

IDAHO PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS & TRAINING PROCEDURE

12.19 STUDENT INJURY/ILLNESS

A. General

POST basic training academies require significant student physical fitness and flexibility. POST academy training coordinators strive to ensure that students are physically capable to perform approved academy training in a legal manner to meet or exceed specific physical training standards without causing injury to others or self.

This procedure governs POST staff activities in determining acceptable physical abilities of students entering and participating in academy training programs; assists staff in ensuring student success in physical testing requirements to the best of their ability; and establishes a process for students to be temporarily disqualified from participating in physical training or academy training until physically capable to attend and successfully meet required academy training standards.

B. Definitions

“Instruction time” means student hours spent in the combination of classroom, training, practical demonstration, and testing activities.

C. Student Fitness/Health Assessment

1. The academy training coordinator or training manager will discuss any medical/physical condition or injury of concern with the student.
2. Possible outcomes when there is concern about a student’s medical/physical condition or injury include:
 - a. the student may be requested to consult a physician to determine any activity restrictions; and
 - b. dependent on the medical condition or injury’s prognosis, the student may continue in the academy they are enrolled in,
 - c. be processed for inclusion in the next scheduled academy or
 - d. be denied continuation in their current academy without processing for inclusion in the next scheduled academy.

D. Student Orientation

1. Academy training coordinators will review the “Idaho POST Academy Student Handbook” with students during orientation, including information regarding injuries, First Aid/AED and illnesses occurring during the training period.
2. In addition to all academy training coordinators being First Aid and CPR certified, academy training coordinators will identify students who have emergency medical training. Those students will be assigned responsibilities (assisting injured students, getting dressings, ice, assisting staff. etc.).
3. Students will be given a guided tour of the academy campus by an academy training coordinator where they will be shown the location of advanced emergency medical equipment (Oxygen, resuscitation, Automated External Defibrillator, trauma dressings, etc.).

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4. Academy training coordinators will provide students the pre-existing condition/prior injury form.
 - a. Students are required to complete, sign and date the form.
 - b. The form becomes part of the student's academy file.

5. When previously undisclosed pre-existing conditions or injuries are revealed on the pre-existing condition form, the information is evaluated by the academy training coordinator or training manager and may lead to the actions described in section C.2., above.

E. Student Injury during Academy

1. The "Idaho POST Academy Student Handbook states that:
 - a. students must complete all academy objectives, classes and course material in order to graduate from the academy;
 - b. a student may not be absent from more than 16 hours of academy instruction;
 - c. all missed instruction time must be made up by the student.

2. Injuries sustained by a student, whether during an official academy activity or outside the academy, shall immediately be reported by the student to academy staff. Appropriate medical assistance, if needed, shall be sought by the student prior to continuing any additional academy activities. The student will be required to produce medical documentation reflecting permission to continue normal academy activities or listing any physical limitations.

3. The injured student is required to complete an injury report form and submit it to the academy training coordinator, and if applicable, their agency's Worker's Compensation Form. If the injured student is unable to do so, the academy training coordinator will complete it on the student's behalf.

4. Academy staff cannot compel an injured student to seek medical help; the decision rests with the student. However, if a student suffers a medical emergency, the academy training coordinator will contact 911 for emergency medical assistance.

5. When a student declines to seek medical attention,
 - a. the student is closely monitored in subsequent activities to evaluate the injury's impact on performance and the employing agency may be notified;
 - c. if the student is unable to safely participate without risk of making the injury worse, the academy training coordinator may require a medical clearance from the student.

6. An injured student may drive himself/herself to seek medical attention. Academy staff or other students may transport the injured student or an ambulance may be called if necessary.

7. When medical attention is sought:
 - a. the student will request the medical provider to provide a recommendation for continued training;
 - b. the student will provide the recommendation to the academy training coordinator; and
 - c. the medical provider's recommendation will be the basis for continued training.

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8. The academy training coordinator will:

- a. document the incident and manner of occurrence;
- b. contact the student's employing agency head/designee with information about the injury;
- c. forward copies of all paperwork to the employing agency head/designee; and
- d. scan the paperwork into the student's file in the integration system.

9. Based on the medical provider's recommendation, the remaining time in the academy schedule, the amount and type of instruction time missed by the student, and the academy training coordinator's evaluation of the circumstances, the academy training manager:

- a. may modify the student's participation in certain classes and activities;
- b. will ensure the training coordinator monitors the student's participation during physical training;
- c. will discuss continued enrollment/disenrollment of the student with the POST Administrator.

10. POST procedure 12.20 Student Disenrollment/Dismissal governs the process for student disenrollment.

F. Student illness during an Academy:

1. When student illness during an academy is reported, the academy training coordinator will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the student's continued attendance in classes/activities without infecting others or causing further physical distress to the ill student.
2. The academy training coordinator may require a medical evaluation of the student's condition to determine the severity of the illness and contagion risk. If the student declines medical evaluation, the academy training coordinator may remove the student from class to reduce the risk of infecting other students.
3. Students missing more than 16 hours of scheduled class/training activity time may be disenrolled with eligibility to return to a later academy.