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TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

Technical Assistance Bulletin

To: All Texas Law Enforcement Agencies/Contract Training Providers/Licensees
From: Cullen Grissom/Director, Credentialing and Field Services
Regarding: **COVID-19 Response (Update)**
Date: April 1, 2021

As with all state agencies, TCOLE has responded to the COVID-19 crisis by modifying delivery of services to best protect our customers and our own employees. In order to assist, we would like to supply the following information, which will be continuously updated until the end of the crisis:

1. As of 3/10/21, TCOLE offices are back open to walk-in traffic.
2. The continuing education requirements and deadline for the 2019-21 Training Unit and the 2017-2021 Training Cycle remain unchanged.
3. Any mandated training (Canine Encounters, Interacting with Drivers Deaf/Hard of Hearing, etc.) which have fallen within the health crisis period beginning 3/20/20 will be extended, but NOT WAIVED. Extension timelines have not been determined at this time. Every effort should be made to come into compliance as soon as possible.
4. School Based Law Enforcement (SBLE) and other specialty certifications expiring during the health crisis will be considered valid for TCOLE purposes only. Please keep in mind other state and federal regulatory agencies might not recognize the extension.
5. Temporary Jailer licenses expiring prior to April 30, 2021 may be renewed as temporary licenses but must be F-5'ed before a new L-1 can be submitted for their reappointment. These are the only extensions authorized at this time. If the license is INACTIVE, the license must be reactivated before hire.
6. Due to the reopening of exam sites throughout the state, exam endorsement extensions will no longer be available. If a site in your area is still closed, please see below.
7. State licensing exams will continue to be conducted at our Austin Headquarters by appointment only, walk-ins for exams are not accepted.
8. For applications which require fees, TCOLE will temporarily accept personal checks, as well as the money orders, cashier's checks, and agency checks listed on applications.
9. The School Based Law Enforcement Certification, required of all School Resource Officers and ISD Officers has 2 due dates:
 - 09/01/2020 for any officer assigned to the position PRIOR to 09/01/19.
 - Within 180 days from assignment for officers appointed to that position ON or AFTER 09/01/2019. These deadlines are statutory and cannot be waived; but no enforcement action will be taken until after the COVID-19 disaster declaration has ended.