

# **FAQs for Mandated School Resource Officer (SRO) Requirements**

\*Created in partnership with the MN POST Board.

# Q: What if my school officer is not "titled" as a School Resource Officer, is it still required? MAYBE

A: Here is the SRO definition per statute:

- "School resource officer" means a peace officer who is assigned to work in an
  elementary school, middle school, or secondary school during the regular instructional
  school day as one of the officer's regular responsibilities through the terms of a contract
  entered between the peace officer's employer and the designated school district or
  charter school.
- If you're not required by statute (not contracted with a school district), but commonly serve school communities, this training is still beneficial.

## Q: What are the deadlines for the training requirements?

A: Here is a summary of the training deadlines:

- Beginning <u>September 1, 2025</u>, a peace officer assigned to serve as an SRO must complete a training course that provides instruction on the mandated learning objectives prior to assuming the duties of an SRO.
- If an officer is unable to attend required training prior to assignment, the officer must complete the required training within six months of assuming the duties of a school resource officer.
- A mandated refresher training is required by <u>June 1, 2027</u>, if you have already taken a basic SRO course prior to September 1, 2025 (without mandated learning objectives) from:
  - Minnesota School Safety Center
  - National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO)
- If you are a substitute school resource officer for <u>fewer than 60 student contact days</u> within a school year, you are not obligated to complete the required training or perform the duties described in statute.
- The substitute SRO must review and comply with any policy adopted by the law enforcement agency that employs the substitute school resource officer.

### Q: Will the MnSSC 2025 trainings prior to September 1, 2025 meet the training requirements?

A: All of the MnSSC's Basic SRO courses in 2025 (prior to September 1, 2025) will meet the mandated objectives and will require a refresher within 3 years of completion. The June 1, 2027 deadline would not apply to these courses.

• Example: If an SRO attends the March 11-14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 training they would have until March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2028 to complete a refresher course.

#### Q: Who is in charge of maintaining training records?

A: The chief law enforcement officer must maintain a copy of the most recent training certificate issued to the officer for completion of the mandated training.

#### Q: What are the deadlines for the Model SRO Policy?

A: Here are some model SRO policy dates and requirements:

- By September 1, 2025, each law enforcement agency with a school resource officer program shall develop, adopt, and implement a written policy regarding SROs that is identical or, at a minimum, substantially similar to the model policy adopted by the board.
- A newly assigned SRO must review any policy adopted by the officer's employer before assuming the other duties of an SRO and must comply with that policy.

#### Have additional questions:

Additional legislative funding was provided to the MnSSC to provide this critical training. If you have questions, please reach out to any of the following MnSSC SRO training team members:

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#### References:

Full statutory language for required training and the model policy for SROs: <u>626.8482 SCHOOL</u> <u>RESOURCE OFFICERS; DUTIES; TRAINING; MODEL POLICY.</u>