

Guidelines for Patrol Canine Team Certification

Definition – Who must submit a K9 certification to SCCJA?

SC Code of Laws, § 23-23-140. Patrol canine teams, certification.

- (A) For purposes of this section, "patrol canine teams" refers to a certified officer and a specific patrol canine controlled by the handler working together in the performance of law enforcement or correctional duties. "Patrol canine teams" does not refer to canines used exclusively for tracking or specific detection.
- (B) The South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy shall verify that patrol canine teams have been certified by a nationally recognized police dog association or similar organization.
- (C) No law enforcement agency may utilize patrol canine teams after July 1, 2014, unless the patrol canine teams have met all certification requirements.

Law Enforcement Training Council, Canine Minimum Standards

To be certified as a Patrol Canine the team must pass:

- Obedience- Heel with motion, Down and Stay while off lead
- Aggression- Recall and verbal out in a reasonable amount of time
- Must be able to search for the concentration of human odor
- (For Bark and Hold Dogs Only) No movement of suspect- dog will come off of the bite and resume a bark and hold position.

DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR K9 CERTIFICATION TO SCCJA FOR TRACKING OR SPECIFIC DETECTION ONLY.

The following organizations are approved for K9 patrol training:

- All American Canine Services, LLC
- American Police Canine Association
- American Society of Canine Trainers
- American Working Dog Association
- California Narcotic Canine Association
- Custom Canine Unlimited
- Enforcement K9 International
- National Narcotics Detector Dog Association
- National Tactical Police Dog Association (Tarheel Canine Training)
- North American Police Work Dog Association
- Palmetto K9
- South Carolina Police Canine Association
- Strategic K9 Performance
- Titanz K9, LLC
- United Police Work Dog Association
- United States Law Enforcement Canine Association

- US Police Canine Association
- Ventosa Kennel

Process – How do I submit my certification to SCCJA?

This certification is to be requested by the Training Supervisor from the department.

1. Log into your Acadis Portal (<https://acadis-port.sccja.sc.gov/acadisviewer/login.aspx>)
2. Hover over the Personnel tab and Click on “See a List of Personnel”.
3. Click on the “3 vertical dots” for the Officer that you would like to request the Patrol Canine Team Certification.
4. Click on “Request Certification”.
5. Choose “Patrol Canine Team Certification”, choose today’s date and Click “Continue”.
6. Verify that you have selected the correct recipient and click “Continue”.
7. Read the Guidelines and click “Continue”.
8. Click on “Update” to answer all of the following fields, for each field, click on “The requirement has been met or exceeded” and “Save” after completing the necessary task.
9. Verify that all 5 fields show “Fulfilled” as the status and click on “Continue”.
10. Answer the following Affirmation and Declaration and click on “Submit”.

You will be required to submit:

1. Age of Canine
2. Canine Name
3. Copy of Certification (file name formatted to “K9 Certification [current year]) **Do not submit test sheet, multiple certifications.**
4. Certifying Agency
5. Date of Certification

*****Annual recertifications must be submitted every twelve months with a three-month extension (15 months) through the Acadis Portal. Report any changes in patrol canine team. *****

Please allow 5 business days for processing. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Baldwin at 803-896-7843 or JMBaldwin@sccja.sc.gov.