

Basic Abilities Test (BAT)

Overview

- Individuals who desire to enter a basic recruit training program for law enforcement or corrections must first pass a basic abilities test (BAT). This test is based on a job task analysis (JTA) in each of these subjects, adopted by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (Commission) pursuant to [Section 943.17, F.S.](#), and further detailed in [F.A.C. 11B-35.0011\(1\)](#). It predicts the likelihood for success in basic recruit training and the [State Officer Certification Examination \(SOCE\)](#). [\(Background\)](#)
- FDLE has contracted private [test providers](#) to create, manage, and administer the BAT at Commission-certified training centers, criminal justice selection centers, and criminal justice agencies. FDLE manages score management, contractual issues, program clarification, and enforcement.
- The BAT is administered only within the state of Florida.
- The BAT score is valid for four years from the date of the test.

Composition

- The BAT assesses written comprehension and expression, information ordering, spatial orientation, memorization, problem sensitivity, and inductive and deductive reasoning.
- It is a multiple-choice test in a computer-based or paper and pencil format. The test is administered in accordance with contract requirements.

Test Sign-up Procedures

- The test is offered at [Commission-certified training centers](#), [selection centers](#), and some agencies
- Fees and scheduling are unique to each location—contact them directly for more information.
- Study guides and/or practice tests are available through the [test providers](#).
- A specific test provider's BAT cannot be taken more than three times per discipline during any 12-month period.
- Former Florida-certified or out-of-state-certified officers may qualify for an exemption from the BAT and basic recruit training program by completing the [Equivalency of Training process](#). See [How to Become a Certified Officer in Florida](#) for more details.

Scores

- Because the tests' compositions and difficulty levels are unique, the

[passing scores](#) are exclusive to the [test providers](#). The passing scores are based on individual research using educational and psychological principles; thus, the passing scores differ between the test providers. Using scores for other purposes (e.g., minimum score for hiring or ranking candidates) may not be valid unless specific research supports such use.

- Contact the individual criminal justice agency for minimum score and employment requirements.
- To receive a copy of BAT scores, contact the testing location where it was taken. The scores cannot be accessed on the FDLE website.