



ILLINOIS TACTICAL OFFICERS

BASIC SWAT COURSE EQUIPMENT LIST

Welcome to the 2025 ITOA Basic SWAT Course.

Below is the equipment list, suggested items to bring for your comfort and sustainability based on the weather and environment and some ideas you may want to consider to enhance your training experience during the two-week course.

The course is broken down into two separate weeks, with time off in between. This is to accommodate the challenging staffing issue many of our departments are experiencing, and also to allow you time to absorb and process the material presented.

It is critical that you bring all items on the equipment list to the best of your ability. These items are necessary to provide you with the best training experience and a comprehensive introduction into the operational challenges and necessities of SWAT Tactical Operations.

- Star Com team radio, head set and charger
- Police Vehicle – the more the better – training sites are void of vehicles. The more dept. vehicles we have, the better we can recreate SWAT mission locations. Undercover and/or unmarked police vehicles are acceptable.
- Clear Impact Resistant Eye Protection – you can use tinted safety glasses when we are outside – but everyone needs a pair of CLEAR safety glasses for indoor work.
- Tactical Body Armor/ with Rifle Plates

- BDU-type uniform, long sleeve BDU shirts or long sleeve Combat shirts are required for all training events
- Duty handgun with tactical light and hard-shell tactical holster
- Boots – no soft tread athletic style shoes / boots allowed.
- Knee pads
- Gloves
- Ballistic Helmet
- Training Tourniquet and battle dressing
- Rain gear of some type, we will train rain or shine
- Small handheld flashlight
- Simunitions handgun and/or conversion kit
- Drop in Bolt for your Tactical Rifle to convert to training / marking rounds
- AR-15, M-4 style Tactical Rifle with a tactical sling and tactical light
- Ballistic shield (Training or Operational) and tactical mirror if available
- One 15-foot length of para-cord or similar product
- Cleaning kit for your weapon systems, to include a rod suitable for removing Sims barrel obstructions from both your rifle and pistol
- Mechanical Breaching Gear: Ram, REXIT and Hooli if available for breaching day. (day 4)
- 500rds Marking/Training rds for your converted .223 Tactical Rifle
- 200rds Marking/Training rds for your sims/converted/training pistol

Armored Vehicles: Heather from MTU #7 is working hard at getting armored vehicles lined up for the training. If your team has an armored vehicle that they would allow to be utilized for training please contact her – we will be utilizing armored vehicles on Days: 4 / 6 / 7 / 8 / 10

Most training days will include a constant flow of mild to intense physical activity. Please bring a sufficient amount of hydration to maintain yourself throughout the day. A water / sports drink mix works best for hydration and electrolyte replacement.

Lunch will be at the training sites each day, so please bring food with you each day, as you will not have time to go off site to purchase lunch. Highly recommend a foldable chair for your comfort during lunch and any down times.

Outside venues will be utilized rain or shine and regardless of the temp each day.

Sunscreen and Bug Repellant is also recommended.

The training sites on the NG base range from perfect condition to worn down, rough shape. We are not sure at this time what the condition of the offsite – civilian training sites will be. Unimproved training areas are the norm in SWAT – please be prepared to possibly have to use the surrounding nature as your bathroom, or travel a short distance to a “sit down” bathroom facility. You may consider bring your own supplies for any bathroom needs you may have.

Lastly, come with an open mind and be ready to train. Most days will be 8 hour days, maybe a little longer.