



## Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training

860 Stillwater Road  
West Sacramento, CA 95605-1603  
[post.ca.gov](http://post.ca.gov)

Date: May 26, 2020

Bulletin: No. 2020-26

Subject: **Notice of Guidelines for Entry-Level Test Administration Process During Coronavirus (COVID-19) Emergency**

[Commission Regulation 1951](#) mandates that peace officers be able to read and write at the levels necessary to perform the job of a peace officer as determined by the use of the POST Entry-Level Law Enforcement Test Battery (PELLETB) or other professionally developed and validated test of reading and writing ability. Because performance on the PELLETB is highly correlated with performance in the academy, many agencies and academies use the PELLETB as an indicator of readiness for a career in law enforcement.

[Commission Regulation 1957](#) mandates that “public safety dispatchers shall demonstrate Verbal, Reasoning, Memory, and Perceptual Abilities at levels necessary to perform the job.” These abilities must be evaluated before hire to assure the presence of ability levels commensurate with the performance of dispatcher duties, as measured by the POST Entry-Level Dispatcher Selection Test Battery (POST Dispatcher Test) or alternative job-related tests of these abilities. Since scores on the POST Dispatcher Test are predictive of both training proficiency and job success, many law enforcement agencies and communication centers use the POST Dispatcher Test to measure the applicant’s aptitude for performing public safety dispatcher work.

During the COVID-19 Emergency, POST continues to provide all entry-level testing services to California law enforcement agencies who have a current test security agreement. Although test ordering services should not affect agencies’ hiring/selection processes, the test administration processes during these times should be reviewed and adjusted as necessary.

Per federal and state guidelines on social distancing, it is **highly recommended** that testing agencies adjust their test administration process with the following factors implemented:

- Conduct multiple test sessions (e.g., different dates, different time slots) in order to minimize the number of candidates in one test session.
- Sanitize facility, chairs, tables, pencils etc., before and after each test session.
- Have hand sanitizers and/or disinfectant wipes available during each test session.
- Require candidates to wear fabric protective masks during the test.
- Require proctors to wear fabric protective masks and gloves during the test.
- Seat candidates at least six feet apart.
- Proctors, test assistants, agency personnel, and candidates should practice social distancing when interacting with each other.

More information on federal and state guidelines on COVID-19 can be found on the respective information webpages:

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [California Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Response](#)



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For more resources on COVID-19, please visit our [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resources](#) Webpage.

Questions regarding this bulletin may be directed to the [Test Orders staff](#).

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