



Fact Sheet

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FY 2022 COPS Hiring Program School Resource Officer Mandatory Training

Overview

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) is committed to ensuring student success in supportive, safe environments by providing a variety of resources, technical assistance, and training. The fiscal year (FY) 2022 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) includes awards for agencies to deploy school resource officers (SRO) to school districts across the country.

To ensure COPS Office–funded SROs have the resources and knowledge necessary for their position, the COPS Office mandates that all officers funded by FY 2022 CHP awards complete the SRO basic training course conducted by the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). To support this requirement, the COPS Office will pay the training fee directly to NASRO and NASRO will reimburse allowable travel costs up to \$1,000 per CHP-funded SRO to the law enforcement agency. For additional information about NASRO training, visit their website at <https://www.nasro.org>.

How to Receive Funding

All agencies funding SROs through a FY 2022 CHP award will receive information about the SRO training requirement in their award terms and conditions, as well as in the CHP Award Owner's Manual (AOM). The COPS Office also requires that law enforcement agencies and schools first develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to clearly document the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of the individuals and partners involved, including SROs, school officials, law enforcement, education departments, students, families, and social service agencies. The MOU must be submitted within 90 days of the date shown on the award congratulatory letter. The CHP MOU Fact Sheet describing the contents of this MOU can be found on the COPS Office website at <https://cops.usdoj.gov/chp>.

After an SRO is selected for the COPS Office–funded position, the agency should contact the NASRO office (888-31-NASRO) and request to speak with the COPS Office grant coordinator about scheduling officer training. The agency will use GSA per diem rates to determine travel expenses and reimbursement standards. Information can be found at the GSA website (<https://www.gsa.gov/perdiem>). All

Award Condition

COPS Office–funded SRO(s) are required to complete a basic 40-hour SRO training course from the COPS Office–approved provider, the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). Training must be completed no later than nine months after the date shown on the award congratulatory letter or six months from the SRO hire date, whichever comes first. If a COPS Office–funded SRO leaves the recipient agency after completing the training, the recipient agrees to pay for the new SRO who is assigned to backfill this position to attend a 40-hour basic training course. The new SRO must complete the training no later than nine months after being placed in the school. If the officer has completed 40-hour basic training within the 12 months prior to the award date, the condition has been fulfilled. Any longer than 12 months will require the officer to retake the course. The agency must coordinate with the training provider if they want funds to cover registration and travel costs.

costs must be reasonable and fiscally responsible. NASRO staff can provide assistance in determining travel expenses, including transportation, hotel, and M&IE for each officer. After the course is successfully completed, the agency must submit itemized expenses to NASRO for reimbursement within 30 days and retain the documentation for three years. The SRO or agency representative should email a copy of the NASRO Basic School Resource Officer Course certificate to the agency CHP Program Manager and AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov.

If the COPS Office–funded SRO previously completed a basic SRO course within the last 12 months, the recipient should contact the COPS Office Response Center by phone at 800-421-6770 or by email at AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov and provide the location and date of the training, so that the COPS Office can determine if the training requirement has been satisfied.

About School Resource Officers

An **SRO** is a career law enforcement officer assigned in a community policing capacity to work in collaboration with schools and community-based organizations to

- **address** crime and disorder problems, gangs, and drug activities affecting or occurring in or around an elementary or secondary school;
- **develop or expand** crime prevention efforts for students;
- **educate** likely school-age victims in crime prevention and safety;
- **develop or expand** community justice initiatives for students;
- **train** students in conflict resolution, restorative justice, and crime awareness;
- **assist** in the identification of physical changes in the environment that may reduce crime in or around the school;
- **assist** in developing school policy that addresses crime and to recommend procedural changes.

Additional Information

Supporting safe schools

The COPS Office is committed to supporting safe schools—places where students can learn and teachers can educate—by providing a variety of resources, including award funds, to help deploy SROs.

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/supportingsafeschools>

An Introduction to SRO Programs

An interactive online course that provides an overview of the benefits, challenges, and best practices of SRO programs in our nation's schools. The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) developed the course based on more than 20 years of experience in SRO training.

<https://copstrainingportal.org/project/an-introduction-to-sro-programs>

Readiness and Emergency Management (REMS TA) for Schools Center

Technical assistance hub that provides information, resources, training, and services in the field to law enforcement and schools.

<https://rems.ed.gov/>

National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC)

NTAC provides guidance, resources, training, and information sharing on threat assessments to law enforcement, public safety, and academic partners. Includes the 2019 Protecting America's Schools publication.

<https://www.secretservice.gov/protection/ntac/>

Youth.gov

Youth.gov provides information from 19 federal agencies to create, maintain, and strengthen effective youth programs.

<http://youth.gov/>

Contact the COPS Office

For more information about CHP, please call the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770 or visit the COPS Office website at <https://cops.usdoj.gov>.