This document, which lists the public safety core competencies that are part of the Integrated Academic and Technical Competencies (ITAC) in Ohio, is intended to assist individuals and organizations develop a course to provide students with knowledge and skills applicable to public safety careers, including but not limited to firefighter, emergency medical technician basic, and criminal justice. The course is to be taught only in conjunction with a firefighter, EMS, criminal justice or other approved senior-level specialized public safety program, and is intended only to be taught in the 10th or 11th grade. The competencies, under each of which are listed competency builders, are listed in the following 15 categories: public safety introduction; ethics; safety; CPR/first aid; computer technology; communications; diversity and disabilities; schematics, maps, and geographic information systems (GIS); healthy living styles; psychology of stress; equipment training; hazardous materials training awareness level; terrorist assessment training; incident command; and emergency telecommunications. (MO)
Integrated Academic and Technical Competencies (ITAC)  
Public Safety Core  
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Overview

Public Safety Core is designed to provide students with knowledge and skills applicable to public safety careers, including, but not limited to Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician-Basic and Criminal Justice. Topics include safety, ethics, diversity and disabilities, computer technology, CPR/First Aid, psychology of stress, healthy living, communications, schematics, maps and geographic information systems (GIS), equipment training, terrorist assessment training, incident command, hazmat training and emergency telecommunication. This course is a minimum of 240 hours to be taught ONLY in conjunction with a firefighter, EMS, Criminal Justice or other approved senior-level specialized public safety training program. It is to be taught in the 10th and/or 11th grade only.

Definitions

*Competency:* observable, verified and measurable learning that has definite beginning and ending (what you are competent in), can be performed within a limited amount of time, consists of two or more competency builders/key indicators and leads to a product, a service or decision.

*Competency Builder:* elements of a competency that when completed lead to the attainment of the competency.
Unit 1: Public Safety Introduction

Competency 1.1: Research the history of public safety

Competency Builders:

1.1.1 Analyze the impact of various historical events on public safety
1.1.2 Interpret the impact of the Constitution on public safety
1.1.3 Interpret key court rulings related to public safety

Competency 1.2: Research career paths within public safety

Competency Builders:

1.2.1 Investigate public safety careers by using internet search engines and print materials
1.2.2 Identify changes within public safety careers
1.2.3 Identify emerging careers in public safety

Competency 1.3: Investigate various agencies/institutions within public safety service

Competency Builders:

1.3.1 Research international agencies in public safety
1.3.2 Research federal agencies in public safety
1.3.3 Research state agencies in public safety
1.3.4 Research county agencies in public safety
1.3.5 Research local agencies in public safety

Competency 1.4: Investigate scope of practice for each area of public safety

Competency Builders:

1.4.1 Identify professional or certification requirements and standards for various public safety personnel
1.4.2 Identify continuing education requirements
1.4.3 Clarify liabilities within the scope of practice for each area of public safety

Competency 1.5: Analyze current trends/issues in public safety

Competency Builders:

1.5.1 Discuss contemporary issues in public safety
1.5.2  Apply the effect of contemporary issues on public safety
1.5.3  Discuss effect of contemporary technology on public safety

Competency 1.6:  Demonstrate knowledge of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) pertaining to public safety

Competency Builders:

1.6.1  Identify various sections of ORC pertaining to public safety (e.g. Public Records Law)
1.6.2  Analyze a situation to determine applicability of ORC
1.6.3  Interpret appropriate sections of ORC
1.6.4  Apply appropriate elements within ORC

Competency 1.7:  Apply knowledge of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) pertaining to public safety

Competency Builders:

1.7.1  Identify various sections of OAC pertaining to public safety
1.7.2  Analyze a situation to determine applicability of OAC
1.7.3  Interpret appropriate sections of OAC
1.7.4  Apply appropriate elements within OAC

Competency 1.8:  Demonstrate appropriate discipline and professionalism

Competency Builders:

1.8.1  Demonstrate the chain of command of various public safety command structures
1.8.2  Perform duties in a professional manner as defined in a code of conduct

Unit 2:  Ethics

Competency 2.1:  Identify Code of Ethics related to public safety careers

Competency Builders:

2.1.1  Identify Code of Ethics related to law enforcement careers
2.1.2  Identify Code of Ethics related to fire and EMS careers
2.1.3  Identify Code of Ethics related to other public safety careers
2.1.4  Establish a personal code of ethics
Competency 2.2:  Demonstrate ethical behavior

Competency Builders:

2.2.1  Choose ethical courses of action in personal interactions
2.2.2  Choose ethical courses of action in all work assignments
2.2.3  Identify consequences of unethical conduct
2.2.4  Identify strategies for responding to unethical behavior of individuals and organizations
2.2.5  Comply with confidentiality requirements of the workplace policy
2.2.6  Identify legal ramifications of breach of confidentiality

Unit 3:  Safety

Competency 3.1:  Maintain a safe work environment

Competency Builders:

3.1.1  Identify potential hazards in the workplace
3.1.2  Follow procedures established to prevent accidents
3.1.3  Interpret a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)
3.1.4  Utilize personal protective equipment
3.1.5  Practice universal precautions against infection
3.1.6  Demonstrate ergonomic safety within the workplace

Competency 3.2:  Identify federal and state agencies regulating workplace safety

Competency Builders:

3.2.1  Identify current Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations
3.2.2  Identify current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations
3.2.3  Identify current Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines

Competency 3.3:  Identifies potential occupational hazards related to various careers in public safety

Competency Builders:

3.3.1  Identify occupational hazards related to law enforcement careers
3.3.2  Identify occupational hazards related to fire protection careers
3.3.3  Identify occupational hazards related to emergency medical services careers
3.3.4  Identify occupational hazards related to other public safety career
Unit 4: CPR/First Aid

Competency 4.1: Acquire Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification

Competency Builders:

4.1.1 Demonstrate adult CPR
4.1.2 Demonstrate child CPR
4.1.3 Demonstrate infant CPR
4.1.4 Demonstrate two-person CPR

Competency 4.2: Acquire First Aid certification

Competency Builders:

4.2.1 Demonstrate skills for the care and treatment of adult emergencies
4.2.2 Demonstrate skills for the care and treatment pediatric emergencies
4.2.3 Identify the laws pertinent to emergency care

Competency 4.3: Performs Automated External Defibrillation (AED)

Competency Builders:

4.3.1 Demonstrate skills in the care of a victim in cardiac arrest
4.3.2 Integrate the use of AED in the chain of survival

Unit 5: Computer Technology

Competency 5.1: Execute fundamental skills to operate word processing, spreadsheet and data base operations

Competency Builders:

5.1.1 Identify existing databases utilized in public safety
5.1.2 Demonstrate application of data base software in work related situations
5.1.3 Demonstrate application of spreadsheet software in work related situations
5.1.4 Use word processing software in work-related situations (i.e. on-line reporting)

Competency 5.2: Identify emerging trends in advanced computer technology in public safety

Competency Builders:
5.2.1 Investigate advanced computer technology as related to forensic science
5.2.2 Investigate advanced computer technology as related to surveillance
5.2.3 Investigate advanced computer technology as related to emergency management planning and homeland security

Unit 6: Communications

Competency 6.1: Apply technical writing skills

Competency Builders:

6.1.1 Present written information in a clear and concise manner
6.1.2 Organize investigative information into a useful public safety document

Competency 6.2: Conduct interview

Competency Builders:

6.2.1 Determine key information to be obtained
6.2.2 Interpret verbal and non-verbal communications
6.2.3 Differentiate between facts, opinions and feelings
6.2.4 Identify various barriers to communication
6.2.5 Identify techniques for overcoming barriers to communication
6.2.6 Identify legal restrictions of conducting an interview

Competency 6.3: Demonstrate use of technology in communication

Competency Builders:

6.3.1 Demonstrate established techniques for communicating via two-way communication
6.3.2 Demonstrate established techniques for communicating in alternative manners

Unit 7: Diversity and Disabilities

Competency 7.1: Demonstrate sensitivity to cultural and human diversity

Competency Builders:

7.1.1 Identify cultural population of community
7.1.2 Discuss types of discrimination
7.1.3 Discuss current diversity issues
Competency 7.2: Demonstrate specialized interpersonal skills

Competency Builders:

7.2.1 Summarize Americans with Disabilities Act
7.2.2 Provide the appropriate assistance to persons with disabilities
7.2.3 Demonstrate the appropriate methods of communicating with individuals to obtain necessary information

Unit 8: Schematics, Maps and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Competency 8.1: Identify various types of schematics and maps

Competency Builders:

8.1.1 Differentiate between a schematic and a map
8.1.2 Determine appropriate uses of schematics and maps
8.1.3 Discuss GIS capabilities and use

Competency 8.2: Interpret various schematics and maps

Competency Builders:

8.2.1 Demonstrate use of legend to identify points on schematic
8.2.2 Demonstrate use of legend to identify points on map

Unit 9: Healthy Living Styles

Competency 9.1: Identify healthy living styles

Competency Builders:

9.1.1 Identify common health risks related to lifestyle
9.1.2 Identify benefits of maintaining healthy living styles

Competency 9.2: Identify impact on employability

Competency Builders:

9.2.1 Identify fitness standards for entry-level employment
9.2.2 Compare fitness standards for entry-level employment
9.2.3 Appraise own fitness level
9.2.4 Develop fitness goals utilizing concepts of healthy living
9.2.5 Institute fitness plan for achieving goals
9.2.6 Evaluate short- and long-term results of overall fitness plan

Unit 10: Psychology of Stress

Competency 10.1: Explain the concept of stress

Competency Builders:

10.1.1 Define stress
10.1.2 Define distress
10.1.3 Differentiate between stress and stressors

Competency 10.2: Analyze the stress response

Competency Builders:

10.2.1 Outline the physical response to stress (General Adaptation Syndrome—Fight or Flight)
10.2.2 Summarize the physical consequences of unmanaged stress
10.2.3 Summarize the emotional consequences of unmanaged stress
10.2.4 Summarize the behavioral consequences of unmanaged stress
10.2.5 Summarize the cognitive consequences of unmanaged stress

Competency 10.3: Analyze psychological response to stress

Competency Builders:

10.3.1 Identify psychological stressors
10.3.2 Compare the relationship between personality types and the stress response
10.3.3 Identify stresses in the Public Safety careers
10.3.4 Categorize coping strategies
10.3.5 Critique ineffective coping behaviors

Competency 10.4: Describe the concept of Critical Incident Stress (CIS)

Competency Builders:

10.4.1 Define Critical Incident Stress (CIS)
10.4.2 List factors that affect an individual’s response to a critical incident
10.4.3 Identify types of critical incidents

Unit 11: Equipment Training

Competency 11.1: Identify various equipment utilized in public safety

Competency Builders:

11.1.1 Identify the function of various equipment in public safety
11.1.2 Identify proper techniques in using various equipment in public safety

Competency 11.2: Demonstrate safety in handling various equipment

Competency Builders:

11.2.1 Demonstrate proper care, maintenance, and storage of equipment
11.2.2 Identify potential hazards associated with equipment
11.2.3 Follow proper procedures associated with equipment utilization

Unit 12: Hazmat Training—Awareness Level

Competency 12.1: Achieve awareness level under State of Ohio guidelines

Competency Builders:

12.1.1 Verbalize basic terms used to discuss hazardous materials problems
12.1.2 Explain the roles of federal, state and local governments in reducing hazardous materials risks
12.1.3 Identify hazardous materials

Competency 12.2: Apply awareness level training to public safety careers

Competency Builders:

12.2.1 Exhibit knowledge of preparation for hazardous materials incidents
12.2.2 Construct hazardous material plan

Unit 13: Terrorist Assessment Training

Competency 13.1: Define terrorism

Competency Builders:
13.1.1 Identify Federal Code of terrorism
13.1.2 Identify the goals of acts of terrorism

Competency 13.2: Analyze possible terrorist targets

Competency Builders:

13.2.1 Identify threats to country
13.2.2 Identify threats to state
13.2.3 Identify threats to county/locality

Competency 13.3: Awareness of weapons of mass destruction

Competency Builders:

13.3.1 Define weapons of mass destruction
13.3.2 Identify examples of biological weapons
13.3.3 Identify examples of nuclear weapons
13.3.4 Identify examples of incendiary weapons
13.3.5 Identify examples of chemical weapons
13.3.6 Identify examples of explosive weapons

Competency 13.4: Identify action to take following a suspected terrorism event

Competency Builders:

13.4.1 Identify Presidential Decision Directive 39 (PDD-39)
13.4.2 Identify the community safety Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

Unit 14: Incident Command

Competency 14.1: Define Incident Command

Competency Builders:

14.1.1 Identify mission statement of command
14.1.2 Identify parts of incident command system

Competency 14.2: Use critical thinking skills in addressing emergency situations

Competency Builders:

14.2.1 Develop preplan for emergency situation
14.2.2 Utilize command guidelines in emergency situations
Unit 15: Emergency Telecommunications

Competency 15.1: Explain the role and responsibility of the 9-1-1 telecommunicator

Competency Builders:

15.1.1 Describe the history of the evolution of the 9-1-1 telecommunicator
15.1.2 Identify the basic requirements for becoming a telecommunicator
15.1.3 List ethics and rules of conduct as they relate to the profession
15.1.4 Explain the concept of telecommunicator interaction with field personnel
15.1.5 Describe the importance of emergency services field personnel safety
15.1.6 Explain appropriate communications between mass media and telecommunications personnel

Competency 15.2: Exhibits proper call taking techniques and equipment

Competency Builders:

15.2.1 Demonstrate call taking ability and properly identify and process communication with various and diverse situations
15.2.2 Define various concepts of call taking
15.2.3 Define the process of multiple call management
15.2.4 Define call prioritization
15.2.5 Identify a minimum of five categories of special needs callers
15.2.6 Define the difference between call transfer and call referral
15.2.7 Explain the importance of documenting calls
15.2.8 Explain the importance of utilizing call handling guides/protocols
15.2.9 Recognize situation requiring appropriate supervisory notification
15.2.10 Define the difference between wireline and wireless technologies
15.2.11 Identify a minimum of 10 pieces of call taking equipment

Competency 15.3: Exhibits proper dispatching techniques and equipment

Competency Builders:

15.3.1 Define basic dispatching techniques
15.3.2 Demonstrate basic radio broadcast procedures
15.3.3 List the Federal Communication Commission operating requirements applicable to 9-1-1 telecommunications
15.3.4 Define Title 18 of the U.S. Criminal Code
15.3.5 Define National Fire Protection Association Standard 1221
15.3.6 Explain the need for departmental contingency plans
15.3.7 Demonstrate a use of 10 different pieces of dispatching equipment
Competency 15.4: Identifies a basic understanding of telecommunicator liability

Competency Builders:

15.4.1 Describe five areas of liability for telecommunicators
15.4.2 Explain the importance of appropriately completing required documentation/reports
15.4.3 Define the terms: liability, omission, commission, negligence
15.4.4 Describe the limits of liability protection
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