



Firearms Training and Qualifications

The Cuesta College Police Department is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, staff, and community. A key part of that commitment is ensuring our officers are highly trained, professional, and prepared to respond to a wide range of situations.

Guided by the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics— *“Our fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property”*—our officers participate in ongoing training to maintain and enhance their skills.

Sworn officers are required to meet established qualification standards for all department-issued firearms. These courses ensure each officer can safely handle and accurately use their assigned equipment. However, these qualifications represent only the baseline of our training program.

Our officers regularly participate in additional training that includes:

- Firearms safety and proficiency
- Scenario-based and decision-making exercises
- Team tactics and coordinated response training

This continuous training prepares officers to make sound, responsible decisions in rapidly evolving and high-stress situations.

The department’s firearms training program is overseen by a certified Rangemaster—an in-house officer trained through the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The Rangemaster ensures all training meets state standards and works in coordination with regional law enforcement partners to maintain best practices.

We share this information to promote transparency and demonstrate our commitment to professionalism and public safety. While we hope these skills are never needed, our officers are trained and ready to respond when necessary.

If you have questions, please contact the Cuesta College Police Department at 805-546-3205.

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Interim Chief of Police

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