

# 2025 Drug Recognition Expert Training Application

## 2025 Drug Recognition Expert Training Application

\* Required

### 1. READ ME

You are applying for the Drug Recognition Expert Certification Program. The Application process consists of the following:

Complete and submit this document.

Read, Print, and Sign (application AND Department Head) 'DRE School Description and Acknowledgement ' via email to: [tmccarson@nmdre.org](mailto:tmccarson@nmdre.org)

\*\* Please note Completing this online form does NOT complete your application. Your application will not be complete until this online form is complete AND the 'DRE School Description and Acknowledgement' form both have been sent. Incomplete applications cannot be considered. \*\*

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2. I have read and understand the above and wish to proceed with the application process.

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3. Class size is limited and not all applications will be accepted. The selection is based on several factors. Students based in a geographical location with little or no Drug Recognition Experts will be considered first. to be considered for training, the student must meet the criteria listed below (exceptions may apply on a case-by-case basis). Review below and check all that apply:

*Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Must be off probation with your agency (some exceptions)
- ☐ Must be in some type of enforcement capacity with their agency (there are some exceptions)
- ☐ Must be proficient at SFST and Intoxilyzer certified
- ☐ Must have attended an ARIDE course prior to acceptance

4. First Name (exactly as it appears on your Driver's License) \*

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5. Last name \*

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6. Date of Birth (for Travel and reimbursement purposes) \*  
mm dd yyyy

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7. Email Address \*

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8. Address (this should be your home address) include city/zip \*

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9. Agency \*

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10. If New Mexico State Police, which district \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ 1

☐ 2

☐ 3

☐ 4

☐ 5

☐ Option 6

☐ Option 7

☐ Option 8

☐ Option 9

☐ Option 10

☐ Option 11

☐ Option 12

11. Years of Service at Current Agency \*

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12. Rank/Title \*

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13. Do you have prior Law Enforcement Experience with another agency? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ yes

☐ no

14. Dates of employment at previous agency and agency name (s) \*

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15. Number of DWI arrests for 2024  
if possible the last 2 years \*

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16. When were you first trained on SFST/DWI Detection \*  
mm dd yyyy

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17. When was your last SFST update? \*  
mm dd yyyy

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18. Have you attended ARIDE? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ yes

☐ no



19. If 'yes' when/where \*

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20. Summarize any formal training and /or education you have had related to DRE or \*  
other drug training (ie Drug Detection, EMT, College), if applicable

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21. Name of current DRE recommending you for this training (if applicable) \*

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22. Name of Immediate Supervisor \*

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23. Email Address of Immediate Supervisor \*

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**New Mexico Drug Recognition Expert Program**

To whom It May Concern:

Your employee is applying for the 2025 Drug Recognition Expert Certification Program. The program is broken apart into three phases:

PHASE 1: The DRE training consists of a **pre-school (16 hours)**. This is a two-day, classroom training in which students are introduced to the term “Drug “as it pertains to drug impaired driving. Students are also given a proficiency exam on Standardized Field Sobriety Tests, as well as a written test which they must pass to continue to the second phase of training.

PHASE 2: The **7 or 8 school (which is taught at a later date after the pre-school) is 56-64 hours** of classroom training. During this classroom training, the DRE candidate is taught the techniques of the drug evaluation, each drug category and signs and symptoms associated with them and physiology. The student must pass a comprehensive test at the end of this section to move on to Phase 3. Both Phase 1 and Phase 2 will be held **separately all dates will be announced once they are planned.**

PHASE 3: This phase includes the field certification, which will be done at the California Highway Patrol Office in Sacramento, California or at the Mesa Arizona Police station. Evaluations are done on “live” drug impaired subjects and the DRE must formulate opinions for twelve subjects. After certifications are complete another comprehensive exam is given before the student can become a certified DRE. The trip will set a short time after the completion of phase 1 and 2. Students that are successful in phases 1 and 2 will know the dates of their Field Certification trip prior to returning to their department. The student should plan to be gone 5 days (which includes travel days) for this portion of training.

To become certified as a Drug Recognition Expert, attendance is mandatory in all three phases of training. There can be no exceptions to this. Signing below indicates the student will be able to attend all phases of training. The NMDRE program makes every reasonable effort to pay for all expenses related to the students travel **up front**, to avoid the student having to wait for reimbursement. If travel expenses are furnished by the NMDRE Program on behalf of your employee, and the employee does not continue with all phases of training, attempts will be made to cancel reservations. If the NMDRE program cannot be reimbursed by the companies providing the travel accommodations, the student or agency may be responsible for reimbursing the NMDRE program, depending on the circumstances surrounding the cancellations.

**\*As you can see, the certification process requires travel (in Phase 3, possibly also Phases 1 and 2 depending on your location). Please note that the program is funded in full by a grant and comes at no monetary cost to your agency. Lodging for Phase 1 and 2 (for students traveling 50 + miles to attend) and lodging and airfare for Phase 3 will be paid for up front by the grant however, Per-Diem must be paid for up front by the student. The student will be reimbursed at the Federal Per-Diem rate.**

Please note that reimbursement checks will be made out and paid to the **student** and not the agency.

Applicant, please read and initial each bullet point listed below:  
I understand that, if selected, I am responsible for paying per-diem up front, and that I will be reimbursed as soon as possible (phase 3/possibiy phase 1&2 as well depending on geographical location) \_\_\_\_\_  
  
I understand that, if selected, reimbursement is done between NMDRE and myself, and not my agency \_\_\_\_\_  
  
I attest that I am proficient in the administration and interpretation of the SFST Battery \_\_\_\_\_  
  
I understand that attendance is mandatory for all phases of Training and if selected I will make the necessary arrangements to ensure perfect attendance \_\_\_\_\_

**The class size is limited and not all applicants will be accepted. This selection is based on several factors. Students based in a geographical location with little or no Drug Recognition Experts will be considered first.**

By Signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the above and still wish to apply/recommend my employee for this training.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicants Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicants Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head/Designee Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head/Designee Signature

**\*This form must be signed and sent to [tmccarson@nmdre.org](mailto:tmccarson@nmdre.org) to complete the application process. Incomplete applications will not be considered**