

2023 Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) Curriculum Revisions

(Instructor Guide & Participant Manual)

The following information lists the substantive revisions and additions made to the 2018 SFST curriculum for both the Instructor Guide (IG) and Participant Manual (PM) and included in the February 2023 materials. The revisions reflect the work of the NHTSA Curriculum Workgroup, and the IACP Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) Curriculum and Scientific Workgroups.

Overall SFST Revisions:

New cover pages and design for IG and PM.

PowerPoint slides were consolidated or deleted to assist in reducing the number of pages in the IG and PM. Both documents were reduced in size through the consolidation.



Wording in PowerPoint slides was reduced to assist with those slides containing excessive and unnecessary text.

New icons were added signifying Instructor Notes, Resources, and Videos.

A Preface Page was added that explains the training manual is considered a “living document” subject to updates and changes based on advances in technology and science. A thorough review is made of information by the IACP Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) with contributions from many sources in health care science, toxicology, optometry, jurisprudence, and law enforcement. Based on this information, any appropriate revisions, and modifications in background theory, facts, examination, and decision-making methods are made to improve the quality of the instruction as well as the standardization of guidelines for the implementation of the training curriculum.

As with previous releases, the Participant Manual is simply the Instructor Guide absent the Administrator Guide and the Instructor Notes.

All examinations were updated and reflect the 2/2023 revision date.

Glossary of Terms – The definition of SFST was updated.

Sessions 9 and 10 from the previous 2018 curriculum were consolidated into one session (Session 9 – SFST Demonstrations) which required an adjustment in the session numbering and titles.

Session 1: Introduction and Overview

A new MADD video was added as an “attention-getter” stressing the importance of DUI enforcement. The video is approximately 10 minutes in length and its use is optional.

Page 13 – Divided Attention Test definition, 2nd sentence was revised to read, *The two psychophysical tests, Walk and Turn (WAT) and One Leg Stand (OLS) require the subject to divide their attention...*

Session 2: Detection and General Deterrence

Data in some slides and the content was updated using the most current information available.

Information on the Mellanby Effect was added to this session.

Slide 3 - Inserted the word *crashes* after the word *traffic* in the slide.

Page 11 - Changed the word *driving* to *drivers* in the sentence addressing fatal crashes involving speeding drivers.

Slide 39 – Rearranged the order of types of alcohols to read, *Methyl Alcohol, Isopropyl Alcohol, Ethyl Alcohol* which corresponds to the content.

Session 3: The Legal Environment

No changes or additions were made. No recent SFST cases were identified that are applicable to the training. It is still recommended to use local state cases whenever applicable.

Session 4: Overview of Detection, Note Taking and Testimony

Slides 20, 30 & 31 - Each form used had a box for Equal Pupils/Equal Tracking and a box for “Other”. Since this is a part of the initial medical assessment, a *Yes/No* check box was added to the form.

Session 5: Phase One – Vehicle in Motion

Slides 3 & 4 - Removed the text *Interview and Observation of the Driver* as this section deals with *Vehicle in Motion*.

Slides 6 & 12 - The driving videos were not replaced and will be considered in future updates.

Session 6: Phase Two – Personal Contact

No substantive changes made.

Session 7: Phase Three – Pre-Arrest Screening

The *Truth Is in the Eyes* video was removed from this session and curriculum.

Slide 28 – Revised to read, *Confirms alcohol as a likely or potential cause of impairment.*

Session 8: Concepts and Principles of the SFSTs

Page 8 – Information regarding deficiency in eye movements were added.

Slide 22 – Revised text to read, *alcohol and other drugs*.

Slide 66 - Under *Medical Assessment*, *Vertical Nystagmus Yes/No* was removed as this is not part of the medical assessment.

Session 9: Test Battery Demonstrations

No substantive changes made.

Session 10: Dry Run Practice

No substantive changes made.

Session 10-A: Dry Lab: First Session

The form was revised, and a *Sustained Nystagmus* box was added.

The prior Dry Lab videos were replaced, and the new videos are available with the February 2023 curriculum materials.

Session 11: Processing the Arrested Subject, Report Writing and Preparation for Trial

This session was reworked and consolidated with other areas of the curriculum.

Session 12: Moot Court

No substantive changes made.

Session 13: Alcohol Workshop: Second Session

No substantive changes made.

Session 13-A: Dry Lab: Second Session

The form was revised, and a *Sustained Nystagmus* box was added.

The prior Dry Lab videos were replaced, and the new videos are available with the February 2023 curriculum materials.

Session 14: Review and Proficiency Examinations

No substantive changes made.

Session 15: Written Examination and Program Conclusion

No substantive changes made.

Session 16: Introduction to Drugged Driving

This option training session was updated using some related information from ARIDE.

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