

Grant Award Summary

COUNCIL FILE NO: 251832

2026 Spring Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Field Certification Training Grant

Grant Type: New Grant

Grantor: WisDOT Wisconsin State Patrol Bureau of Transportation Safety

Grant Period: April 15, 2026 - May 1, 2026

Award Amount: \$26,136 (\$26,136 from Grantor, \$0 from City)

Match Required: \$0 (in-kind Salary/Fringe Benefits)

Allocation Purpose: The 2026 Spring Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Field Certification Training Grant will fund voluntary overtime for MPD police officers to accompany DRE training participants to locate individuals under the influence of drugs to consent to voluntary drug evaluations. Additionally, the MPD will provide the Training Academy as the facility to host the drug evaluations.

Program Goal: MPD will host the Wisconsin State Patrol Bureau as they conduct Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Field Certification training to be held at the Training Academy. DRE field certification requires participants to perform a 12-step standardized and systematic evaluation on individuals who are under the influence of drugs other than alcohol. Training participants must correctly identify impairment from different drug classifications. The grant will fund voluntary overtime for police officers to accompany training participants in the field to locate individuals that consent to voluntary drug evaluations held at the Academy. The drug evaluations are voluntary and completely confidential, no personal identifying information is requested or obtained. Individuals that agree to drug evaluations receive snacks and information on addiction, mental health, homelessness, meal programs, and employment resources and opportunities. The focus of the evaluations is on training, not enforcement. No enforcement actions are taken. The purpose of DRE certification is to train law enforcement officers on drug physiology, anatomy, and the effects of different drug categories on the body to enable identification of a subject's drug impairment using the 12-step evaluation process. The MPD will provide space in the Academy to facilitate the voluntary drug evaluations and will accompany DRE training candidates to locate voluntary individuals for drug evaluations through consensual encounters. Law enforcement officers that earn DRE certification are better able to identify drug impairment in suspects and can provide expert testimony in drug impaired driving cases.