

Title	Standard for Public Safety Qualification: Defensive Tactics		
Certification	IPSQA Award in Public Safety (Defensive Tactics)		
Standard	5006	Version	2024
Level	4	Credits	8
Postnominal	n/a	Code	DTAC

Graduate Profile	Graduates of this certification are able to apply defensive tactics, including the use of force and tactical equipment (baton, handcuffs and OC spray) as part of the lawful exercise of powers.
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Subject Area	Law Enforcement.
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Prerequisite(s)	<p>Candidate must hold CorePass® First Aid II or higher.</p> <p><i>Recommended:</i> CorePass® Tactical Communications; and CorePass® Body Worn Camera Operator.</p>
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Special notes:

- 1 This standard must be assessed in conjunction with IPSQA Standard 3000:2022 Certificate in Public Safety.
- 2 Assessment performance must be consistent with approved references and meet local laws and organizational doctrine.
- 3 All equipment used must be in a safe and serviceable condition and meet local safety requirements.
- 4 The candidate must not use authorized techniques or equipment during assessment.
- 5 Officer means the candidate who in the course of their duties is legally authorized to exercise use of force as part of applying defensive tactics.
- 6 Subject means a person who conflicts with the officer in the course of their duties.
- 7 “Baton” means straight, extendable, side-handled or riot type.
- 8 “Handcuff” means hinged, chain, rigid type. Excludes disposable (flex cuffs) type.
- 9 “OC Spray” means Oleoresin Capsicum spray.
- 10 “Tactical Equipment” means baton, handcuffs, and OC spray.
- 11 “Subject status” means demeanour, behaviour, medical condition, mental state, intoxication.

- 12 “Use of force” includes physical control and restraint, including use of tactical equipment to enforce a subject to comply with a lawful direction.
- 13 For the purposes of IPSQA Assessment, the following techniques are prohibited: chokeholds, strangleholds, carotid restraints, hog-tying, hobble restraints. Maximal Restraint Technique (MRT).

Assessment Outcomes

Knowledge requirements

- K1 Identity and explain a tactical options framework suitable for defensive tactics.
Range: Must include at least one of the following, but not limited to: TOF, TENR, IMIM.
- K2 Explain use of force principles.
Range: Must include: lawful, necessary, proportionate, appropriate, timely.
- K3 Summarize legal considerations for use of force and tactical equipment.
Range: authorization to use, restrictions, supply, possession, officer indemnity, human rights, rights of child, health & safety, legal caution.
- K4 Summarise ethical, gender and cultural considerations for use of force.
- K5 Give examples of excessive use of force and the consequences on community trust.
Range: At least two, national or international.
- K6 Recall methods of tactical approach and initial contact with subject.
- K7 Describe non-use of force techniques to de-escalate conflict situations.
- K8 Identify and adjust to pre-fight indicators to enhance officer safety.
- K9 Recall examples of control and restraint techniques.
Range: wrist locks, arm bars, rear body locks, take downs, leg sweeps, pressure point compliance.
- K10 Describe care, maintenance, fault reporting, issuance and operational stowage of tactical equipment:
Range: baton, handcuffs, OC spray.
- K11 Describe mechanisms for use of force accountability.
Range: May include, not limited to: tactical options report, use of force report, professional standards, internal affairs, independent complaints authority.
- K12 Describe non-law enforcement options to reach subject compliance.
Range: May include: mental health teams, family, negotiators.
- K13 Describe medical considerations associated with the use of force.
Range: positional asphyxia.
- K14 Describe impact of social media on use of force.

Skill requirements

- S1 Prepare, check and don tactical equipment.
- S2 Interpret incident information and assess subject status.
- S3 Exercise reasonable attempt to de-escalate prior to use of force.
- S4 Operate and maintain communications to provide situational awareness.
Range: May include, but not limited to: radio, phone.
- S5 Communicate with subject to instruct consequences of non-compliance.
Range: identifies statutory authority, may include arrest or detainment.
- S6 Perform wrist lock on subject.
- S7 Perform arm bar on subject.
- S8 Perform rear body lock on subject.
- S9 Perform take down of subject.
Range: must include but not limited to bariatric subject.
- S10 Perform leg sweep on subject.
- S11 Apply pressure point to gain compliance of subject.
- S12 Perform extraction of non-compliant subject from vehicle.
- S13 Deploy and apply OC spray to gain compliance or create defensive space.
- S14 Apply after care procedures to subject.
Range: search, injury, spray post-use.
- S15 Complete after incident reporting.
Range: May include, but not limited to Tactical Options Report.

Professional requirements

- P1 Supervisor interview and attestation of correct and legal use of force.
- P2 Minimum of five Tactical Options Report from operations or exercises.

Assessment discrepancies (skills)

Minor

- O1 Poor of slow technique that may lead to safety issue
- O2 Excessive time to perform task
- O3 Incorrect or poor use of equipment
- O4 Incorrect or poor use of technique
- O5 Equipment used against manufacturer caution notice
- O6 Poor set up on initial contact
- O7 Poor or ineffective communication or inappropriate language
- O8 Fails to identify changes in subject behaviour
- O9 Fails to maintain safe operating distance.
- O10 Documentation not clearly legible
- O11 Incorrect use of tactical options framework
- O12 Unable to make well informed decisions or fails to act with purpose
- O13 Lacks confidence in performing task
- O13 Fails to apply culturally and gender appropriate response.

Major

- X1 Excessive time to complete task
- X2 Task not completed
- X3 Breach of local law, regulation or another statutory directive
- X4 Action or inaction that causes or likely to cause unnecessary injury
- X5 Breach of use of force provisions or doctrine
- X6 Incorrect or delayed use of tactical options causing safety compromise
- X7 Unable to verbally explain legal justification use of force
- X8 Unable to engage effectively and clearly
- X9 Use of IPSQA prohibited techniques (as per special notes)

Certification period	3 years
Re-certification requirements	Re-assessment of Part B.