

**Gulf Coast Criminal Justice Selection Center**  
**Equivalency Of Training (EOT) Assessment**  
**Rev: 10/2021**



This procedure, which took effect on August 21, 2006, allows former Florida officers who have a four year break in service, who wish to avoid taking the full basic training again prior to sitting for the state exam, to request an exemption based upon their prior training and experience.

**General Information for the Equivalency Of Training (EOT) Assessment for Former Florida Officer Reinstatement:** For law enforcement, correctional or correctional probation officers in Florida, or a former Florida officer with more than four years break in service, to obtain certification as an officer in Florida without first attending a full basic recruit academy in Florida, they must **(1) Successfully Complete an EOT Assessment** showing sufficient basic training and sworn employment not ending more than 8 years ago, and; **(2) Demonstrate proficiency in certain high-liability physical skills** (defensive tactics, firearms, medical first responder, and for law enforcement officers only - driving) at a Florida Criminal Justice Training Academy; and **(3) Pass the Florida State Officer Certification Examination**. You must complete each step before progressing to the next. In order for us to assess your training and employment you must submit an application providing us with information, execute a waiver authorizing us to make inquiries, and pay a fee. We will then complete the assessment. If you qualify, you will receive a Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) Form 76 by certified mail from us, showing your eligibility to proceed with the Proficiency Demonstration and the state examination. (Please allow 3 to 6 weeks minimum for the evaluation step.) All information provided by applicants is subject to verification.

**Assessment Fees:**

\$100.00 - Inactive Former Florida Officer

\$150.00 - Inactive Former Florida Officer (Dual Certifications)

**Exemption Eligibility:**

In order to be eligible for an exemption you must have:

-Have been a certified Florida officer in the discipline for which you are seeking an exemption (law enforcement, corrections, or parole/probation). If you are not currently employed as a criminal justice officer, there cannot be more than an 8-year gap from the end of your most recent qualifying employment to our office receiving your completed EOT Application.

-Received training in the discipline, and that training was completed in Florida.

**Verification of Experience:**

-Your prior certification will be verified through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

**Steps on How to Apply:**

**Step One:** Complete the Equivalency Of Training (EOT) Application. This application must be notarized.

**Step Two:** Execute the waiver we need to verify your training and employment, FDLE "Authority For Release of Information" (CJSTC Form 58), included with this EOT Application. This waiver must also be notarized.

**Step Three:** Enclose a money order or cashier's check for the non-refundable applicable assessment fee that will be made payable to: Gulf Coast State College \*No Personal Checks Accepted.

If submitting your application by mail, mail it to:

Gulf Coast State College  
Criminal Justice Selection Center  
Attention: Stephanie E. Driskill - Panama City Campus  
5230 West U.S. Highway 98  
Panama City, FL 32401-1041

If you wish to deliver your application in person, we are located at:

Gulf Coast State College  
Public Safety Building, Room 112  
700 Highway 2300  
Southport, FL 32409

**What Comes Next:**

If you do not hear from us within 8-10 working days, you can consider that we found no problems with your application for exemption. After the verifications have been done, if you qualify for an exemption, we will update the FDLE computer system. We will then complete and send you the CJSTC-76 form by certified mail if you qualify. You will then have 1 year from the date you receive that form to demonstrate your proficiency in high liability subjects and pass the State Officer Certification Examination (SOCE). If you fail to complete these requirements within the 1 year, you may apply again, which will involve completing all of the paperwork and paying the assessment fee again. Note: You can only take the SOCE a total three times between academies.

**Gulf Coast State College offers the EOT Courses and State Officer Certification Exams (SOCE):**

The Proficiency courses are offered at GCSC. Contact Greg May at: 850-769-1551, ext. 5605.

After completion of the proficiency course it will be 3-5 business days before you will be eligible to take the SOCE. The registration and payment deadline for each test shall be at least eight days prior to the test date. Contact Pearson VUE at <https://home.pearsonvue.com> to schedule your appointment to take the SOCE.

**If you have any questions or need further assistance you can contact us at:**

Phone: 850.769.1551 ext. 5608  
E-Mail: [sdriskill@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:sdriskill@gulfcoast.edu)