



Basic Correctional Officer Training (BCOT)

BCOT is a 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 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.

MISSION

The Georgia Department of Corrections protects the public by operating safe and secure facilities through the development of professional staff and effective offender management.

Timothy C. Ward, Commissioner
Terry Edge, Director Office of Professional Development

TRAINING



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

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.

BCOT TOPICS



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 PATH



CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

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

CORRECTIONAL SUPERVISOR TRAINING

- Supervision I, II, & III
- Management I, II, & III
- Professional Management Program (PMP)
- Sergeants Academy
- Lieutenants Academy
- Chief's of Security Training
- Assistant Superintendents Training
- Command College
- Deputy Wardens Academy
- Wardens Pre-Command
- Leadership GDC

INFORMATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS