



Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory Breath Alcohol Supervisor Certification/Recertification Course Information

Location of Training

Crime Lab
4805 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907)269-5760

Lodging Options

There are several local hotel options. The following are located on Tudor Road west of the lab. For additional lodging questions contact the laboratory.

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| Hilton Garden Inn 4555 Union Square Drive Anchorage, AK 99503 | Homewood Suites by Hilton 101 West 48th Ave Anchorage, AK 99503 | Aspen Hotel 100 E Tudor Rd. Anchorage, AK 99503 |
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Lunch

Off campus lunch options are not available within walking distance. If you do not have a vehicle at your disposal you are advised to bring a lunch. There are refrigerators and microwaves available, if needed.

Course Structure

Class hours are 8:00AM to 5:00PM each day with a one-hour lunch break. Breath Test Supervisors who are recertifying only need to attend the first two days of instruction.

Course Content

The Datamaster DMT is the evidential breath alcohol instrument approved for use in the State of Alaska. Thousands of breath alcohol tests take place on these instruments each year. Breath alcohol measurement is a rapid and non-invasive tool that assists law enforcement, particularly with respect to impaired driving.

This course begins with the basics of ethanol and its effect on the human body. The Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (ASCDL) plays an important role in ethanol testing in Alaska, both by performing blood alcohol testing and administering the statewide breath alcohol program including maintaining the Datamaster DMT instruments.

Next, we'll take an in-depth look at the Datamaster DMT to understand how it is able to measure ethanol in a person's breath. The course includes several hands-on activities covering tasks expected of the Breath Test Supervisor including: instrument setup, completion of required forms, troubleshooting, and adjusting administrative settings to meet the needs of your agency. Common status messages will be covered in detail.

Quality assurance is a critical component of a valid breath alcohol test. The course will address

features of the Datamaster DMT that help to ensure a complete and defensible test including the subject test sequence, dry gas external standard, and Verification of Calibration (VOC). Additionally, students will learn how the statewide breath alcohol program is structured and what steps the Crime Lab takes to certify an instrument for use in the field.

A certified Breath Test Supervisor is expected to provide training to Breath Test Operators at their agency. Students will receive Operator training materials and practice in presenting this training to other students in the class. Finally, the Breath Test Supervisor has advanced knowledge and training regarding the Datamaster DMT and may be qualified as an expert witness in court. Students will practice answering questions regarding their Datamaster training and experience, as well as addressing concerns about the subject test that may come up in court.

Course Exam

All students (certification and recertification) are required to complete a written examination on the course material. The examination includes multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, and short answer questions. The test is not open book. **The required score is 75% or greater.** Exams will be graded immediately upon completion and printed certificates will be provided to all passing students. If any student has concerns about taking a written exam this information should be shared with the scientific director, Brandi Barnett, at the beginning of class so reasonable accommodations can be made.

Course Materials

The Alaska Breath Test Operator and Supervisor Manual is provided along with copies of handouts for the class. **If you are not a current breath test operator it is recommended that you review the manual prior to the class.** The manual is located on the crime lab website at:

[https://dps.alaska.gov/Comm/CrimeLab/DataMaster-\(1\)/datamaster](https://dps.alaska.gov/Comm/CrimeLab/DataMaster-(1)/datamaster)

Click "Alaska Breath Alcohol Manuals" and select Alaska Breath Test Operator and Supervisor Manual.

For further questions about the course contact Brandi Barnett at 907-269-5695 or email dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov