas Law (KSA 74-5607)

Kansas law states in relevant part, "(T)he commission shall adopt the rules and regulations that are necessary to ensure that law enforcement officers are adequately trained and to enforce the provisions of [The Kansas Law Enforcement Training Act.] Such rules and regulations shall include, but are not limited to, the **establishment of a course of fire as a standard qualification for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms** [*bold and underline emphasis added*] that may also be used for qualified retired officers to carry firearms pursuant to federal law."

Effective Date for Firearms Qualification Standard

Developed by KSCPOST pursuant to 2005 Kansas Senate Bill No. 195 (KSA 74-5607), the required annual Training Year (TY) statewide firearms qualification standard will become effective beginning with **Training Year 2007 (TY07) and thereafter. TY07 is defined as July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.** Thereafter, a training year is identified as the period of time from July 1st through June 30th of the following year.

Annual Firearm Qualification Required: Full & Part-time Officers

KSCPOST requires that all **full-time and part-time police officers and law enforcement officers** as defined by KSA 74-5602(g), (h), and (i) must qualify (achieve a passing score of 70% or greater in accordance with course management rules) **at least once annually** on the KS-CPOST

statewide firearms qualification course of fire. There is no established or set time during the Training Year when the required annual firearms qualification must occur however officers must complete the KSCPOST qualification process with their duty weapon on or before the last day of each Training Year.

Volunteer Auxiliary/Reserve Police Officers or Law Enforcement Officers

Volunteer Auxiliary/Reserve Police Officers or Law Enforcement Officers are defined in KSA 74-5602(k) as members of organized non-salaried groups which operate as an adjunct to a police or sheriff's department, including reserve officers, possess and search and rescue groups. These groups of volunteer and reserve police officers or law enforcement officers are not required by KSCPOST rules to complete the annual firearms qualification however, agencies are strongly encouraged to adopt the same firearm qualification standard for their volunteer auxiliary/reserve police officers or law enforcement officers who are authorized by law to carry firearms.

Qualification with Duty Weapon

All full-time and part-time police officers and law enforcement officers must achieve a passing score of 70% or greater (in accordance with all course management rules) with their duty weapon on the KSCPOST course of fire at least once during the Training Year. The decision of what constitutes an officer's "duty weapon" shall be left to the discretion of the agency head or his or her designee. KSCPOST requires each full-time and part-time Kansas police officer or law enforcement officer as defined by KSA 74-5602(g), (h), and (i) to qualify at least once annually with their duty weapon. Aside from an officer's **duty weapon**, the total number of additional firearms (if any) that an employing agency may require their officers to qualify with during a Training Year is left to the discretion of the agency head.

Firearms/Range Instructor Presence Required; and Qualifications

The individual(s) designated by the agency head as the agency's firearms instructor or Rangemaster charged with administering the annual KSCPOST statewide firearms qualification standard course of fire ***must be*** an individual recognized by the agency head as being qualified by any combination of certification(s), training and experience to instruct or supervise firearms qualifications. An agency's designated firearms instructor or Rangemaster must be present when conducting the required annual KSCPOST qualification process.

Required Course of Fire; Required Target and Scoring

Only the 50-round KSCPOST Firearms Qualification Course of Fire as adopted 8/2/05 shall be used by agencies for the annual firearms qualification requirement. Only those firearms targets specified in the KSCPOST Firearms Qualification Course Management rules are authorized for use. Successful completion of the KSCPOST firearms qualification course requires achieving a passing score of at least 70% or greater (35 hits or more) in accordance with all KSCPOST course management rules.

Failure to Achieve 70% or Greater Passing Firearms Score

KSCPOST requires that all full-time or part-time Kansas police officers or law enforcement officers qualify (achieve a passing score of 70% or greater in accordance with course management rules) **at least once** during the Training Year (July 1 through June 30) on the KSCPOST annual firearms qualification course of fire. The total number of qualification attempts (re-shoots) that an officer is allowed by his or her employing agency during a Training Year is at the discretion of the agency head.

Firearm Qualifications Record Keeping and Documentation

Each agency head must maintain written documentation and submit evidence of their officers' successful compliance with or failure to complete the required KSCPOST annual firearms qualification standard each Training Year. The required reporting shall be completed using either the KSCPOST's on-line continuing education tracking system or submitted on forms as provided by KSCPOST for such purpose. Additionally, agencies shall comply with all KSCPOST firearms qualification documentation and reporting procedures as found in the document entitled, In-Service Training Guidelines for Kansas Law Enforcement.

Reporting Officers Who Fail to Qualify Annually or Fail to Participate

Before the conclusion of the Training Year (June 30th) each agency head shall report their agency's officers who have failed to achieve a passing score (of 70% or greater on the KSCPOST annual firearms qualification course of fire) during the reporting period *or* to report their officer's failure or inability to participate in the KSCPOST firearms qualification process as required during a Training Year.

All matters regarding an officer's failure to successfully comply with or inability to participate in the required statewide firearms qualification process during a Training Year will be addressed and handled by the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training.

Extensions, Waivers, and Modifications of the Annual Requirement

In certain cases, the Commission may modify, extend, or waive an annual in-service training requirement. KSA 74-5607a(d) states, "The commission may extend, waive or modify the annual continuing education requirement, when it is shown that the failure to comply with the [mandated in-service training requirement] was not due to the intentional avoidance of the law."

The Commission may modify, waive, or extend the in-service training year for the 40 hour training requirement. **However**, there is currently no remedial process for Firearms Qualification. It is important to note that if an officer's firearms qualification is not reported to KSCPOST, then that officer will show as not having qualified for that training year. In these cases, the officer should be qualified as soon as possible.

Additional Agency-specific Annual Firearms Qualification Requirements; Use of Other Tactical or Marksmanship Courses and Targets

Nothing in the KSCPOST annual firearms qualification requirements shall be construed as prohibiting Kansas law enforcement agencies from requiring within their respective agencies an additional number of firearms qualification requirements annually with internal agency ramifications for non-compliance, **nor** shall the KSCPOST annual firearms qualification requirement prohibit individual Kansas law enforcement agencies from using, for an agency's own purpose, other tactical or marksmanship courses incorporating different targets, and stages of fire and scoring. Any supplemental agency-specific firearms qualification course(s) may be used **in addition to but not in lieu of** the KSCPOST annual firearms qualification requirement. Firearms qualification results other than the KSCPOST required annual qualification will not fulfill the KSCPOST firearms requirement.