

Gaston College

2026 BLET and Continuing Education

Training Calendar

January 5 thru January 9, 2026 (POSTPONED AT THIS TIME

"Detention Law Institute"(DLI)

Lead Instructor: Director Tim Fuss from Cape Fear Community College, (presented at Gaston College David Belk Cannon Building, Dallas, NC room# 119).

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information at 704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

CLOSED for Registration

40 hours (60 open seats)

January 12 thru June 19, 2026

"Basic Law Enforcement Training", Class# 159

Lead Instructor: Staff, (presented at Gaston College APS Building, room# 136, 1250 Life Skills Lane, Dallas, NC).

If you have any questions including the application process, sponsorship opportunities, financial assistance, scheduling, etc., call or email Asst. Director K. Putnam for registration information at 704-922-2396 or putnam.kevin@gaston.edu).

OPEN for Registration

900+ hours (30 open seats)

January 12 thru March 10, 2026

"NC PROPEL" Class

Course name: "Criminalistics"

Lead Instructor: Myron Shelor. This tuition free program is offered by the North Carolina Community College system. These are curriculum equivalent/credit classes which can be used to obtain a two-year/Associates Degree. This program is aimed towards sworn law enforcement officers, telecommunicators and detention officers already employed by a law enforcement agency. There may be a fee for textbooks.

*****THIS COURSE IS COMPLETELY ON-LINE*****

Call or Email Erin Long for any questions or registration information at 704-922-6531 or long.erin@gaston.edu).

OPEN for Registration

48 hours (20 open seats)

January 12 thru March 10, 2026

"NC PROPEL" Class

Course name: "North Carolina Criminal Law"

Lead Instructor: Calvin Shaw. This tuition free program is offered by the North Carolina Community College system. These are curriculum equivalent/credit classes which can be used to obtain a two-year/Associates Degree. This program is aimed towards sworn law enforcement officers, telecommunicators and detention officers already employed by a law enforcement agency. There may be a fee for textbooks.

*****THIS COURSE IS COMPLETELY ON-LINE*****

Call or Email Erin Long for any questions or registration information at 704-922-6531 or long.erin@gaston.edu).

OPEN for Registration

48 hours (20 open seats)

January 12 thru March 10, 2026**"NC PROPEL" Class****OPEN for Registration**

48 hours (20 open seats)

*Course name: "Law Enforcement Management and Supervision"**Lead Instructor: Erin Long. This tuition free program is offered by the North Carolina Community College system. These are curriculum equivalent/credit classes which can be used to obtain a two-year/Associates Degree. This program is aimed towards sworn law enforcement officers, telecommunicators and detention officers already employed by a law enforcement agency. There may be a fee for textbooks.******THIS COURSE IS COMPLETELY ON-LINE******Call or Email Erin Long for any questions or registration information (704-922-6531 or long.erin@gaston.edu).***January 12 thru January 15, 2026****"Child Passenger Safety Technician Training" (Car Seats)****OPEN for Registration**

32 hours (20 open seats)

*Lead Instructor: Jackie Quinley, (presented at the Gastonia Police Department community room, 200 East Long Avenue, Gastonia, NC). All CPS Technicians must take and pass the CPS Certification Course and pay a course fee of \$95. Learn more about the course and read "Frequently Asked Questions" about becoming a technician at (www.cert.safekids.org) The National Course fee is \$95.00. If you are NOT a first responder, or you're an out-of-state student, there is an additional \$125.00 Gaston College Fee. **You must submit a request to attend through <https://cert.safekids.org/log>** . Call or email Jackie Quinley concerning any questions or registration assistance at 980-522-0172 or Jackie.quinley@gastonianc.gov . For non-first responders, federal or out-of-state students who need to register and pay the college fee, please call or email Asst. Director J. Burch at 704-284-8761 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).***January 26 thru January 27, 2026****"Background Investigations for Police Applicants"****OPEN for Registration**

16 hours (?? open seats)

*This class will be presented by "Law Enforcement Seminars", (presented at the Gastonia Police Department community room, 200 East Long Avenue, Gastonia, NC)**Register at <https://www.lawenforcementseminars.com/courses/gastonia-nc-jan-2026> . Cost of the class is \$445.00 per attendee. If you're interested in hearing from someone who has taken the class, or if you have any questions concerning registration, call or email Jackie Quinley concerning any questions or registration assistance at 980-522-0172 or Jackie.quinley@gastonianc.gov).***February 19 thru February 20, 2026****"Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement" (ARIDE)****OPEN Register on Acadis**

16 hours (16 open seats)

*This is a 16-hour training for officers that have successfully completed the Standardized Field Sobriety Training (SFST) and be up to date with SFST refreshers. The ARIDE training does a review of the SFST training and then goes into the effects of drug impairment on the human body. This training has a pre-test and a post-test in which participants must pass to be certified. The participant must also pass a proficiency examination of the standardized field sobriety tests. This training is also one of the many requirements needed for officers that want to become Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) and SFST instructor.**This class will be presented at the Gaston College Kimbrell Campus at 7230 Wilkinson Boulevard, Belmont, NC in Room# 115. **All student registration will be on Acadis;** college paperwork will be completed on the first day of class.**Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch with any questions (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).*

February 16 thru February 27, 2026

"Police Law Institute"

OPEN for Registration

80 hours (40 open seats)

Lead Instructor: NCJA Instructor Adam Tallmer, (presented at the Gastonia Police Department community room, 200 East Long Avenue, Gastonia, NC). Cost of the class is \$250.00 per student, plus the books from the NC Justice Academy Bookstore.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration and cost information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

February 24, 2026

"Glock Armorer School"

OPEN for Registration

8 hours (___ open seats)

Lead Instructor: Glock Staff, (presented at the Gaston County Sheriff's Office, 425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Gastonia, NC.) Register on-line at "Glock Training". Cost of the class is \$300.00.

Call or Email Corporal Rodney Robinson with any questions (704-718-6939 or robinson_rodney2@gcps.org).

February 25 thru February 26, 2026

"Glock MOS-1 Instructor's Workshop"

OPEN for Registration

20 hours (___ open seats)

Lead Instructor: Glock Staff, (presented at the Gaston County Sheriff's Office, 425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Gastonia, NC.) Go to "Glock Training" for a detailed class description, equipment list and to register. Cost of the class is \$500.00.

Call or Email Corporal Rodney Robinson with any questions (704-718-6939 or robinson_rodney2@gcps.org).

March 2 thru March 6, 2026

"Field Training Officer" (FTO) Certification

OPEN for Registration

40 hours (15 open seats)

This is a North Carolina Justice Academy Class, so the students will receive an NCJA Certificate and a Gaston College Certificate upon successful completion. The class will be held at Gaston County PD, 420 West Franklin Boulevard, Gastonia, NC.

Instructors: Doug Hord and Eddie Lovingood (Gaston County and Gastonia PD's). Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for questions or registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

March 17 thru March 18, 20

"Tomahawk Strategic Solutions NC Gear and Tactical Demo"

OPEN for Registration

7 hours (___ open seats)

"...Spend the day at the range with the Tomahawk Team. Test out cutting-edge gear from industry leaders, watch product demos, and enter giveaways for a chance to win some prizes. Learn more about our training programs from our experienced instructors."

Lead Instructor: Tomahawk Team (presented at the Gastonia Police Department Range 2699 Weetabix Parkway, Gastonia, NC.)

Registration is through the QR code on the attached Tomahawk Strategic Solutions flyer.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for with questions or location information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

March 18 thru March 19, 2026**"SMI Recertification"**

March 18	RADAR Recert. Only	0800-1700 hours
March 19	RADAR / LIDAR Recert.	0800-1700 hours

OPEN for Registration**(CALL FOR SEATING)*******STATE TEST WILL BE March 20, 2026*****

Lead Instructor: Jared Ewers, 980-522-0182, (presented at Gaston College APS Building, 1250 Life Skills Lane, Dallas, NC). Bring previous RADAR/LIDAR manual to class.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

April 13 thru April 16, 2026**"2026 American Police Canine Association Spring Seminar"****OPEN for Registration****24 hours (__ open seats)**

Hosted by the Gaston County Sheriff's Office. (presented at Gaston College APS Building Room# 110, 1250 Life Skills Lane Room, Dallas, NC). The spring seminar will feature certifications, problem solving, K9 legal class, tracking under drones, tactical and much more. The APCA suggests the Holiday Inn Express in Kings Mountain, NC. Call 704-734-0014 and request the government rate; space is limited so reserve your room early. The seminar is \$150 for members. Non-members/new members must join the APCA to attend the training. Annual APCA membership dues are \$75.00 per member. For more information, please call Chuck Costner at 704-747-7151 or Billy Downey at 704-460-8826.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for a registration form containing payment information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

April 22 thru April 24, 2026**"Advanced Hostage / Crisis Negotiation Course"****OPEN for Registration****24 hours (22 open seats)**

Lead Instructor: Timothy Quigley (presented at the Gastonia Police, Department community room, 200 East Long Avenue, Gastonia, NC).

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

May 4 thru May 8, 2026**"RADAR / LIDAR Operator Certification"****OPEN for Registration****(CALL FOR SEATING)**

May 4 thru May 7	RADAR Cert. Only	0800-1700 hours
May 8	LIDAR Cert. Only	0800-1900 hours
May 4 thru May 8	RADAR / LIDAR Cert.	0800-1700 hours

*****STATE TEST WILL BE May 22, 2026*****

Lead Instructor: Jared Ewers, 980-522-0182, (presented at Gaston College APS Building, 1250 Life Skills Lane, Dallas, NC). Manuals must be ordered from the NC Justice Academy.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

May 4 thru May 8, 2026**"Interview and Interrogation"****OPEN for Registration****40 hours (20 open seats)**

Lead Instructor: NCJA Instructor Scott Tyson, (presented at the Gastonia Police, Department community room, 200 East Long Avenue, Gastonia, NC).

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

May 15, 2026

"CPR & BLS"

May 15

CLOSED for Registration

3 hours (15 open seats)

1300-1600 hours

This course is primarily being offered for BLET and In-Service Specialized Instructors, but other sworn officers/deputies may be admitted with prior approval and space permitting.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

June 2 thru June 4, 2026

"Colt M4/M16 Armorers School"

OPEN for Registration

24 hours (___ open seats)

Lead Instructor: Colt Staff, (presented at the Gaston County Sheriff's Office, 425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Gastonia, NC.). Register on-line at "Colt Law Enforcement Training & Schools". Cost of the class is \$635.00.

*****THIS COURSE IS ONLY FOR ACTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT, CORRECTIONS, NUCLEAR SECURITY and MILITARY. THIS IS NOT A COURSE FOR PUBLIC ATTENDANCE.*****

Call or Email Corporal Rodney Robinson with any questions (704-718-6939 or robinson_rodney2@gcps.org).

June ??? thru ???, 2026

"Basic Law Enforcement Training", Class# 160

CLOSED for Registration

900+ hours (30 open seats)

Lead Instructor: Staff, (presented at Gaston College APS Building, room# 137, 1250 Life Skills Lane, Dallas, NC).

If you have any questions including the application process, sponsorship opportunities, financial assistance, scheduling, etc., call or email Asst. Director K. Putnam for registration information (704-922-2396 or putnam.kevin@gaston.edu).

July 22 thru July 23, 2026

"SMI Recertification"

OPEN for Registration

(CALL FOR SEATING)

July 22

RADAR Recert. Only

0800-1700 hours

July 23

RADAR / LIDAR Recert.

0800-1700 hours

*****STATE TEST WILL BE July 24, 2026*****

Lead Instructor: Jared Ewers, 980-522-0182, (presented at Gaston College APS Building, 1250 Life Skills Lane, Dallas, NC). Bring previous RADAR/LIDAR manual to class.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

August 6 thru August 7, 2026

"Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement" (ARIDE)

OPEN Register on Acadis

16 hours (16 open seats)

This is a 16-hour training for officers that have successfully completed the Standardized Field Sobriety Training (SFST) and be up to date with SFST refreshers. The ARIDE training does a review of the SFST training and then goes into the effects of drug impairment on the human body. This training has a pre-test and a post-test in which participants must pass to be certified. The participant must also pass a proficiency examination of the standardized field sobriety tests. This training is also one of the many requirements needed for officers that want to become Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) and SFST instructor.

This class will be presented at the Gaston College Kimbrell Campus at 7230 Wilkinson Boulevard, Belmont, NC in Room# 115. All student registration will be on Acadis; college paperwork will be completed on the first day of class.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch with any questions (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

September 7 thru September 11, 2026**"RADAR / LIDAR Operator Certification"**

Sept. 7 thru Sept. 10	RADAR Cert. Only	0800-1700 hours
September 11	LIDAR Cert. Only	0800-1900 hours
Sept. 7 thru Sept. 11	RADAR / LIDAR Cert.	0800-1700 hours

OPEN for Registration**(CALL FOR SEATING)*******STATE TEST WILL BE September 18, 2026*****

Lead Instructor: Jared Ewers, 980-522-0182, (presented at Gaston College APS Building, 1250 Life Skills Lane, Dallas, NC). Manuals must be ordered from the NC Justice Academy. Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

October 19 thru October 23, 2026**"Tactical Leadership: Critical Lessons Learned"**

Lead Instructor: NCJA Instructor Scott Tyson, (presented at the Gastonia Police Department community room, 200 East Long Avenue, Gastonia, NC).

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

OPEN for Registration**40 hours (20 open seats)****December 16 thru December 17, 2026****"SMI Recertification"**

December 16	RADAR Recert. Only	0800-1700 hours
December 17	RADAR / LIDAR Recert.	0800-1700 hours

OPEN for Registration**(CALL FOR SEATING)*******STATE TEST WILL BE December 18, 2026*****

Lead Instructor: Jared Ewers, 980-522-0182, (presented at Gaston College APS Building, 1250 Life Skills Lane, Dallas, NC). Bring previous RADAR/LIDAR manual to class.

Call or Email Asst. Director J. Burch for registration information (704-922-6255 or burch.joseph@gaston.edu).

FYI: We are already pre-planning for the 2027 training calendar. We hope to have something that will benefit every agency. Our usual offerings of Basic Law Enforcement Training, Radar/Lidar/Time Distance (cert and recert classes), Standardized Field Sobriety School, General Instructor School, ICAT (Integrating Communications, Assessment and Tactics) and CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) will be back, along with several classes we are coordinating right now. This year, we look to partner with our local District Attorney Offices (Gaston and Lincoln County) to provide seated, in-service "Legal and Legislative Update" classes. This came as a result of several requests from local agencies.

We try to offer as many free classes as possible but occasionally we have to charge a fee for the class. We try to use fees just to cover what we are charged either by the instructor or institution/company to bring that block of instruction. Also, there may be college fees (tuition, usage, technology and accident fees) for non-sworn, out-of-state law enforcement or federal employees that attach. Although we wish we could waive those fees, they are set by the North Carolina Community College system and we have no say in that matter. If you're interested in a class listed as "**CLOSED** for Registration", please contact me and I'll explain and try to help you with that.

For class information or assistance with registration, contact Assistant Director Joe Burch at (O)704-922-6255 or (M)704-284-8761, burch.joseph@gaston.edu or Erin Long at long.erin@gaston.edu . (Emails are preferred)