



Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training

1600 University Avenue, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN 55104

(651) 643-3060 | www.mn.gov/post

Degree Verification Responsibilities for Law Enforcement Agencies and Schools

Law enforcement agencies must verify college degrees of cadet applicants fulfill POST requirements for licensing eligibility (refer to MN Rule, Chapter 6700). Use the guidance provided below to assist with verification. If unable to determine a degree meets the requirements, an agency should contact the certified school they partner with for assistance. If after consulting with a certified school an agency still has questions, the agency or the applicant should contact POST.

Schools providing the skills portion of preservice training must verify an applicant's college degree meets POST requirements. Use the guidance provided below to assist with verification. If unable to determine a degree meets the requirements, contact POST.

U.S. Degrees

Law enforcement agencies and schools must confirm that applicants have a degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Regional accreditation will only apply to colleges/universities located inside the U.S.; however, note that not all universities in the U.S. are regionally accredited. Applicants with degrees from regionally accredited U.S. institutions **do not** require POST review and should be cleared directly by the law enforcement agency or school.

Accreditation status can be verified via:

- The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA): <https://www.chea.org>
- The U.S. Department of Education Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions: <https://ope.ed.gov/dapip>

Foreign Degrees

Applicants with foreign degrees must apply for and receive a degree evaluation report from a credential evaluation organization that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES). Even if the evaluation confirms equivalency to a U.S. regionally accredited degree, the applicant must be referred to POST for instruction on submitting a variance request to the Board.

- National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES): <https://www.naces.org>

Review of degrees by POST is only required when:

- the degree is foreign,
- the institution is nationally accredited, or
- the institution is unaccredited.

By confirming accreditation, schools and agencies help streamline the process and ensure POST is focused on actual exceptions, not routine eligibility.

* If an applicant has not completed a degree and awarded a diploma, they do not meet the statutory requirements for licensure and are not eligible for a variance. These applicants should not be referred to POST, as no further action can be taken until the degree is completed.