

STATE OF ALABAMA

PEACE OFFICERS' STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION



CHIEF R. ALAN BENEFIELD
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Law Enforcement Agency Heads
FROM: Chief R. Alan Benefield, Executive Secretary
DATE: June 11, 2020

SUBJECT: Required COVID-19 testing for applicants after enrollment in the law enforcement academy

Effective immediately, in an effort to prevent the introduction of COVID-19 into academy training facilities and minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for academy class members and staff, the following procedures are implemented.

COVID-19 Testing Required: All students enrolled in an academy session are required to be tested for COVID-19 prior to reporting to the academy for the beginning of training. The protocol for this testing/reporting procedure is as follows:

1. The employing agency shall have the applicant tested for COVID-19 within fourteen (14) days of the academy start date.
2. **The report of a negative COVID-19 test** shall be submitted by the employing agency to the academy not less than five (5) days before the session start date.
3. **An applicant who tests positive for COVID-19 will not be admitted to the academy class.** The applicant may be rescheduled for a future class. If an applicant tests positive for COVID-19, the employing agency shall notify the academy and APOST HQ in Montgomery of the positive test results. CDC guidelines require that a person testing positive for COVID-19 is to be quarantined for fourteen (14) days. Therefore, an applicant testing positive in these circumstances will not be allowed to be retested for the purposes of academy admission for the scheduled session since he/she will be unable to meet the CDC guidelines. CDC employment guidelines should then be followed with the employing agency.
4. **Applicants' restriction of movement.** After taking the COVID-19 test, applicants shall immediately implement a self-controlled plan of restricted movement. This includes, but is not limited to, daily temperature checks, the use of face coverings, remaining at least six (6) feet apart from other person(s), staying out of groups and/or crowded places. These and other restrictions on personal association and movement are to be followed until completion/graduation of the academy training program. Failure to follow this and other COVID-19 academy protocols, whether required by the Commission or the Academy, may result in the student-recruit being dismissed from the academy.