

**Georgia Sheriffs' Association**  
**Chaplains Basic Certification Course**  
**New Curriculum**  
**January 1, 2020 – Revised again January 2021**

The revision of the Chaplains Basic Certification Course curriculum in 2012 and again in 2020 greatly improved the quality of training during the past nine years. The presence of chaplains, combined with their knowledge and honed skills acquired through chaplain's training and applied in the field, provided a vital service to our sheriffs and other law enforcement agencies.

To continue offering present-day educational information to maintain the integrity and caliber of this program, the Chaplains Basic Certification Course curriculum has undergone revision once again. The training requirements to achieve the basic certification is outlined below.

**Part 1: Complete 6 online pre-requisite classes prior to attending the 20-Hour-Basic Certification Classroom Instruction**

Five one-hour classes must be successfully completed. The classes are available virtually via Zoom. Fee: \$0. Contact GSA's Missy Sammons at [msammons@georgiasheriffs.org](mailto:msammons@georgiasheriffs.org) for schedule.

- Intro to Criminal Justice (1 hour)
- Office of Sheriff (1 hour)
- Introduction to Law Enforcement Chaplaincy (Role of Chaplain) (1 hour)
- Law Enforcement Ethics (1 hour)
- Law Enforcement Family (1 hour)

- ❖ Complete Peer Support for Individuals Experiencing Distress (PSIED) prior to attending the 20-Hour Basic Certification Classroom Instruction. Contact Dorie Jones [dorie@crisissupportsolutions.com](mailto:dorie@crisissupportsolutions.com) at for more information. This class will be offered next February 26-27, 2024. <https://crisissupportsolutions.com/peer-training/>
  - Our partners in training, Crisis Support Solutions, offers the 16-hour course.
  - A schedule of classes and registration fee is available on the GSA website. Contact Dorie Jones to register [dorie@crisissupportsolutions.com](mailto:dorie@crisissupportsolutions.com)

**NOTE:** If the student does not complete Part 1 prior to registering for Part 2, the student will not be eligible to apply for certification until all requirements are satisfied. Part 1 must be completed within one year of completing the Basic Certification Classroom Instruction.

**Part 2: 20-Hour-Basic Certification Classroom Instruction Epworth By the Sea, St. Simon's Island (Chaplains conference)**

This portion of the course is offered only at the annual conference. Dates for the conference are March 12-15, 2024.

- Orientation (1)
- Substance Abuse (2 hours)
- Grief & Loss and Death Notification (3 hours)
- Family Violence (3 hours)
- Post Shooting Syndrome (3 hours)
- Officer Injury and Death & Funeral Protocol (3 hours)
- Suicide Awareness (2 hours)
- Law Enforcement Chaplaincy (2)
- Graduation (1)