

To be eligible to participate in receiving equivalent certification as a West Virginia law enforcement officer an officer must be a police officer in good standing from another POST state and be evaluated as to his entry level training from that state in comparison to the 810 hr entry level training program required in this state. If an officer's program was not that long annual/in-service training may be considered, but it is not on an hour for hour basis. Each review is individual and is made on the officer being employed by a police agency in this state. If approved to participate in the equivalent certification program then the officer completes the below listed process within one year of being employed. At the completion of these steps he is granted certification as a West Virginia law enforcement officer. During the period that the process is being completed the individual may work as a sworn officer in this state with full applicable powers that come from that position.

1. Be employed by a WV law enforcement agency, full or part time
2. That WV agency must inform me of the officer's employment and that the officer is a certified officer from another POST state
3. A waiver form will be sent to you to complete and have notarized which will be returned to this office
4. I will obtain copies of applicable records of that certification and entry level training from my counterpart in that state/s. Copies of any such information that you have may be provided to me, to include annual/in-service training completed and if available a course schedule from the entry level training program completed.
5. You will have to make application to the police academy within 90 days of being hired, to include the submission of a medical examination. You do not have to pass the physical aptitude test (PAT) required of new recruit officers
6. The equivalency review committee will examine the records obtained from the POST state you are coming from and recommend your certification through that route, they will be looking to see how your entry level training program compares to WV's 810 hour program. That is the primary comparison, though continuing/in-service completed classes will be reviewed and considered in conjunction with length of active service as an officer. If not recommended must complete the full entry level program, if recommended then
7. You then have to complete, or test out of, 8 core classes at the Academy as a "sit-in" officer, meaning that you just come to the Academy and attend specific class/es when they are scheduled. You are not there as a recruit officer, but as a current officer.
8. These classes have to be completed within one year of employment.
9. There is a charge of \$750 to your WV agency for sending you to the sit in classes, flat cost regardless of number of classes you have to actually complete.

Please don't hesitate to get with Retired Captain Chuck Sadler, LET Coordinator, at (304) 558-8814, ext 214 or charles.a.sadler@wv.gov if you have any other questions