



OREGON POLICE CANINE ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to the Professional Use of Canines throughout Oregon

TRAINER QUALIFICATIONS

Master Trainer--Patrol Dogs

Experience

1. Five years experience working a police canine(s); and
2. Canine(s) have passed the O.P.C.A. Performance Standards while an O.P.C.A. member; and
3. Has trained at least two other Dog/Handler teams, each team a minimum of 360 cumulative hours of DPSST approved training, resulting in the successful completion of O.P.C.A. Performance Standards.

Training

1. 1,000 hours of documented DPSST police canine training, or other State's training board; and
2. Has served at least one year as an O.P.C.A. Trainer.

Standing & Procedure

1. Is a regular or associate member in good standing of the Oregon Police Canine Association;
2. Must submit to the Trainers Committee;

- a. Resume outlining the above experience and training and requirements for the category of expertise;
 - b. DPSST approved training class outline for the category of expertise; and
 - c. Oral interview and approval of 2/3 majority vote of the Trainers Committee;
 - d. Any Master Trainer wishing to add another category of expertise must submit a written request, including written information on the newly trained/accredited K-9 teams.
3. Must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the O.P.C.A. Executive Board.
 4. Master Trainers should not judge dogs performance standards that they have trained.
 5. Master Trainers are required to be at 2/3 of the trainers meetings each calendar year, and participate in at least one seminar each year.
 6. Master Trainers will promote the O.P.C.A through the following training opportunities:
 - a. Conducting regional training
 - b. Publishing regional training dates and times
 - c. Assisting Trainers in furthering their goals
 - d. Locating new teams to be trained
 - e. Mentoring others in the Association

Trainer--Patrol Dogs

Experience

1. 3 years experience working a police canine(s); and
2. Canine(s) have passed the O.P.C.A. Performance Standards while an O.P.C.A. member.

Training

1. 500 hours of documented DPSST police canine training or other State's training board.

Standing & Procedure

1. Is a regular member in good standing of the Oregon Police Canine Association; and
2. Submit a resume (See Application Process) outlining experience and training for the category of expertise; and
3. Must be recommended by a Master Trainer in writing to include:
 - a. Any certifications that the Master Trainer have done of the applicant and their dog or other K-9 teams they have trained.
 - b. The approximated number of hours that you (Master Trainer) have worked with the applicant.
 - c. Your personal knowledge of the applicant's participation in any O.P.C.A. functions.
 - d. Any other relative information you (Master Trainer) may have about the applicant.
4. Oral interview and approval of a 2/3 majority vote of the Trainers Committee.
5. Must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the O.P.C.A executive board.
6. Trainer's can accredit dog/handler teams for Performance Standards following observation and recommendation by a Master Trainer, in writing to the OPCA Executive Board.
7. Trainers should not judge dogs for performance standards that they have trained.
8. Trainers are required to be at 2/3 of the trainers meetings each calendar year and participate in at least one seminar each year.
9. Trainers will promote the O.P.C.A through the following training opportunities:
 - a. Conducting regional training
 - b. Publishing regional training dates and times
 - c. Assisting Trainers in furthering their goals
 - d. Locating new teams to be trained
 - e. Mentoring others in the Association

Master Trainer - Detection Dogs

Experience

1. Five years experience working or training Detection Dogs; and
2. Canine(s) have passed the O.P.C.A. Performance Standards while an OPCA member; and
3. Has trained at least two other Dog/Handler teams, each team a minimum of 160 cumulative hours of DPSST approved training, resulting in the successful completion of OPCA Performance Standards.

Training

1. 1,000 hours of documented DPSST police canine training, or other State's training board; and
2. Has served at least one year as an O.P.C.A. Trainer.

Standing & Procedure

1. Is a regular or associate member in good standing of the Oregon Police Canine Association;
2. Must submit to the Trainers Committee:

- a. Resume outlining the above Experience and Training requirements for the Category of expertise;
 - b. DPSST approved training class outline for the Category of expertise; and
 - c. Oral Interview and approval of a 2/3 majority vote of the Trainers Committee;
 - d. Any Master Trainer wishing to add another Category of expertise must submit a written request, including written information on the newly trained/accredited K-9 teams.
3. Must be approved by a 2/3-majority vote of the O.P.C.A. Executive Board.
 4. Master Trainers should not judge Teams that they have trained for performance standards.
 5. Master Trainers are required , except for extenuating circumstances , to be at 2/3 of the Trainer's committee meetings each calendar year, and participate in at least one seminar each year.
 6. Master Trainers will promote the O.P.C.A through the following training opportunities:
 - a. Conducting regional training
 - b. Publishing regional training dates and times
 - c. Assisting Trainers in furthering their goals
 - d. Locating new teams to be trained
 - e. Mentoring others in the Association

Trainer - Detection Dogs

Experience

1. 3 years experience working Detection Dogs; and
2. Canine(s) have passed the O.P.C.A. Performance Standards while an OPCA member; and

Training

1. 500 hours of documented DPSST police canine training or other State's training board.

Standing & Procedure

1. Is a regular member in good standing of the Oregon Police Canine Association; and
2. Submit a resume (See Application Process) outlining experience and training for the Category of expertise: and
3. Must be recommended by a Master Trainer in writing to include:
 - a. Any certifications that the Master Trainer has done of this applicant and their Dog or other K-9's they have trained;
 - b. The approximate number of hours that you (Master Trainer) have worked with the applicant;
 - c. Any personal knowledge of the applicant's participation in any OPCA functions;
 - d. Any other relative information the Master Trainer may have about the applicant.
4. Oral interview and approval of a 2/3 majority vote of the Trainers Committee.
5. Must be approved by a 2/3-majority vote of the O.P.C.A. Executive Board.
6. Trainer's can accredit dog/handler teams for Performance Standards following observation and recommendation by a Master Trainer, in writing to the OPCA Executive Board.
7. Trainers should not judge Teams that they have trained for performance standards.
8. Trainers are required to be at 2/3 of the Trainer's Committee meetings each calendar year, except for extenuating circumstances, and participate in at least one seminar each year.
9. Trainers will promote the O.P.C.A through the following training opportunities:
 - a. Conducting regional training
 - b. Publishing regional training dates and times
 - c. Assisting Trainers in furthering their goals
 - d. Locating new teams to be trained
 - e. Mentoring others in the Association

State Trainer Application Process

Purpose:

To provide experienced, knowledgeable, professional training leadership to the Oregon Police Canine Association.

Goal:

In an effort to ensure the training requirements are met for the OPCA, a ratio of 20% Trainer's to Members is recommended. This ratio will be comprised with regards to geographic and main function general category, (i.e. Detection or Patrol).

Application Process:

OPCA Members who desire to become State Trainer's must complete in full all necessary documentation as described in the OPCA by-laws.

Applications will be accepted once a year during the annual Fall Seminar.

The Trainer's Committee will then review the application to determine:

- Applicant meets all State requirements.
- Application has been filed correctly and contains all required information.

The Trainer's Committee will then select the applicant(s) identified to further continue the State Trainer's process. Each applicant will be contacted and informed as to the status of their application. NOTE: The needs of the Association with regards to the stated 20% ratio will dictate the number of applications accepted.

Upon successfully completing the initial phase of the State Trainer application process, the applicant must over the next 12 months:

- Acquire 30 hours of structured training with a Master Trainer in attendance. At the completion of the year, a letter of recommendation will be tendered by the Master Trainer based on their observations.
- Attend 50% of all scheduled OPCA Trainer's Committee meetings.
- Assist as needed during the Spring and Fall Seminars in a Trainer's capacity.

The Trainer's Committee and Executive Board during the annual Fall Seminar will conduct final selection for State Trainer's. The selection review will be made on a competitive process with regards to the applicant's knowledge on police canine application and training theories, presentation, and teaching skills, as well as a demonstrated commitment to the Association.

Preference may be given to an applicant when the good of the Association warrants. Such cases would involve the need for a specific training requirement (Detection or Patrol) or needs based on geographic representation.

All State Trainer applications would remain on file for three years. An applicant who passes the initial selection process and is not selected as a State Trainer, but wishes to remain a candidate must continue to attend 50% of all Trainer's Committee meetings and assist as needed during the annual Spring and Fall Seminars. These requirements will remain in effect until the applicant is selected as a State Trainer or the three year time period elapses.

Update:12/10/05