



The National Rifle Association Certification Process for Firearms Instructors

The **NRA Instructor Training Program** is designed to train experienced shooters to teach NRA Basic Firearm Training Courses as NRA Certified Instructors. Instructor training courses are conducted by NRA Appointed Training Counselors (TC) who are very experienced and active instructors who have attended the NRA Training Counselor Workshop to “train the trainer”. In other words, NRA Certified Instructors are shooters who teach others how to shoot, and NRA Training Counselors are shooters who teach shooters how to teach others to shoot.

The NRA requires all instructor candidates to have successfully completed the NRA Basic Course in the discipline which they are seeking certifications. In other words, to attend an NRA Pistol Instructor Certification Course, you must have completed the NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting Instructor Led Training student course and provide a copy of the certificate when attending the instructor course.

The NRA Instructor Training Courses consists of two parts:

Basic Instructor Training (BIT) (6 hours)

Course Goal: To develop NRA Certified Instructors who possess the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to conduct the NRA Basic Firearm Training Courses.

BIT is conducted in a classroom room setting and focuses on the NRA’s teaching philosophies and methodologies. Instructor Candidates learn about the **Total Participant Involvement (TPI)** method of presenting and training that is used by instructors in both the classroom and on the range. The structure of NRA Instructor Lesson Plans along with employing training aids and material, along with how to plan, promote and organize your courses are also taught.

Candidates are also required to pass an open book test on the BIT course with 90 percent or higher passing score.

*Note: A current Basic Instructor Training certification is a prerequisite for all NRA Instructor course (Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun, etc.). Once an instructor is BIT certified, that individual can attend any NRA Instructor Course within two years of their BIT completion date. After this two-year period all instructors must renew their BIT certification (retake the course) prior to taking any additional NRA Instructor Courses. **REMEMBER**, BIT certification expires after two years and once expired BIT must be taken prior to attending or in conjunction with taking an NRA Instructor Course.*

2. Discipline-Specific Instructor Training

Each Instructor Candidate must pass discipline specific **Pre-Course Qualification** as prerequisite for Instructor Training Course. The pre-course qualification includes hands-on, practical exercises to evaluate an individual’s knowledge, skills, attitude, and safety in:



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- 1 - LOADING/UNLOADING Firearms Specific to the Training (Usually done at the beginning of the course)
- 2 - CLEARING COMMON STOPPAGES (Usually done at the beginning of the course)
- 3 - SHOOTING (*Can be done at the beginning of class, but may be done during the practical exercises covered in the discipline specific shooting session in the NRA Instructor Lesson Plan.*)

Using the NRA Instructor Lesson Plan for the discipline being taught, Instructor Candidates step through and present the selected lesson from the course to each other. This training approach is TPI at work and each Candidate's presentations are observed and assessed with real time feedback by the TC's and assistant NRA Instructors as they step through the course with the Candidates.

During the course TC's and Assistant Instructors evaluate each Instructor Candidate's performance based on their ability to handle the firearms with confidence, use of appropriate training aids, following the lesson plans and meeting all learning objectives, while utilizing the teaching philosophies expected of NRA Certified Instructors. Candidates must learn the NRA discipline specific instructional methods and how to evaluate and improve the performance of beginning shooters.

An open book test is administered at the end of the Instructor Training course requiring passing grade of:

- Certified Instructor: 90 percent or higher
- Assistant Instructor: 85 percent or higher (18 years of age or older)
- Apprentice Instructor: 85 percent or higher (13-17 years of age)

NRA instructor certification is not available to any individual who is not a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident (Green Card Holders) or has been convicted of a crime of violence, or who is prohibited by federal, state, or local law from possessing firearms.

Non-Immigrant Aliens in the United States on HB1 or F1 Student Visa's are prohibited from shipping, transporting, receiving, or possessing a firearm or ammunition unless the alien falls within one of the exceptions provided in 18 U.S.C. 922(y)(2), such as: a valid hunting license or permit, admitted for lawful hunting or sporting purposes, certain official representatives of a foreign government, or a foreign law enforcement officer of a friendly foreign government entering the United States on official law enforcement business **or** have a valid waiver signed by the Attorney General of the United States as stated in 18 U.S.C. 922(y)(3). Therefore, any a Non-Immigrant Alien who wishes to train North Alabama Firearms, LLC must produce a valid Hunting License from any of the 50 US States.