

## **PUBLICATION IN *TEXAS REGISTER***

The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (Commission) adopts amended 37 Texas Administrative Code §215.8, Minimum Standards for Appointment as a Training Coordinator over a Basic Licensing Course, without changes to the proposed text as published in the July 25, 2025 issue of the *Texas Register* (50 TexReg 4344). The rule will not be republished.

The new rule establishes minimum standards and training requirements for individuals to be appointed as a training coordinator over a basic licensing course. This new rule was developed by the Minimum Standards for Training Coordinators Advisory Committee for the purpose of ensuring that basic licensing courses are conducted by qualified training coordinators. The new rule distinguishes between appointments for a licensee already appointed by a law enforcement agency that seeks to be a training coordinator over a licensing course versus all others seeking to be a training coordinator over a licensing course. These minimum standards for appointment contained in Subsection (b) were derived from the minimum standards required for Commission licensees as contained in 37 Texas Administrative Code §217.1 and will require a training provider to perform a Commission background investigation on the applicant for appointment. Also, this new rule requires training coordinators over a basic licensing course to take a basic training coordinator course once and continuing education on a biennial basis.

The public comment period began on July 25, 2025, and ended on September 4, 2025, at the conclusion of the public meeting of the Commission. No public comments were received regarding adoption of the amended rule as proposed.

The amended rule is adopted under Texas Occupations Code §1701.151, General Powers of Commission; Rulemaking Authority. Texas Occupations Code §1701.151 authorizes the Commission to adopt rules for the administration of Occupations Code Chapter 1701 and to establish minimum standards relating to the competence and reliability, including the education, training, physical, and mental standards, for licensing as an officer, county jailer, or telecommunicator.

The amended rule as adopted affects or implements Texas Occupations Code §1701.151, General Powers of Commission; Rulemaking Authority. No other code, article, or statute is affected by this proposal.

The adopted amended rule has been reviewed by legal counsel and found to be a valid exercise of the Commission's legal authority.

*§215.8. Minimum Standards for Appointment as a Training Coordinator over a Basic Licensing Course.*

(a) A licensee currently appointed by a law enforcement agency that provides or reports a basic licensing course may be appointed by that same agency as a training coordinator if the licensee:

- (1) holds a peace officer license or the respective license for the course to be taught;
- (2) holds a valid instructor proficiency certificate or license; and
- (3) has completed the basic training coordinator course:

(A) for an initial appointment as a training coordinator, within six months after appointment;  
or

(B) for any subsequent appointment, prior to being appointed.

(b) Any individual to which subsection (a) of this section does not apply must meet the following minimum standards to be appointed as a training coordinator for a training provider that provides or reports any basic licensing course:

(1) minimum age requirement:

(A) 21 years of age for providers who provide a peace officer basic licensing course, or 18 years of age if the individual has received:

(i) an associate's degree or 60 semester hours of credit from an accredited college or university;  
or

(ii) an honorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States after at least two years of active service; or

(B) 18 years of age for providers who provide jailer or telecommunicator basic licensing courses;

(2) minimum educational requirements:

(A) holds a valid instructor proficiency certificate or license;

(B) has completed the basic training coordinator course:

(i) for an initial appointment as a training coordinator, within six months after appointment; or

(ii) for any subsequent appointment, prior to being appointed; and

(C) satisfies one of the following requirements:

(i) has passed a general educational development (GED) test indicating high school graduation level;

(ii) holds a high school diploma; or

(iii) has an honorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States after at least 24 months of active duty service;

(3) is fingerprinted and is subjected to a search of local, state and U.S. national records and fingerprint files to disclose any criminal record;

(4) has never been on court-ordered community supervision or probation for any criminal offense above the grade of Class B misdemeanor or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years from the date of the court order;

(5) is not currently charged with any criminal offense for which conviction would be a bar to licensure;

(6) has never been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B misdemeanor or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years;

(7) has never been convicted or placed on community supervision in any court of an offense involving family violence;

(8) for providers who provide a peace officer basic licensing course, is not prohibited by state or federal law from operating a motor vehicle;

(9) is not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition;

(10) has been subjected to a background investigation completed by the training provider into the individual's personal history. A background investigation shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(A) the training provider shall:

(i) require completion of the commission-approved personal history statement; and

(ii) meet all requirements enacted in Texas Occupations Code §1701.451, including submission to the commission of a form confirming all requirements have been met. An in-person review of personnel records is acceptable in lieu of making the personnel records available electronically if a hiring training provider and a previous employing training provider or law enforcement agency mutually agree to the in-person review;

(11) examined by a physician, selected by the training provider, who is licensed by the Texas Medical Board. The physician must be familiar with the duties of a training coordinator. The individual must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, within 180 days before the date of appointment by the training provider to be:

(A) physically sound and free from any defect which may adversely affect the performance of duties of the training coordinator; and

(B) show no trace of drug dependency or illegal drug use after a blood test or other medical test;

(12) examined by a psychologist, selected by the training provider, who is licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. This examination may also be conducted by a psychiatrist licensed by the Texas Medical Board. The psychologist or psychiatrist must be familiar with the duties appropriate to a training coordinator. The individual must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, to be in satisfactory psychological and emotional health to serve as a training coordinator. The examination must be conducted pursuant to professionally recognized standards and methods. The examination process must consist of a review of a job description for a training coordinator; review of any personal history statements; review of any background documents; at least two instruments, one which measures personality traits and one which measures psychopathology; and a face-to-face interview conducted after the instruments have been scored. The individual must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, within 180 days before the date of the appointment by the training provider;

(13) has never received a dishonorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States;

(14) has not had a commission or out-of-state equivalent license denied by final order or revoked;

(15) is not currently on suspension, or does not have a surrender of a commission or out-of-state equivalent license currently in effect; and

(16) is a U.S. citizen or is a legal permanent resident of the United States, if the individual is an honorably discharged veteran of the armed forces of the United States with at least two years of service before discharge and presents evidence satisfactory to the commission that the individual has applied for United States citizenship.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the commission will construe any court-ordered community supervision, probation or conviction for a criminal offense to be its closest equivalent under the Texas Penal Code classification of offenses if the offense arose from:

(1) another penal provision of Texas law; or

(2) a penal provision of any other state, federal, military or foreign jurisdiction.

(d) A classification of an offense as a felony at the time of conviction will never be changed because Texas law has changed or because the offense would not be a felony under current Texas laws.

- (e) An individual who fails to meet the minimum standards set forth in this section shall not accept appointment as a training coordinator over a basic licensing course. If an application for appointment is found to be false or untrue or if the individual did not meet minimum standards at the time of appointment, the training provider must terminate the appointment if directed by the commission.
- (f) If a training coordinator appointed over a basic licensing course no longer meets the minimum standards set forth in this section, the training provider must terminate the appointment if directed by the commission.
- (g) If an individual does not complete the basic training coordinator course within six months of initial appointment as a training coordinator over a basic licensing course, the training provider must terminate the appointment if directed by the commission. The individual is not eligible for another appointment as a training coordinator until the basic training coordinator course is completed.
- (h) In order to appoint an individual as a training coordinator over a basic licensing course, a training provider must have on file documentation, acceptable to the commission, that the individual meets the minimum standards for appointment. The training provider must submit an appointment application and receive approval from the commission before the individual may discharge the duties of a training coordinator.
- (i) A training coordinator appointed over a basic licensing course must complete training coordinator specific continuing education biennially as prescribed by the commission.
- (j) The effective date of this section is November 1, 2025.