Course Certification

STC's course certification process is designed to assure that training developed through the program is related to the job performed by correctional employees. The intent of this training is to have a positive effect on competency and job performance. "Job-relatedness" is an STC program mandate.

The improvement of skills and level of competency is critical but not the ultimate goal. The ultimate goal is an improvement in overall functioning of a corrections organization. Therefore anyone proposing a new course is asked to demonstrate two important aspects of job-related training:

- That the training specifically addresses important job tasks; and
- That a compelling rational argument can be made that the proposed training will enhance the performance of these important job tasks.

Pursuant to the Penal Code and Title 15, Subchapter, Article V of the California Code of Regulations STC is required to design, develop, and maintain a process for certifying training course that enhances the probability that "certified" training will improve competence.

The Request for Certification is STC's process for certifying training for local corrections agencies. Each step in this certifying process is designed as a building block supporting the goals of the program. The major steps in the process are:

- A qualitative review
- A cost effectiveness review
- An analysis of need
- A review of the relevancy to job tasks

There are more than 1,890 STC certified Annual courses in the state. All are designed to meet current needs and help local corrections operate at maximum effectiveness. For example:

- Medical related courses provide critical information to staff about AIDS, tuberculosis, new strains of hepatitis, and other diseases.

- Cultural diversity courses help staff to work more effectively with a variety of ethnic groups.

- Training for trainers courses prepare local staff to develop teaching skills to conduct training at their agencies.

- Defensive tactics and various use of force courses provide state-of-the-art skills training to protect staff and offenders during physical confrontations.

- Legal issues courses prepare staff to incorporate into operations changing laws and regulations, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, workplace safety regulations, and other relevant statute and case law.

- Classification and management courses help staff handle offender populations in a safe and professional manner.