



MUNICIPAL POLICE TRAINING COMMITTEE (“MPTC”)
ANNUAL FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING STANDARDS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS¹

I. SCOPE

M.G.L. c. 111, § 201 requires Massachusetts emergency personnel to complete “...a refresher course...in cardiopulmonary resuscitation each year and in other first aid every three years.”

M.G.L. c. 6E, § 4(f)(1) states that the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (“POST”) “...division of police certification and the municipal police training committee established in section 116 of Chapter 6 shall jointly establish minimum certification standards for all officers that shall include, but not be limited to...(vii) possession of current first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificates or equivalent...”

550 CMR 3.07 requires Massachusetts law enforcement officers to complete annual in-service training that includes “First aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 201.”

555 CMR 7.06(7) states that law enforcement officers seeking recertification by POST must possess current first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificates or the equivalent. “This standard shall be deemed satisfied if the officer currently possesses such certificates or the equivalent. If the officer does not currently possess such certificates or the equivalent, the officer will be conditionally certified on the condition that the officer shall obtain such certificates or the equivalent within 90 calendar days.”

For purposes of complying with the referenced statutes and regulations, each training year every POST-certified law enforcement officer (“officer”) in the Commonwealth who is not also a Massachusetts licensed EMT or paramedic must, at a minimum, successfully complete:

- a. Three (3) hours of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (“CPR”) refresher training that includes hands-on practical training and a written exam, and;
- b. Three (3) hours, equaling one-third, of the nine-hour First Aid (“FA”) refresher training to be completed every three years.

Collectively, the three (3) hours of annual CPR refresher training and the three (3) hours of annual FA refresher training constitute the minimum six (6) hours of annual “First Responder” refresher training required for POST-certified officers to possess current CPR and FA certificates.

¹ Effective July 1, 2024

POST-certified officers who maintain an active EMT or paramedic license in Massachusetts shall be deemed to have training that is “equivalent”² or greater than POST-certified officers who possess current CPR and FA certificates.

No POST-certified officers are exempt from the requirement of possessing CPR and FA certificates, or the equivalent, because they:

- a. have some other medical license besides an EMT or paramedic license.
- b. are MPTC-certified CPR & First Aid instructors.³
- c. have work duties they view as primarily clerical or administrative.⁴

II. TRAINING YEAR

The MPTC training year (“TY”) commences July 1st and ends June 30th of the following year. Annual First Responder refresher training must be successfully completed each training year.

III. ANNUAL FIRST RESPONDER REFRESHER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS⁵

Annual First Responder refresher training for POST-certified officers requires:

- a. **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (“CPR”) Refresher Training:** Annual CPR refresher training shall mean, at a minimum, that every POST-certified officer must complete: (a) either an in-person or on-line CPR review; (b) hands-on practical skills training in administering CPR, and; (c) an examination with a passing score and the opportunity to re-test as needed to obtain a passing score.
 - 1) CPR refresher training shall be no less than the standard established by the *Committee on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiac Care* of the *American Heart Association* and shall include adult, child, and infant CPR.
 - 2) In-person CPR refresher training must be taught by an MPTC-certified CPR & First Aid instructor or by an instructor certified through one of the following organizations: American Heart Association (“AHA”); American Red Cross (“ARC”); Emergency Care & Safety Institute (“ECSI”); or National Safety Council (“NSC”).
- b. **First Aid (“FA”) Refresher Training:** Annual FA refresher training shall mean, at a minimum, that every POST-certified officer must complete, either in-person or on-line, one-third of the three-year FA refresher training curriculum approved by the MPTC.
 - 1) FA refresher training will be delivered on continuous 3-year training cycles. The current three-year training cycle is:
 - TY25 – FA Year 1
 - TY26 – FA Year 2
 - TY27 – FA Year 3
 - 2) In-person FA refresher training must be taught by an MPTC-certified CPR & First Aid instructor utilizing MPTC-approved training materials.

² As authorized by G.L. c. 6E, § 4(f)(1).

³ Every sworn officer who is an MPTC-certified instructor must fulfill all annual in-service training requirements.

⁴ The provision in M.G.L. c. 111, § 201 stating, “This section shall not apply to police officers, fire fighters and persons engaged in police and fire work whose duties are primarily clerical or administrative...”, is not applicable to sworn officers certified by POST, all of whom must comply with MPTC training standards and POST certification standards, including these annual First Responder refresher training standards.

⁵ The MPTC’s *Annual First Responder Training Standards for Law Enforcement Officers* will continue to follow the statutory requirements set forth in M.G.L. c. 111, § 201 notwithstanding an amendment in June 2023 to 105 CMR 171.120(B) stating: “Each first responder shall satisfactorily complete a refresher course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation every two years after initial cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.”

IV. MPTC-CERTIFIED CPR & FA INSTRUCTORS

Police officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, and other First Responders may become MPTC-certified CPR & First Aid instructors for the sole purpose of training POST-certified officers and the employees of governmental agencies.

Prerequisites for becoming an MPTC-certified CPR & First Aid instructor include:

- a. Five-years of work experience as a police officer, firefighter, EMS personnel, and/or other First Responder, or an MPTC-approved waiver from the requirement based on specialized training in CPR and FA.
- b. Current CPR and FA certificates, or the equivalent.
- c. Obtaining MPTC approval for an on-line training account with the MPTC.
- d. Completion of an initial three (3) day MPTC tactical instructor development course.
- e. Completion of an initial five (5) day MPTC CPR-FA Instructor Program.

Upon completing all prerequisites and prior to serving as an MPTC-certified instructor, an instructor candidate must complete an instructor certification application and be approved by the MPTC.

MPTC-certified CPR & First Aid instructors must be re-certified every two years. Recertification requires current CPR and FA certificates, or the equivalent, and successful completion of a four (4) hour instructor refresher course during both the first year and second year of the certification period. An instructor who fails to complete refresher training in the first year of certification cannot continue to instruct in the second year of certification unless and until they successfully complete refresher training for the first year.

MPTC-certified CPR & First Aid instructors are subject to the *Municipal Police Training Committee Certified Instructor Code of Conduct*.

V. IN-SERVICE CREDIT/REPORTING PERIOD

The three (3) hours of annual CPR refresher training and the three (3) hours of annual FA refresher training shall be separately credited on each officer's training record towards their annual in-service training requirements. In-service credit does not increase if the annual training exceeds six (6) hours due to logistical variables such as the volume of officers being trained and/or the amount of time taken by instructors to deliver the training.

The annual CPR refresher training and FA refresher training, each totaling three (3) hours of credit towards annual in-service training requirements, must be completed by June 30th each year and reported by the officer's primary employing agency to the MPTC through the MPTC's on-line training portal by September 30th each year. Additional CPR/FA training may also be reported through the MPTC's on-line training portal but must be reported separately from the blocks of CPR/FA training that are credited towards annual in-service training requirements.

Annual CPR refresher training and FA refresher training shall be waived for a POST-certified officer who is also an EMT or paramedic but only if a copy of an active EMT/paramedic license valid on June 30th of the training year is submitted by the officer's primary employing agency to the MPTC through the MPTC's on-line training portal by September 30th each year.

Once an officer's annual CPR refresher training and FA refresher training, or active EMT/paramedic license, have been reported by the primary employing agency and recorded in the officer's training account, they have fulfilled the statutory requirement of possessing "...current first aid and

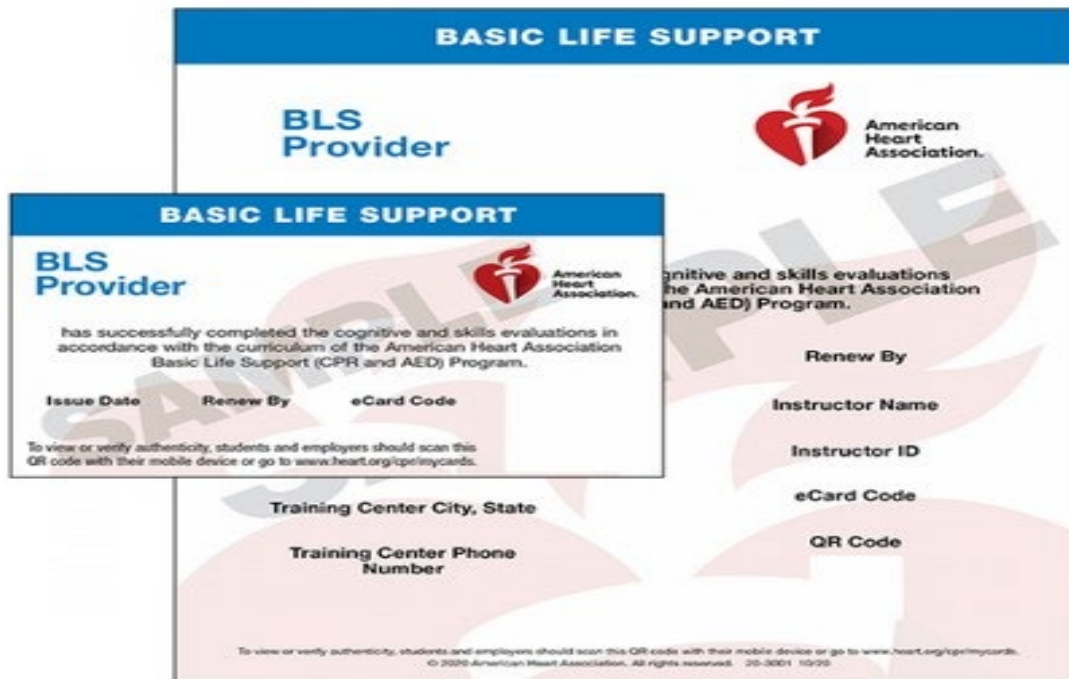
cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificates or equivalent...” Physical possession of CPR/FA certificates or cards is not required.

VI. OUT-OF-STATE TRANSFERS

An officer who wishes to transfer from an out-of-state law enforcement agency to a Massachusetts law enforcement agency must, among other things, meet these annual CPR refresher training and FA refresher training requirements *before* their appointing/sponsoring agency can petition the MPTC Committee for an exemption from completing a fulltime MPTC operated/authorized police academy.

Prior to an exemption request being considered, the CPR/FA requirements can be met by:

- a. successfully completing both the three (3) hour annual CPR refresher training and all three (3) components of the nine-hour FA refresher training, or;
- b. successfully completing all three (3) components of the nine-hour FA refresher training and fulfilling the three (3) hour CPR refresher training requirement by submitting a current American Heart Association (“AHA”) Basic Life Support (BLS Provider) card:



An out-of-state officer who fulfills the CPR refresher training requirement by submitting a current AHA BLS Provider card must thereafter fulfill the three (3) hour CPR refresher training requirement for the current in-service training year *before* the “Renew By” date on their AHA BLS Provider card.

The AHA “Heartsaver” card does not fulfill the annual CPR refresher training requirement.

VII. INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE THAT DO NOT EXCEED FIVE YEARS

An officer who has had an interruption in service that does not exceed five (5) years must comply with the training requirements set forth in 550 CMR 3.04 *before* resuming police duties and functions.

As to the annual CPR refresher training, *before* resuming police duties and functions the officer must complete the three (3) hour CPR refresher training requirement. The CPR refresher training only needs to be completed once. It does not need to be repeated for each training year missed.

As to the annual FA refresher training, *before* resuming police duties and functions the officer must complete each three (3) hour training segment that was missed in the 3-year cycle, up to and including the full nine (9) hour FA refresher training. The three components only need to be completed once. They do not need to be repeated.

VIII. ADDITIONAL CPR-FA TRAINING

Nothing herein should be construed as restricting agencies and/or officers from exceeding the baseline annual First Responder refresher training standards mandated by the MPTC.