

D.A.R.E. AMERICA NATIONAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES

NUMBER 04-01

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF D.A.R.E. OFFICER CANDIDATES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for selecting a D.A.R.E. Instructor candidate who will maintain the integrity of the D.A.R.E. program.

POLICY

A D.A.R.E. Instructor must be a uniformed law enforcement officer, meeting the minimum training standards for peace officer status in their state of residence, and who has completed the equivalent of two years as a peace officer with full police powers. Additionally, the D.A.R.E. Instructor candidate's employing police agency shall have a memorandum of understanding with concerned school district(s) allowing implementation of D.A.R.E. after completion of the candidate's training.

PROCEDURE

1. The following delineates specific areas which shall be considered when selection a candidate:
 - a. Demonstrated ability to interact and relate to children
 - b. Oral and written communication skills that are adaptable to age-specific audiences
 - c. Ability to organize
 - d. Responsiveness to instruction
 - e. Ability to develop personal relationships
 - f. Promptness
 - g. Exemplary role model in both formal and informal situations
 - h. One who refrains from sexual, racial, stereotyping or inappropriate and insensitive remarks
 - i. Flexible and able to handle the unexpected
 - j. Committed to careful replication of the program model

2. A D.A.R.E. Instructor must be a uniformed law enforcement officer, meeting the minimum training standards for peace officer status in his/her state of residence.
3. A D.A.R.E. Instructor must have completed the equivalent of two years full-time service as a police officer with full powers.
4. The D.A.R.E. Instructor candidate's policy agency shall have a memorandum of understanding with a school /school district to permit implementation of the D.A.R.E. curricula as designed after completion of the candidate's training.
5. It shall be the responsibility of the state training center or state coordinator to screen all applicants to ensure that the minimum selection criteria are met.
6. A waiver of minimum selection criteria will be subject to the provisions of appropriate National Policy and Procedure.
7. Applicants for D.A.R.E. Officer Training (DOT) must provide verification of candidate eligibility form the appropriate state or local coordination entity, prior to enrollment.
8. It shall be the responsibility of each training center to ensure that all national and state requirements have been satisfied prior to providing training to an applicant.