



FACT SHEET

BCOT TRAINING

2020

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The Georgia Corrections Academy provides basic and specialized training for the Georgia Department of Corrections staff to better prepare them to accomplish the agency’s mission of protecting the public, victims of crime and agency staff by constantly seeking better ways to improve employee performance through training.



BASIC CORRECTIONAL OFFICER TRAINING

BCOT is mandated training of correctional officers set forth and required by the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST). All correctional officers must be Peace Officer certified. This basic training helps correctional officers to better prepare themselves to perform and accomplish the mission of protecting the public, victims of crime, and agency staff.

BCOT is the largest basic law enforcement training program in the state of Georgia.

BCOT HISTORY

The first BCOT class started at State Offices South at Tift College (SOSTC) on December 16, 2009. From this class, 186 cadets graduated on January 28, 2010.

TRAINING

- Five week course, 240 hours
- Paramilitary structure model
- 40 hours of firearms training
- 10 practical examinations
- Seven written tests

LEARNING TOPICS

- Introduction to Criminal Justice and Corrections
- Legal issues and liabilities
- Ethics
- Inmate supervision
- Mental health
- Report writing
- Firearms certification
- Interpersonal communications
- Human diversity
- Emergency response
- Defensive tactics

CAREER PROGRESSION

CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

Basic Mental Health Officer, Multi-functional Officer, Special Operations Basic, Transportation Officer and Field Training Officer

CORRECTIONAL SUPERVISOR TRAINING

Supervision I, II & III, Management I, II, & III, Professional Management Program (PMP), Command College, Deputy Wardens Academy, Wardens Pre-Command, and Leadership GDC

POST BCOT TRAINING

Upon graduation, officers will return to their assigned facility. Officers must maintain 20 hours of training per year to maintain their Georgia POST certification, including firearms, deadly force, de-escalation and community policing. Additionally, officers that graduated BCOT after January 1, 2012 must take additional training and apply to POST recertification every four years. GDC is pursuing American Correctional Association certification at all state facilities and to meet this standard a minimum of 40 hours of annual training is required.