

**New Jersey
Traffic Safety
Specialist (TSS)
Certification
Program
Levels 1 & 2**

Revised February 2026



New Jersey Traffic Safety Specialist (TSS) Program

Description

The Traffic Safety Specialist (TSS) Program was first established in Maryland with funding provided by the Maryland Highway Safety Office to support the Maryland Strategic Highway Safety Plan. The TSS designation is a statewide recognition of police officers who attained notable experience, education, training, and proficiency in Highway Safety and Traffic Enforcement methods and procedures.

The New Jersey Traffic Safety Specialist (TSS) Program is intended to provide a mechanism for career support, acknowledgment, and recognition for officers who have achieved advanced levels of Traffic Safety Enforcement proficiency. This designation is not considered an advance in rank, nor does it qualify for an increase in pay compensation. The program has been recognized as a testament to an officer's level of training and experience and encourages them to attain the highest skill levels that they can attain.

Program Requirements

The TSS Program is open to all Sworn New Jersey Law Enforcement officers in recognition of extraordinary achievement, while promoting traffic safety on New Jersey roadways. Eligibility involves officers enrolling in the program and submitting documentation materials required for specific TSS Designation Levels that are being pursued. Officers will also be required to obtain their supervisors written permission to participate in the TSS Program.

Applicants must:

1. Be an actively-employed, sworn officer in "good standing" by a New Jersey law enforcement agency
2. Complete New Jersey police academy officer certification
3. Submit the appropriate TSS documentation forms (e.g. course list, certificates of completion, and or course syllabus)
4. Ensure that TSS Verification forms are signed by an agency supervisor or designate
5. Ensure that all TSS documentation forms are submitted by a quarterly Deadline

**1st Quarter
March 31**

**2nd Quarter
June 30**

**3rd Quarter
September 30**

**4th Quarter
December 31**

Traffic Safety Specialist (TSS) Specifications

The TSS program requires documentation of experience levels, training, job performance, and skill proficiency as a traffic officer. The first phase enables officers to be recognized for specialized training beyond the academy. The TSS Level 1 requirements include three years of independent patrol/traffic experience, speed detection device certification, standard field sobriety certification, and 30 points of earned electives. One elective point is also awarded for each year (up to three points) for documented military experience. Points are also awarded for documented college experience.

Associate = (1) pts. Bachelors = (2) Masters = (3) pts.

Applicants may also qualify to obtain College credit assessments from Fairleigh Dickinson University. They can earn up to seven points for traffic safety awards received from Law Enforcement, Traffic Safety Organizations and Advocacy Groups such as MADD or SADD.

The TSS Level 2 requires applicants to first attain the Level 1 certification. The Level 2 Applicants must have six years of uniform patrol/traffic safety division experience. They must also possess an additional 30 Points of elective course credits that cannot be repeated from the initial Level 1.

They must have completed one or more of the following pre-requisites. Certification in Crash Reconstruction, or be ACTAR Certified. Be a Certified Drug Recognition Expert. Attended the Police Traffic Safety Engineering training course. The Level 2 applicant must also hold an instructor's certification, such as Radar, CPS, or MOI. A written Traffic Study/Project Report must be completed by applicants and submitted for review and approval by the TSS Chairperson.

Traffic Safety Specialist Designations

Categories	Level I	Level II
1. Patrol Experience	3 Years	6 Years
2. TSS Level Designation	n/a	Must Possess Level 1
3. Certifications	Speed Detection Device Standard Field Sobriety Test Certification	Completion of Crash Reconstruction, ACTAR Certification DRE, or Police Traffic Engineering training and hold a Approved Instructors Certification
4. Elective Options* Military (3 points) Post-Secondary (3 points) Traffic Awards (7 points)	30 points	30 Additional points (Cannot be repeated from TSS-1)
5. Written Reports	n/a	Traffic Study Written Report Participant Level

The program accepts training course certificates from various Law Enforcement agencies and Public and Private specialty courses. The TSS applicant will receive a copy of the TSS Approved Course list with each application. There are presently more than one hundred approved courses related to a large variety of Law Enforcement topics, including Crash Investigations and Reconstruction, Criminal Forensic Investigations, Interview and Interrogation, Traffic Incident Management, Work Zone Safety, Police Traffic Engineering, and numerous enforcement related courses, such as Alcotest Operator, DRE Expert, and DWI

Enforcement.



The TSS project has established a New Jersey TSS Support Committee. The Kean University TSS Committee Chairperson provides leadership and guidance during the TSS Review and Approval process.

New Jersey TSS Support Committee

- ◆ Christopher Dudzik - Kean University Traffic Safety Program Director and TSS Chairperson
- ◆ Michael Tullio, Kean University - Traffic Safety Specialist Program Coordinator
- ◆ Richard Maxwell, Kean University - Crash Investigations Program Coordinator
- ◆ Chief Antonio Ellis - Manchester Twp. NJ, Police Department - President- NJPTOA
- ◆ Michael O'Hara - Manchester Twp. NJ, Police Department - Executive Director- NJPTOA
- ◆ Technical Advisors. Kean University, Criminal Justice Department

This free voluntary program was piloted through the Ocean County Police Traffic Officers Association in February 2016. Kean University Traffic Safety Program Coordinators continue to implement the Traffic Safety Specialist Program in partnership with the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, and the NJ Police Traffic Officers Association.

To obtain a fillable PDF electronic version of the TSS-1 or TSS-2 applications Email:
Michael Tullio - TSS Program Coordinator at Mtullio@kean.edu

New Jersey Traffic Safety Specialist (TSS) Certification

Levels I and II Credit Recommendations - FDU

The New Jersey Traffic Safety Specialist (TSS) Certification was reviewed by SAS faculty. There are two levels to the program, and there are specific requirements for someone to enroll. The courses are taught by qualified subject matter experts, and there are assessments for the coursework. The individual with an interest would need to apply using the application process as shown Online. The admissions process asks for all previous study, and depending on the program, it may be necessary to submit the information once the individual is admitted.

At Level I, enrollment criteria include having patrol experience and possession of specific certifications (Speed Detection Device and Field Sobriety Test). The participants then must have at least 30 points of elective options. Each point has the equivalent of eight (8) contact hours. In this section, the program requires a minimum of 120 instructional hours up to 240 instructional hours in various areas of traffic enforcement at the local, state, and national area. The recommendation for those who complete Level I is 9 undergraduate credits. Students must provide information on which elective courses were used to meet the 30 point requirement.

At Level II, the individuals must complete Level I, possess additional certifications, such as Crash Reconstruction, DRE Recognition, Police Traffic Engineering Training or ACTAR and have 30 points in the elective options. Each point is equivalent to eight (8) contact hours. An individual who completes Level II would be eligible for 6 graduate credits providing the electives are different from those in Level I. If an individual completes Level II, but does not have a bachelor's degree, that person can be awarded 9 undergraduate credits if the contact hours submitted for Level I are different from those submitted for Level II.

The undergraduate recommendation is as follows:

9 undergraduate credits for Level I

9 undergraduate credits for Level II (providing the contact hours are different from those submitted for Level I)

The graduate recommendation is as follows:

6 graduate credits for Level II (providing the contact hours are different from those submitted for Level I)

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