

CERTIFICATION PATHWAY FACT SHEET

Security Cooperation Organization (SCO) - Expert



Defense Security Cooperation University

Defense Security Cooperation Agency

Example Positions/Jobs

- *Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché*
- *SCO Chief*
- *Deputy SCO Chief*
- *Multi-tour SCO*

Functional Area Description

The SCO functional area is focused on security cooperation (SC) operations conducted by a U.S. Military Group assigned overseas. This functional area prepares the SCO professional to liaise with partner nations on issues related to SC and DoD-administered security assistance (SA) to advance U.S. strategic objectives. The SCO functional expert track is for military and civilian personnel assigned to SCO positions who advise on matters related to the host nation and SC/SA activities, serve on the embassy country team, oversee facilitation of the full range of SC/SA execution in country, manage office resources, and lead SCO personnel.

How will this better prepare you for your work?

SCO experts working at U.S. embassies will be able to apply their knowledge of the strategic and operational SC/SA environment to competently navigate the complex, dynamic environments within which they are expected to perform their assigned duties, thereby enhancing the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the SCO. Through SCO functional area certification training and education, the SCO expert gains expertise in their SC/SA role by working through real-world problems and critical tasks, applying skills through practical exercises, and elevating their critical thinking skills through research and analysis.

Expert Certification Program of Study

Core Education and Training

Complete these **FOUR** courses:

CD 301 Capability Development for Experts

PMA 301 Political Military Activity for Experts

REG 301 Working Across Cultures for Security Cooperation Experts

TSFD 301 Technology Security, Foreign Disclosure, & End Use Controls for Experts

Primary Functional Area Training

Complete SCO-250/SCO-300 and the SIX pre-requisites/co-requisites listed below

OR

Complete SCO-350 + assigned pre-requisites/co-requisites

SCO 250/SCO 300 SCO Qualification Course

- **SC 102** Foundations of SC
- **SCO 103** Foundations of SCO
- **SC 121** Introduction to EUM
- **FMS 251** FMS Process
- **BPC 250** SSCI Framework
- **Golden Sentry** SCIP Training

or

SCO-350 SCO Refresher Course

For experienced SCOs

Course pre-requisites and co-requisites vary

Registration eligibility determined by the Defense Security Cooperation Service (DSCS) based upon prior training and professional experience.

Secondary Functional Area Training

Select **ONE** of the following per your supervisor's recommendation

PR 101 Foundational Policy and Resourcing

FMS 151 Foundational Foreign Military Sales (FMS)

INT 1110 International Acquisition/Security Cooperation Foundation

BPC 150 Building Partner Capacity Foundations

ATE 140 Foundations of Advising for Institutional Capacity Building (ICB)

SPP 101 Introduction to the State Partnership Program

AME 150 Foundations of Assessment, Monitoring, and Evaluation

Validate in myDSCU

Leadership Training

Military: Submit "Military - SC Leadership Exemption Request"

Civilians: Submit "Civilian - SC Leadership Exemption Request" *or*

Complete LEAD 301 Lead People/Projects

Experience/ Performance Requirement

One year in a Security Cooperation Expert billet or satisfactory performance rating

Continuous Learning Hours: Complete 80 hours every 2 years after achieving initial certification

Includes DoD and DSCU courses, DoD job skills training courses, other professional activities (e.g., seminars, conferences, etc.) and formal mentoring