

Active Bystandership in Law Enforcement (ABLE) Project



Frequently Asked Questions

What is ABLE?

The [Georgetown Law Center for Innovations in Community Safety \(CICS\)](#), partnering with global law firm Sheppard Mullin, created the [ABLE Project](#) to prepare law enforcement officers to successfully intervene, prevent harm, and create a culture that supports peer intervention.

The ABLE Project builds upon a training developed by Dr. Ervin Staub, the Founding Director of the UMass Amherst Psychology of Peace and Violence Program, to help police officers stop unnecessary harmful behavior by fellow officers. In 2014, Dr. Staub, other experts, and the New Orleans Police Department developed the successful Ethical Policing Is Courageous (EPIC) Peer Intervention Program in New Orleans. The ABLE Project builds upon EPIC and Dr. Staub's prior work to develop and deliver practical, scenario-based training for police agencies in the strategies and tactics of police peer intervention.

Who is eligible to apply for the ABLE Project?

Any law enforcement agency whose mandate includes patrol and/or investigatory law enforcement services in a community is eligible to participate. All agencies **must complete the [application process](#) and be accepted** to receive the ABLE training.

Does ABLE cost anything?

ABLE training is available free of charge for agencies that commit to the [ABLE Standards](#) and whose application to the ABLE project is accepted. CARMA will sponsor the cost of implementing the ABLE Project by hosting Train-the-Trainer sessions for its member agencies.

How many agencies have adopted ABLE?

As of January 25, 2023, 314 agencies have adopted the ABLE project, with over 1,900 instructors trained across 41 U.S. states and three Canadian provinces, amounting to 158,000+ officers at ABLE agencies and 106 million+ community members served. The [Long Beach](#) and Los Angeles Police Departments are some of the first agencies in California to adopt the ABLE Project.

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Is ABLE California POST-certified?

Yes, ABLE is certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST).

How do I apply for ABLE?

Applications to receive ABLE training are completed online at the [ABLE website](#). The CARMA team is available to answer questions, assist with the application process, and facilitate the collection of necessary materials with tools such as this [Application Guide](#) to help track your agency's progress.

Note: The final application must be completed through ABLE's official online portal by the Program Coordinator or agency leader.

My agency is not in CARMA. Can we still apply to ABLE?

ABLE is available to any law enforcement agency that applies and is accepted to the project; however, CARMA will sponsor the cost of training for initial instructors (the Train-the-Trainers) for [member agencies](#) only. If your agency does not participate in CARMA, you may still apply to ABLE directly.

I'm interested in ABLE; who do I contact for more information/help applying?

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For additional information please visit [ABLE's FAQ](#).