



**Advanced Firearms Instructor Training
Course Information Packet**

**Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor Course
September 22-25, 2026**

Hosted By
**North Carolina Dept. of Public Safety
Samarcand Training Academy**



**Law Enforcement D.R.A.W. School
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LAW ENFORCEMENT D.R.A.W. SCHOOL FIREARMS TRAINING

Law enforcement officers across the country are facing increasingly violent, faster threats and must have a higher level of mastery when using their handgun and/or patrol rifle. Yet, due to manpower levels, scheduling, range availability, budget cuts and other issues, many departments struggle to regularly train their officers **past the minimum standards** required by the state. To address these concerns and provide agencies with the ability to train their officers to a higher level of proficiency, speed and accuracy on a continual basis, a nationally standardized firearms training curriculum called **D.R.A.W. School** was developed in 2014. The acronym “D.R.A.W.” stands for **Developing Rapid Ability with Weapons**.

These expertly designed law enforcement firearms training and instructor development curriculums meet and/or exceed all state and federal law enforcement firearms training requirements for all 50 states. D.R.A.W. School firearms training curriculums are designed to complement each state’s training requirements and can be **easily integrated into any agency’s training program for consistent performance and results**. D.R.A.W. School is a nationally recognized firearms training and instructor development curriculum and is POST-certified in various states. It is also SCCJA-approved for full FIS and PRI instructor equivalency in South Carolina. D.R.A.W. School has been taught to instructors in over 40 states and is widely recognized as the most up-to-date law enforcement firearms training program available today.



The introduction of the **D.R.A.W. School Online Training System**, an LMS-based, self-paced online firearms training course, changes the game when it comes to how departments conduct regular firearms training. The Online Training System helps officers to stay consistent and ready with twenty-three different 10–15-minute training segments that cover all aspects of the five core competencies of the D.R.A.W. School training curriculum.



Combined with mandated departmental in-person firearms training, agencies have found that having their officers enrolled in regular online firearms training with realistic and safe dry-fire drills greatly increases confidence, speed, accuracy, and this results in higher qualification scores.

D.R.A.W. School Firearms Training and the Advanced Instructor Training courses have been praised by departments, officers, and firearms instructors from coast-to-coast. **The methods taught have been directly credited to saving the lives of officers involved in OIS situations.** D.R.A.W. School and its founders have been featured in multiple police periodicals, such as Police Magazine and Law Enforcement Technology, and have been invited to speak to many professional police associations.

D.R.A.W. SCHOOL ADVANCED PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR

The **D.R.A.W. School Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor (APRI)** training course is a 4-day, 32+ hour advanced instructor development and certification course. It focuses on developing expert shooting and manipulation of the AR-15 patrol rifle platform. It refines candidates into expert shooters and instructors with a comprehensive ability to train their officers. APRI covers both basic and advanced skills to help candidates



master the complexity of their patrol rifle, even in the most demanding or hostile environments. With more departments now utilizing patrol rifles, instructors must be able to train their officers in a highly efficient manner without compromising quality.

This is a very dynamic course with almost all instructional time devoted to practical and live-fire exercises. This course takes patrol rifle training and instructor development well past recognized minimum state and federal standards. There is simply no other course like it in North America. Using the D.R.A.W. School training methodology, APRI takes candidates through twenty-two (22) separate areas of instruction, with each section building on the previous. The APRI curriculum covers the following areas:

- **D.R.A.W. 1- Mastering the Basics:** The course begins with an in-depth review of the components of the AR-15 platform and learning how to properly fit a patrol rifle to an officer. Extensive time is spent on mastering OTOS drills, emergency reloading and tactical reloading, all from stationary positions and while moving.
- **D.R.A.W. 2- Mastering Movement and Transitions:** Candidates will master the ability to shoot and move both linearly and laterally, as well as shooting their patrol rifle from the primary and secondary shoulder positions around barricades. Candidates will also master primary to secondary weapon transitions.
- **D.R.A.W. 3- Mastering Malfunctions:** Candidates will learn to quickly identify and clear all five types of patrol rifle malfunctions. A deep study of the mechanics of each malfunction type helps candidates to master clearances with tremendous speed.
- **D.R.A.W. 4- Mastering the Environment:** This section of training helps candidates to master the ability to utilize the environment to their advantage during an incident. Shooting from various points of elevation builds the necessary skills needed to operate a patrol rifle in any situation.
- **D.R.A.W. 5- Mastering Incapacitated Shooting:** Just because an officer is shot doesn't mean they are out of the fight. Mastering the operation of a patrol rifle while using one hand only is a skill that must be mastered by officers utilizing this platform.

PREREQUISITE: All instructor candidates attending must complete the 6-hour online handgun training prerequisite training course. **The APRI qualification course of fire incorporates the use of a handgun as a secondary weapon on multiple stages.** For candidates that are not D.R.A.W. School Advanced Handgun Instructor certified, this online course brings them up to speed on handgun skills that will help them pass the APRI qualification.

D.R.A.W. SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT



“My bottom line is that I walked in as a skeptic, but I walked out a believer. If you have an opportunity to train in the D.R.A.W School method, do what you have to do to make that happen! Of all the schools and training I have undertaken in the last 25 years, D.R.A.W. School has been the best and most productive of the lot.”

- SO R. Bemis, U.S. Federal Firearms Instructor (AL)

FOCUSING ON INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT

The D.R.A.W. School instructor development curriculums are hybrid courses that are designed to maximize training time, while ensuring that each skillset is learned, retained, and applied by instructor candidates. In doing so, the goal is to help instructor candidates to **effectively and consistently duplicate the training process** so that all officers become highly proficient with their weapons. Each segment of the curriculum starts with an academic study of the subject where instructor candidates learn the true science behind the techniques.

Each step in the training process answers the “why” behind the method or process. Next, instructor candidates are immersed in a series of specifically designed practical exercises that help them correctly perform each physical and mental function in the proper brain/body sequence. This safe, dry-fire training is performed utilizing the BarrelBlok safety device along with a specially designed “stairstep” training methodology. As each step is mastered, the speed is increased, and fast, dynamic movement is added.

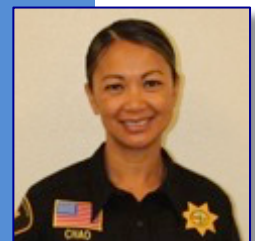


Once the practical exercises are mastered, instructor candidates then perform the same skills in a live-fire environment on the range. At the end of each course, instructor candidates will shoot a 50-round qualification. These qualifications include many of the skills they learned and practiced during the course.

D.R.A.W. SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT

“D.R.A.W. School opened my eyes to how outdated the training I received and continued to teach really is! I quickly recognized how impractical many of the ‘traditional’ training techniques in law enforcement really are.”

- Sr. DPO K. Chao, San Mateo Co. Probation Dept. (CA)



WHO MAY ATTEND ADVANCED PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR?

The D.R.A.W. School Instructor Training courses are **for sworn law enforcement personnel only and law enforcement affiliated positions**. Each applicant's employment and position will be verified to maintain strict attendance requirements. The following individuals may apply to attend either course:

1. Local, state and federally certified law enforcement instructors and officers
2. Retired LEOs currently instructing at a college or law enforcement agency

D.R.A.W. SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT



“In my 14 years in law enforcement and 4 years in the Marine Corps, I have never been more impressed and constantly engaged in a firearms training course. The realism, practicality and top-notch instruction far exceeded my expectations!”

- Sgt. W. Ferrelli, Bluffton Police Department (SC)

COURSE REGISTRATION FEE & REGISTRATION PROCESS

To attend the D.R.A.W. School **Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor** course, **the downloadable application on the website must be filled out in its entirety and returned to D.R.A.W. School via email**. The application is a PDF fillable document, so it can be filled out and e-signed. **Applications must be submitted along with any required supporting documentation by the final application deadline, Friday, September 4, 2026. DO NOT submit your application until your agency approves you to attend.** Students that wish to self-pay to attend the course may do so. The Early Bird and regular registration fees for the Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor course are as follows:

INSTRUCTOR COURSE	EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FEE & DEADLINE	REGISTRATION FEE & DEADLINE
Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor	\$609.00* Friday, August 7, 2026	\$659.00 Friday, Sept. 4, 2026

*Application must be submitted and approved on or before Early Bird deadline.

Payment type and information must be provided on the application when it is submitted. Payments made via credit/debit card will be charged upon approval of the application and receipts will be sent via email. Purchase order requests must be shown on the application and will be invoiced to the applicant's department. **Seating for this course is limited to eighteen (18) seats.** Acceptance and approval are based on a first-come, first-served basis.

PLEASE NOTE- Refund requests will be issued if the instructor candidate notifies D.R.A.W.

School at least twenty (20) days **before** the start of the course that they cannot attend. A non-refundable fee of \$199.00 will apply in such cases. **Refund requests made less than twenty (20) days from the start of the course for any reason are non-refundable.** If for any reason the course is canceled or postponed, registrations will be rolled over to the next available course of the applicant's choice as long as seating is available. Make-up courses may also be scheduled to make sure applicants can take the course in a timely manner.

D.R.A.W. SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT

“As a female, learning specific techniques to help instruct females officers to shoot firearms better was extremely helpful. D.R.A.W. School answered my questions about how to train female officers in a way no other course has been able to do.”

- Ofc. S. Johnson, North Myrtle Beach Police Dept. (SC)



INSTRUCTOR CANDIDATE DRESS CODE

Instructor candidates should wear comfortable clothing that is conducive for a physically demanding firearms training environment. It is highly recommended that instructor candidates wear clothing that allows them to move freely during the practical exercises. Clothing will become dirty throughout various parts of the course and during range training exercises. **Do not wear jeans to class, as they are not allowed.**

The range facility is outside, so **please be sure to bring appropriate clothing that will keep you comfortable while still allowing for physical activity.** Layer clothing appropriately based on the projected forecast. Be aware of weather and the potential for weather-related exposures. It is recommended that you bring a lightweight water-repellent jacket in case of rain during the range exercises. Comfortable, supportive footwear is highly recommended for all segments of the course as you will be on your feet for extended periods. **Body or tactical armor is required to be worn on the range during all live-fire exercises.**

D.R.A.W. SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT



“I have learned so much and retained more due to the D.R.A.W. method. This has definitely been the most challenging, yet satisfying, firearms course I have been part of in my six years of military and ten years of law enforcement experience.”

- Dep. J. Byrne, Baldwin County Sheriff's Office (AL)

EQUIPMENT AND PACKING LIST

Each instructor candidate must wear a duty holster properly affixed to a sturdy belt during all practical and live-fire range exercises. It is preferred that the holster issued by the instructor candidate's department is the one brought to class as this is the holster that they will be training others to use. **Level II and Level III duty holsters are required. The use of IWB holsters is NOT allowed in either course. Holsters affixed to outer carriers or tactical vests are not allowed in class.**

ADVANCED PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR PACKING LIST	
1.	Semi-automatic patrol rifle with an aiming optic (red dot sight) is REQUIRED (it is recommended that a back-up rifle be brought)
2.	Semi-automatic duty handgun with minimum of two (2) spare magazines
3.	Full duty belt or tactical belt with secured Level II or Level III duty holster. Duty/tactical holster must be worn on belt.
4.	Minimum of three (3) rifle magazines with mag carrier (pouches must be attached to outer carrier, tactical kit, tactical belt, etc.)
5.	Concealable armor, outer carrier or tactical kit as worn on duty is REQUIRED throughout the course
6.	Knee pads are recommended for ground operations (not required)
7.	Baseball-style ball cap with bill is REQUIRED
8.	Electronic noise-cancelling ear protection is REQUIRED
9.	Eye protection (wrap around); prescription eyeglasses are acceptable
10.	750 rounds of rifle target ammo and 150 rounds of handgun ammo
11.	10 dummy rounds in caliber of patrol rifle (metal casing type preferred)
12.	Rifle cleaning kit

Once a student has been registered for the course, they will have access to an online packing list through the Instructor Portal. They will also have access to a course check-off sheet to ensure they have everything needed to bring to class. If there are any questions about what to bring on either list, instructor candidates should contact their instructors.

D.R.A.W. SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT

"This course answers all the "whys" about shooting and training. The D.R.A.W. School sequence of instruction establishes the foundation of shooting like no other course I have taken. The curriculum is outstanding for training our officers!"

- Sgt. C. Shropshier, North Charleston Police Dept. (SC)



PHYSICAL FITNESS & HYDRATION

The Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor course can be physically challenging at times during daily practical and range exercises. Some of the practical and live-fire exercises are strenuous. **Applicants are highly encouraged to have a physical fitness capacity capable of allowing them to participate in all exercises and complete the course.** If an applicant has any medical issues or physical limitations, they are **required** to state those on the application and in-class registration forms. However, this does NOT disqualify an applicant from attending. It is highly recommended that instructor candidates refrain from consuming beverages that tend to cause dehydration (soda, sugary drinks, energy drinks, etc.), and drink plenty of water with an electrolyte-based drink mix added (i.e. Liquid IV, SkyMD, LMNT or DripDrop) to stay properly hydrated.



TRAINING VENUE, ACCOMMODATIONS & POCs

Range Facility: The Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor course will be held at the **NCDPS Samarcand Training Academy** located at **3600 Samarcand Road, Jackson Springs, NC 27281**. Classroom and range locations will be provided to candidates on a facilities map.

Accommodations and Meals: All candidates that are sworn NC law enforcement officers may stay and eat for **FREE** on campus. All candidates that are from outside NC may stay on campus for **\$51.50 per day**, which includes three meals per day. A link will be provided to all approved candidates to book their accommodations.

Points of Contact: The Samarcand Training Academy POC is **Training Coordinator Scott Hall** at **910-725-8657**. The D.R.A.W. School POC is **Jason Speller** at **704-298-9897**.

ONLINE INSTRUCTOR PORTAL

Once an application has been approved, the instructor candidate will be emailed an invitation to create a password for the **D.R.A.W. School Online Instructor Portal**. The invitation for the Instructor Portal is an automated email, which some agency IT Departments may block. Therefore, this invitation is sent to the candidates **personal email address**, not their agency email address. Each candidate **MUST** provide their personal email address on their application. **Once the instructor portal account has been created, the instructor candidate will have access to all information that is needed for the course, including signing up for the online pre-course work.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: I am not a certified firearms instructor yet, but I am a sworn law enforcement officer. Can I still attend the advanced instructor courses?

A: Yes, the course starts with basic-level instructor training and progresses through advanced-level instructor training. It is designed for all officers and instructors.

Q: Do I have to go through the online handgun training prerequisite course to attend?

A: Yes, you must complete the 6-hour online handgun training pre-requisite course before attending. If possible, it is recommended that you take the Advanced Handgun Instructor course first. Handgun shooting segments are a part of the final course qualification.

Q: Is it a requirement to attend Advanced Handgun Instructor training first?

A: No, but it is preferred whenever possible based on course dates and locations.

Q: Who is the certifying entity for the Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor course?

A: Law Enforcement D.R.A.W. School is the certifying body. The National Law Enforcement D.R.A.W. School Firearms Training Board sets the specific standards for the course. *Samar cand will upload this course to each NC officers' ACADIS file.*

Q: Are D.R.A.W. School Advanced Firearms Instructor courses agency approved?

A: Yes, each department head sending officers to the D.R.A.W. School Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor course may approve the training for the specific type and number of hours by submitting the proper forms to the state. D.R.A.W. School sends it rosters directly to NCDPS for entry into the state's system. South Carolina officers will receive full PRI equivalency.

Q: How physically demanding are these courses?

A: These courses are physically demanding at times. There is a lot of repetitious movement involving speed and agility. There are several training segments that require getting down on to and up off the ground repeatedly. Instructor candidates are required to perform and complete all exercises in the classroom and on the range to pass the course.

Q: Does the host agency endorse independent courses such as D.R.A.W. School?

A: No, most governmental agencies are not allowed to "endorse" D.R.A.W. School. However, NCDPS Samar cand Training Academy has fully reviewed the course curriculum and training standards established for the course. After proper vetting, Samar cand has graciously agreed to host this course at their facilities.

Q: How difficult is the patrol rifle qualification course of fire for candidates?

A: The course of fire is representative of the course itself. The qualification requires a 93% minimum score. All 50 rifle and 10 handgun rounds must be on the silhouette of the target. Those candidates that pass the firearms qualification will then be required to take a 50-question written test that requires a minimum 70% score to pass. Candidates will receive an overview of the course of fire on the first day of class.



Law Enforcement D.R.A.W. School Advanced Patrol Rifle Instructor Training General Course Schedule

Day 1	
0730-0800	Instructor Candidates Arrive for Class
0800-0900	Welcome, Introductions, Course Overview, Rules, and Housekeeping
0900-1000	DRAW Module 1- Mastering the Basics
1000-1100	DRAW Module 1 Practical Exercises
1100-1200	Safety Briefing and DRAW Module 1 Live-Fire Exercises
1200-1300	Lunch Break
1300-1400	DRAW Module 2- Mastering Movement & Transitions
1400-1500	DRAW Module 2 Practical Exercises
1500-Until*	Safety Briefing and DRAW 2 Module 2 Live-Fire Exercises
Day 2	
0730-0800	Instructor Candidates Arrive for Class
0800-0900	DRAW Module 3- Mastering Malfunctions
0900-1100	DRAW Module 3 Practical Exercises
1100-1200	Safety Briefing and DRAW Module 3 Live-Fire Exercises
1200-1300	Lunch Break
1300-1400	DRAW Module 4- Mastering the Environment
1400-1600	DRAW Module 4 Practical Exercises
1600-Until*	Safety Briefing and DRAW Module 4 Live-Fire Exercises
Day 3	
0730-0800	Instructor Candidates Arrive for Class
0800-0900	DRAW Module 5- Mastering Incapacitated Shooting
0900-1100	DRAW Module 5 Practical Exercises
1100-Until*	Safety Briefing and DRAW Module 5 Live-Fire Exercises
Day 4	
0730-0800	Safety Briefing
0800-1200	Instructor Candidate Live-Fire Qualifications
1200-1300	Lunch Break
1300-1400	Department Firearms Training Program Implementation
1400-1500	Instructor Candidate Written Test
1500-Until*	Instructor Graduation

*The D.R.A.W. School Patrol Rifle Instructor course is a *minimum* of 32-hours. There is not a set stop time noted at the end of the day. All range activities can be extended if needed to assist all instructor candidates in the course. The instructor and/or instructor candidates may wish to run additional live-fire drills while on the range at the conclusion of the day. Therefore, instructor candidates should expect to stay at the range past 1700 each day if needed. Therefore, instructor candidates should expect to stay at the range past 1700 each day if needed.